

Specialist Bereavement Staff Support Trainer Project Update

**Funded by NHS Charities Together,
facilitated by Hywel Dda Health Charities**

Aim: Provide educational in-reaching sessions to clinical areas and teams where staff are managing the process of death and dying, and supporting newly bereaved people. The sessions will provide basic education to the participants, covering simple skills to provide support to patients and relatives, and give the opportunity to discuss scenarios they have been involved in, in a safe arena with clinical supervision

**Julie Brennan
Bereavement Support Service Manager**



Initial set-up of the project

- Development of job description
- Advertisement
- Recruitment - job share x 2 posts
- Planning stage of pilot

Challenges

- Recruiting staff for specialist roles

Phase One

January – April 2022

- Pilot – introduction into key areas/sites and key stakeholders contacted to support pilot - advertisement
- Initial digital presentations and workshops rolled out – 130 spaces available (107 attendees, 23 unable to attend due to challenges outlined below)
- Feedback gathered to inform next phase of pilot

Challenges

- COVID-19 – use of Digital platform
- Staff shortages
- Equipment issues

Feedback from Phase One

- Overwhelming support for interactive workshops
- Sharing experiences, connecting with colleagues, reflecting on personal and professional grief within a psycho-educational arena
- Lack of education acknowledged on supporting patients, relatives and staff experiencing grief and loss
- Awareness has been raised through recommendation from previous workshop attendees

Challenges

- COVID- 19 – Face to face attendance at workshops requested
- Longer training workshops to enable greater depth of knowledge

Some feedback so far

“Informative and very well conducted”

“Sensitive subject, but very beneficial”

“Participating made me appreciate that families deal with loss differently”

*“Relevant and interesting. Hopefully
can be covered next time more in
depth, in a longer, whole day
session”*

*“...able to listen more to patient’s needs in
grief, especially in pregnancy loss”*

“Changing the culture to support colleagues in Bereavement”

*“I’m sure it will have a positive impact on the nurses
themselves and the care they are able to give”*

“It will enable me to have a greater awareness”

Thank you for listening

Any Questions?

