# **Compassionate Communities Annual Report Summary**

**Year 1** (August 2022 – July 2023)

Aim: to encourage & empower people & communities in Chorley, South Ribble and Preston, to support each other in death, dying, caring & bereavement



**Need addressed:** Death and dying has become a medicalised event and most people do not die in their preferred place of death (home). End of life is everyone's business, and we aim to take a public health approach to death, dying and loss by working with health and social care partners, local authorities, public services and VCFSE (voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise) organisations. Working in partnership, we strive to bust myths of hospice care and work more closely with under-served communities.

#### Inputs (resources used)

- Staffing: since Aug 2022, 0.6 FTE Project Lead and two 0.8 FTE Facilitators (funded by CCG) (from Jan 2023, just one 0.6 FTE Facilitator), with direction/management from Palliative Care Consultant and Director of People.
- Input and support from hospice teams including the Support Team,
  Communications, Clinical Nurse Specialist team, Hospice at Home, In-Patient Unit (IPU), the Mill Café, Trading, People Team,
  Outpatients, Community Engagement Team and Education.
- Volunteers from St Catherine's Hospice (SCH) and partners.
- Partners: three local authorities, charities, community groups, places of worship, PCNs, GP surgeries, social prescribers, public services, NHS Community Prevention Engagement Team, two Health and Wellbeing Partnerships and LTHFT.
- · Local and UK networks.

### Activities (things done)

- Researched, found good practice, developed a strategy and plan.
- Developed a Compassionate Community (CC) toolkit.
- Joined eight networks.
- Ran two listening events in Chorley.
- Ran a Chorley pilot for six months.
- Developed a Bereavement Café model.
- Adapted 'Compassionate Conversations' training, gifted by St Luke's (Plymouth) and St Elizabeth's (Ipswich).
- Trained to deliver 'Last Days Matter' training, gifted by St John's Hospice (Lancaster) and North Lancs CC.
- Reinstated the monthly Living Well Hub face-to-face, after being paused in Covid.
- Launched weekly Talkin' Tables at the Mill.
- Planned activities for Dying Matters week.
- Worked with Place-Based Health and Wellbeing Partnerships.
- Developed relationships with new organisations.

### Outputs (products/deliverables)

- Chorley's monthly Bereavement Café had 39 visits over six months, supported by two hospice and two church volunteers.
- Leyland's monthly Bereavement Café had 32 visits over six months, supported by two hospice volunteers.
- In Dying Matters week, 16 Faith Leaders attended an event with IPU tour. Also launched free Last Days Matter training.
- 19 people trained in Last Days Matter. 100% of attendees feel more confident to talk about death and dying.
- 23 visitors accessed support from the Living Well Hub, supported by 11 partners.
- 63 people trained in Compassionate Conversations in four sessions. 89% feel more confident to support the bereaved.
- · 100% recommend our training.
- Formed a new Central Lancashire Bereavement Network.
- · Average eight people a week at Talkin Tables.
- Ran a Q&A session for South Asian women, with a CNS and translator.

# Outcome(s)/Impact (changes resulting from activities/outputs)

- Increased conversations about death and dying, and confidence to talk about it.
- Increased bereavement support with two new sources of sustainable peer-support.
- Increased confidence of people to support bereaved people.
- Reduced social isolation with volunteer-led Talkin Tables at the Mill Café.
- Increased the breadth of support available at the Living Well Hub (two more partners).
- Increased the reach of SCH and improved awareness across communities, councils/public services, third sector and health and social care partners.
- Strengthened bereavement support in Central Lancashire via our supporting the Central Lancashire Bereavement Network.
- Improved signposting to local bereavement support groups with a dedicated webpage.
- Progressed NHS England Ambition 6: Each community is prepared to help.
- Supported place-based "Dying Well" priority
- · Built links with under-reached communities.

For the full report or more information, please contact  $\underline{communities@stcatherines.co.uk}$   $\underline{www.stcatherines.co.uk/our-care/compassionate-communities}$