

1<sup>st</sup> August 2006

**Caring for the Spirit Collaboration Launch  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2006**

Outcomes from the day

Feedback from workshops:

The participants were asked to look at the following objectives and the emerging issues:

Evidence Based Care:

- Gain understanding from everyone re the conflict between targets and humanity
- Need to Recognise and demonstrate what is done/added value = benefit to staff/patients (£££'s)
- Demonstrate and give feedback that this service makes a difference
- Ensure good record keeping of referrals/contacts with service user
- Engage more as working networks between hospital/community
- Engage with both small teams v. big spiritual care team working together to make it happen
- Understand the difference between acute and MH/learning disabilities – delivery more community education
- Develop a framework for measuring progress and turning it into "life" = implementation
- Develop a business case for Caring for the Spirit to give evidence of reduce length of stay

Multi-disciplinary Working:

- Priority need - Board and community representation
- Join with multi-disciplinary teams to gain a voice and influence the organisation
- Gain an understanding from Trusts that chaplains relate to everyone at all levels
- Be more involved and integrate with the decision making process
- Multi-disciplinary working will embed values and recognition of the chaplaincy service

#### Multi-faith Work:

- Employ and engage with chaplains from all faith communities
- Develop a sacred space for all patients/staff appropriate for all faith communities
- Gain understanding from the organisation of the prophetic role of chaplaincy, that spiritual needs are integral to patient care and offer support to both staff and patients
- Support a culture of truth and hope
- Ensure social inclusion

#### Professional Standing:

- Gain professional accreditation to ensure comparative status with other NHS professionals – part of the health professions council
- Build into existing standards frameworks to ensure professional standing
- Develop National Strategy accepted across all professional bodies
- Integrate and link with KSF, CPD, Appraisal and PDR for each organisation
- Develop a spiritual and religious policy linking as whole system approach to other Trust policies
- Gain CEO and Board support
- Be more pro-active in championing our cause
- Develop partnership working between SHA/Chaplaincy to lead on collaborative and networking opportunities
- Engage with and develop other health professionals as Champions

#### PPI – work with community:

- Be fully engaged with local community
- Ensure committed people are in key positions
- Be more imaginative and enthusiastic
- Develop Community Engagement Plan and Timescales
- Base work on individual values – do more research/information gathering
- Prayer and faith

#### Leadership:

- Gain acknowledgement by organisations that spiritual care/chaplaincy is important = chaplaincy service to have an integral role
- Develop clear aims of Chaplaincy Teams and disperse misconceptions
- Raise the profile and be more pro-active
- Ensure Leadership is part of the strategy

- Demonstrate a realistic vision, commitment, education, effectiveness, empowerment, accountability & responsibility

Other – Funding:

- Gain clarity on current funding
- Secure more resources – need more chaplains not less to support NHS strategy and budgetary constraints
- Ensure clear evidence of benefits = more funding

Getting There - Suggestions made:

The Chaplaincy Service requires:

1. CEO/high level support and representation on the Board
2. A clear strategy including PR/Marketing, CPD/Leadership development and links to organisational structures including KSF/Appraisal/PDP
3. An Integration policy for multi-disciplinary working including a recognised and equal NHS professional body
4. A framework to measure progress and produce clear evidence of the benefits/value for money (example – reduce length of stay)
5. A Business Case for additional resources (as required)
6. A clear policy for multi-faith engagement, working together embracing cultural needs

Actions and Next Steps:

1. Embed the Caring for the Spirit Collaborative in the SHA's business plan
2. Measure progress against agreed framework - use frameworks already in place where possible
3. Engage with organisations including staff consultations
4. Develop Action Plan for Strategy implementation including "Quick Wins"

5. Raising awareness:
  - Involve all staff, patients (surveys), senior managers, focus groups, PPI, PALS, HR Directors, Nursing Directors etc.
  - Agree communication strategy
6. Develop policy for spiritual care education and training for staff
7. Capitalise on good relationships with local faith communities and engage with the developing strategy
8. Agree next collaborative meeting date
  - Administration resource
  - Venue and funding

The Steering Group to agree and take forward the next steps.

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