emotional support. Autumn 2015 – core café opening hours set at 9 am to 5 pm following pilots for breakfast and evening trade. Room hire – two upstairs rooms hired out on long term let plus one larger room for ad hoc bookings (light exercise classes, business meetings, special occasions e.g., wakes, christenings, and birthdays). The Mill Outside – outside catering service started summer 2015; attends country shows, special occasions and hospice events. Special Christmas events e.g., themed afternoon tea, party bookings, tea with Father Christmas from 2015. Patient education programme, STREAM, for cancer related fatigue – open to non-hospice patients – started March 2016. Introduced monthly evening theme nights in May 2016 – Tapas, French, Seafood, World Curry.

**Results Include** Since opening in Nov 2014 to end of the last financial year: Percentage increase in income and visitors per day: café sales by 88%; donations via The Mill to the hospice by 167%; visitors to the café by 61%. Advisors support as many people that are not known to the hospice as are known. Patient outcomes for STREAM programme using the Chalder Fatigue Scale – 86% felt their fatigue had improved. Promotional competition for afternoon tea vouchers reaches 79 000 people.

**The Future** Plans for The Mill Phase 2 include expansion of the café to provide extra seating at busy times, two additional function rooms and increased trading opportunities.

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**P-43 ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN LIFE AND DEATH CONVERSATIONS**

Ian Leech. St Giles Hospice, Lichfield, UK

10.1136/bmjspcare-2017-hospice.70

**Background** As part of our commitment to create Compassionate Communities we have developed a series of Conversation Boards to enable people, not only to talk but also to think about conversations relating to death, dying and bereavement.

**Aims** To engage our communities in non-pressurised conversations around death, dying and bereavement and create a place for related literature to be available.

**Method** Each year we ask our communities a different question, the answers are then placed on a board alongside relevant materials that viewers of the board can freely take.

Before I die, I want to .... Inspired by Candy Chang, our first life and death conversation in 2014 asked people of all ages across our communities what is top of their bucket list.

**I Want to be Remembered** In 2015 we asked people how they wanted to be remembered or what they wanted to be remembered for. My funeral song. Music plays a big part in peoples lives.

**Results** Since 2014 this project has enabled hundreds of timely conversations in a way that suits each individual. Over 100 pieces of death, dying and bereavement related literature is taken each month.

**Conclusion** Not everyone is comfortable talking about death, but in our conversation boards, we have found a way not only to communicate with people on their terms. It has helped us to discover what is important to people in our community and made us think about how we can realise their wishes.

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**P-44 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NETWORKS**

Vicky Lander. Oakhaven Hospice Trust, Lymington, UK

10.1136/bmjspcare-2017-hospice.71

Earlier this year, St Richard’s Hospice and St Giles Hospice, both located in the The Midlands, joined forces to instigate a network of those people employed in hospices with the remit and title of Community Engagement. After a successful gathering in February at St Giles, the initiative has gone from strength to strength with another Midlands network held in May. In addition, as a guest member of the Midlands group, being based at Oakhaven Hospice in Hampshire, I took up the challenge to set up a similar network for hospices along the South Coast. This has proved equally successful with a number of hospices contributing to our first forum in June. The networks are aimed at raising awareness, increasing understanding and accessing seldom heard groups in hospice care and not necessarily community fundraisers, unless the remit of the role encompasses both. Bringing hospices’ staff together, specifically people whose remit is titled Community Engagement, yet with a plethora of interpretations of the title, has proved valuable for sharing learnings, debating topics and building on new ideas. This initiative of Networks dovetails into the Hospice UK strategy goal no.3 ‘strive to build community capacity and resilience to care for those at the end of life’ and we are keen to promote other regions to follow our lead. Our poster is aimed to encourage conference attendees to consider how they might take forward the Community Engagement network initiative for their regions.

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**P-45 LEEDS COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES – IMPROVING END OF LIFE CARE FOR ALL**

Peter McEvoy. St. Gemma’s Hospice, Leeds, UK

10.1136/bmjspcare-2017-hospice.72

**Background** We are receiving 50% fewer clinical referrals from Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities in the Leeds 7 and 8 postcode areas compared to LS17. We had insufficient evidence to substantiate the specific needs of local BAME communities. A Third Sector Health Grant funded a research project to understand more fully the issues and barriers around communication and language, culture and religion.

**Aims** The project aimed to improve the support, access and care provided at a person’s end of life by ensuring that St. Gemma’s services are accessible and culturally appropriate for the BAME communities living in the LS7 and LS8 areas of Leeds.

**Methods** Developed innovative working relationship with Leeds Involving People (LIP) a service-user led organisation specialising in connecting citizen insight with service redesign. We commissioned LIP to engage with and conduct a survey across BAME community groups to gather quantitative responses and conduct specific focus group work to gain more qualitative responses from harder to reach communities.