

skills and services and/or were supporters. However, only 5% knew about the range of services and there were misconceptions about who the hospice serves. Others preferred 'not to think about it' or felt there was 'one way out'. Overall, experience with Hospice was positive and many felt it was 'for families'. What mattered to people included: kind, compassionate and effective care, emotional support, person-centred care, equity, the environment, open access, good communication, honesty and helping others talk about death. Hospice can best serve by making services available 'to all who need it', ensure sustainability, by supporting families, friends/co-workers, schools and by improving transparency of its accounts.

Conclusions Hospice needs to raise awareness of its services. Hospice care is valued and needs to be provided at the right time and place for all who need it.

Communities

P-28 'YOUTH ENGAGEMENT': IS THERE A PLACE IN PALLIATIVE CARE?

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10.1136/bmjspcare-2018-hospiceabs.53

Background Youth engagement provides opportunities for young people to make a contribution, raise awareness of services and is a platform for workforce development (HM Government, 2010; Adams, Nursaw & Smith, 2017). Working with the community raises awareness, supports and 'builds capacity and resilience to care for those at the end of life' (Hospice UK, 2017). Student volunteering is a growing phenomenon, as they seek to enhance their employability skills and contribute to the local community (Williamson, Wildbur, Bell *et al.*, 2017).

Aims To create a programme of activities to support the development of knowledge and skills of young people and to enhance the delivery of different services across the organisation as part of our transforming care agenda.

Methods May 2017 – May 2020: feedback, evaluations, recruitment, engagement figures, fundraising. May 2017 – January 2018: fundraising figures, recruitment, engagement figures. January 2018 – April 2018: recruitment, engagement figures, academic year overview. Progress of youth engagement outlined in the LOROS Community Engagement Strategy/Action Plan.

Results May 2017 to January 2018 – 49 events=3575 engaged, 23 new volunteers, £5096.71 NCS Projects.

Work Experience Student 2017: *'...it has taught me so many valuable lessons not just about working in a hospice, but about life and the resilience of the human spirit at the toughest of moments.'*

Primary School Project: *'This was one of the most valuable experiences the children have had.'*

Hospice School: *'It was an amazing experience and would recommend to anyone thinking of going into health care.'*

January 2018 to April 2018 – 28 events=1683 engaged, 131 enterprise volunteers, 18 hospice volunteers.

Next four months – 22 events booked, system input for data of young people, Youth Ambassador Programme.

Conclusion The evaluation and feedback shows a positive change within the hospice environment. We have learnt by

developing our safeguarding, work experience and volunteering policies. As a result, further funding is being sought for projects encompassed by this role.

P-29 LIFE MATTERS... SO DOES DEATH. SHOW THE WORLD THAT DYING MATTERS

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10.1136/bmjspcare-2018-hospiceabs.54

An example of true collaboration. Healthcare professionals approached their local college to promote Dying Matters Week 2018. The college and students responded with enthusiasm and excitement. English students produced posters and a press release to start conversations, media students engaged with social media discussions, art students produced an exhibition to give a visual representation of grief by working with patients to create canvas artwork, and the drama students wrote and performed a play. The students stated; *'The project intrigued me. I hadn't heard of Dying Matters before but I know people who have been affected by mental health and grief. I thought it would be a different way to talk about it.'* Another student said: *'It made me think a lot more about how we approach death and how it was shown in the play. We really do need to talk about it a lot more. It's kept quiet when someone's passed and I personally find it helpful to talk about it.'* The performance and exhibition were attended by professionals, patients and members of the public. One professional stated *'I've worked in palliative care for 25 years and she just got it. When I saw the play, I just cried. It's so genuine.'* The patients involved spoke positively about the experience of working with the students and the interaction between the two stages of life. A local MP said *'I'm so impressed at how a group of young people came together to approach a difficult subject. The way that they were able to articulate the way we all feel into such brilliant words, is extraordinary.'* The exhibition and play, as well as the whole experience, was unique; to empower young people to think of death as a positive and a part of life, is so important.

P-30 IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE DYING: A SCHOOL TWINNING PROJECT HELPING TO DISPEL THE MYTHS OF HOSPICE CARE

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10.1136/bmjspcare-2018-hospiceabs.55

Background As part of on-going service improvement plans, an innovative, collaborative community engagement project was established with school students to showcase the hospice as a positive place where people with life-limiting illnesses can live well, helping dispel myths that hospices are depressing, gloomy places where people only go to die.

Aim (i) Raise students' awareness and support their learning about what hospices do. (ii) Extend community relationships and engagement with Woking Hospice as a charitable organisation.