

## **CARING FOR THE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER 2 – July 2004**

*Caring for the Spirit* is the development strategy for the chaplaincy and spiritual healthcare workforce published in November 2003. The strategy proposes action to modernise spiritual healthcare practise, education and research in response to user requirements. The implementation plan reported here is designed to achieve improvement progressively until 2010.

### **Welcome**

Welcome to the second newsletter about the implementation of *Caring for the Spirit*. You will find information in this issue about:

- Appointment of chaplains to lead the spiritual healthcare development units;
- Department of Health's proposals for NHS standards;
- Proposal to formalise arrangements for continuing personal and professional development;
- Report about information on chaplaincy services for patients and the public
- Progress report on the strategy milestones;
- Proposed minimum data set for spiritual healthcare.

### **Appointment of chaplains to lead the spiritual healthcare development units**

SYWDC has appointed four lead chaplains for the implementation of the *Caring for the Spirit*

strategy. Interviews were held over two days in June when eight candidates were assessed in a communications exercise; in a formal interview and through psychometric analysis. The Panel led by Simone Jordan of Leicester WDC with Paula Potter from Shropshire and Staffordshire SHA and Robert Mitchell on behalf of CHCC was unanimous in recommending the appointments listed below.

#### ***Revd Peter Ellmore, Lead Chaplain – South Region***

Peter is currently chaplaincy team leader – head of spiritual healthcare and chaplaincy and advisor to the United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust, a post he has held since 2001. He has held posts in London and Portsmouth, having joined the NHS in 1991.

#### ***Revd Susan Hollins, Lead Chaplain – East Region (includes London)***

Susan joined the NHS in 1999 as chaplain to Watford General, Mount Vernon and Watford NHS Trust. In 2000 she was appointed as senior co-ordinating chaplain at the West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust. She has had previous experience as a priest and diocesan ecumenical officer in Bristol.

#### ***Revd Martin Kerry, Lead Chaplain – North East Region***

Martin has been head of chaplaincy for Nottingham City Hospital NHS Trust for thirteen years. He has worked in the NHS since 1985 and has a qualification as a humanistic counsellor.

#### ***Revd Mark Folland, Lead Chaplain – North West Region***

Mark has worked in healthcare chaplaincy for thirteen years, the last six of which have been as manager of the multi-faith chaplaincy department at

Central Manchester Healthcare NHS Trust. He has held junior posts in Manchester and Liverpool and is also qualified as a psychotherapist.

All four lead chaplains are expected to take up post in mid-October 2004 and further details will be publicised in September about their office base and contact details.

The geographical spread of the regions is as follows:

**South Region** includes South West Peninsula, Dorset and Somerset, Avon Gloucester and Wiltshire, Thames Valley, Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Surrey and Sussex, Kent and Medway SHAs,

**East Region** includes South East London, South West London, North Central London, North East London, North West London, Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, Norfolk Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

**North East Region** includes Leicestershire Northamptonshire and Rutland, Trent, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, North and East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire, County Durham and Tees

Valley, Northumberland Tyne and Wear

**North West Region** includes Coventry Warwickshire Herefordshire and Worcestershire, Birmingham and the Black Country, Shropshire and Staffordshire, Cheshire and Merseyside, Greater Manchester Cumbria and Lancashire

#### **And Farewell to one of our Champions**

Mrs Sarah Mullally, Chief Nurse at the Department of Health has resigned to take up a full-time career in the Church of England. After almost five years at the Department of Health, she will leave at the end of September to become curate of the parish of Battersea Fields, in the diocese of Southwark.

Sarah has lead the Department of Health's work in chaplaincy-spiritual care and has been a member of the strategy champions group since its inception in early 2003. We wish her every success in her new career.

#### **The Department of Health's proposals for NHS standards**

In February, the Department of Health launched a consultation exercise called "Standards for Better Health" about healthcare standards for services under the NHS. The Caring for the Spirit Project Team was concerned that the standards did not include an explicit reference to spiritual healthcare and raised this apparent omission in writing with CNO and at the consultation meetings.

The comment was well received and there is an impression that, although the standards are "high-level", effort may be made to include reference to spiritual healthcare in the final version.

#### **Arrangements for continuing personal and professional development**

SYWDC is hosting a chaplaincy study day in September to discuss the arrangements for continuing personal and professional development. This action arises out of the recent meeting between SYWDC, CHCC,

HCC and MFGHC hosted by the Department of Health and will lead to a short listening exercise with all chaplains once proposals are prepared from the meeting.

Barbara Walsh's letter to the four bodies nominating chaplains to attend the study day said "The proposals themselves are focused on the professional development of the spiritual healthcare workforce and will require a commitment by chaplaincy bodies to partnership working. In essence, they require a joint approach to education, training and standard setting in order to foster an agreement on continuing professional development. Responsibility for leadership roles in these aspects of workforce development will be assigned during this discussion."

"These proposals will enable chaplains to work more closely on standard-setting and on developments in education and training. They will also enable chaplains to establish a system of continuing professional development, which will promote the profession of healthcare chaplaincy and

will enable chaplains to approach the implementation of change with unity."

### **Report about information on chaplaincy services for patients and the public**

The report of the further exercise undertaken to obtain information about communicating with patients and the public is now available from Denise Friend at South Yorkshire (mail to [denise.friend@wdconfed.nhs.uk](mailto:denise.friend@wdconfed.nhs.uk)). A copy will be available on the website by mid August

### **Progress on the strategy milestones**

The five **Launch Events** for the strategy in NHS Bodies have been completed. These were hosted by SYWDC with the Multi-Faith Group for Healthcare Chaplaincy and were generally well received. The numbers attending were fewer than had been hoped and an analysis of the attendances shows that only about one third was working at Board level.

This result may make **Milestone F** concerned with establishing an awareness programme about spiritual care and its use and relevance in healthcare even more important.

The submission of the paper for **Milestone B** (further guidance on models of practice and service) has been delayed and the paper will therefore be published later in the autumn. Similarly, the paper for **Milestone G** (guidance about the use and requirements of clinical pastoral education) has been delayed and this issue may be re-prioritised.

The paper for **Milestone D** (the chaplaincy standard for research) has been received and will be submitted for approval to the successor to the chaplaincy education and development group.

It has been agreed that the project arising from **Milestone K** (literature study to identify the state of availability of evidence about the role, structure and efficacy of spiritual healthcare) will only be commissioned once project finance has been agreed.

The report of the work arising from **Milestone N** (review of mechanisms for selection and appointment of chaplains) is now likely to be issued at the end of July as part of a SYWDC listening exercise

### **Communicating the implementation**

SYWDC will continue to support the strategy with an underpinning communications programme.

The newsletter is new and will be circulated to chaplaincy contacts quarterly in the first year and then every few months. The papers used as background to the project or developed as part of it will continue to be available on the SYWDC website.

The list of publications is as follows:

- National survey of chaplaincy-spiritual healthcare issues 2002/03, February 2003
- *Caring for the Spirit: A strategy for the chaplaincy and spiritual healthcare workforce*, November 2003

- Associated foundation study, June 2003

- Guidance Note 2 – Spiritual Healthcare Development Units - March 2004

- Guidance Note 5 – Consultative proposals for a minimum data set for spiritual healthcare - July 2004

If you have any comments about the newsletter or aspects of the strategy implementation, please let either Mary Hardie ([Mary.Hardie@sysha.nhs.uk](mailto:Mary.Hardie@sysha.nhs.uk)) or Tim Battle ([tim.battle@wdconfed.nhs.uk](mailto:tim.battle@wdconfed.nhs.uk)) know

### **Proposals for a minimum data set for spiritual healthcare**

Attached to this newsletter is a consultative paper about the minimum data set for spiritual healthcare. It has been prepared by Revd Neil Gray of Bolton Hospitals NHS Trust and reflects his enthusiasm, expertise and experience in this challenging subject.

The paper is in four parts: first, concerned with a medium data set as developed in Bolton; second, with proposals for a strict minimum data set

for every chaplain; third, with the need to define spiritual healthcare in more detail; and, fourth, with the need to define a spiritual encounter.

Comments on all parts of this paper are welcomed by the project team via [tim.battle@wdconfed.nhs.uk](mailto:tim.battle@wdconfed.nhs.uk)

A final version of the minimum data set will be published after October and a further paper about progress with spiritual healthcare data will be issued in 2005.

Caring for the Spirit Project Team – July 2004