

# Bereavement Pathways Project



# Bereavement Pathways Project



Why?

What?

How?



# Cruse Bereavement Care



Exists to promote the well-being of bereaved people and to enable anyone suffering a bereavement caused by death to understand their grief and cope with their loss.



# Cruse Bereavement Care



Cruse provides a range of services:

- One to one, face-to-face bereavement support and bereavement counselling
- Telephone and email support
- Support groups
- Written information / literature
- Website information – [www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)  
[www.rd4u.org.uk](http://www.rd4u.org.uk)
- Training and consultancy services



# The Bereavement Services Association



- Provides a national network for all those who work in providing bereavement support services
- Provides a national forum for discussion and training for those providing bereavement support services, particularly in the NHS
- Contributes to the improvement of the quality of bereavement services nationally



# The Bereavement Services Association



- Raises the profile and seeks recognition from stakeholders of the role of those who provide bereavement support services
- Raises awareness of the role and availability of bereavement support services

[www.bsauk.org](http://www.bsauk.org)



# The Bereavement Pathways

## Project: Key Aims



- The establishment of a key partnership between NHS and the Voluntary Sector
- To increase access to services for bereaved people – however a death occurred, whoever they are and wherever they died.



# The Bereavement Pathways Project: Key Aims



- To establish clear pathways to facilitate equity of access and choice for bereaved people seeking bereavement support
- The development of up to date information on the number, scope and operation of NHS, Voluntary and Community Sector and Primary Care bereavement services



# Policy Background



- UK Bereavement Care Standards 2001
- *'Bereavement Care in Practice'* 2004
- DH *'When a Patient Dies'* 2005
- End of Life Care Strategy
- Coroner Reform
- Death Certification
- *'Tell us Once' Project*



## Achievements so far...



- An effective partnership and Steering Committee
- Resources in place to support the work
- Literature Search
- Mapping of NHS/VCS Services – Directory of Bereavement Support Services & Survey of NHS Bereavement Services



## Achievements so far...



- Initial model of a Bereavement Pathway, including bereavement pathways in the community consultation paper and production of the 'visual pathway'
- Consultation & feedback on the work so far
- Identification of 3 pilot sites for year 2
- Events: Cruse Conference, BSA AGM, Stakeholder Events 2008, International Conference in Australia



## Our aims for year 2



- Publish results of the mapping exercise – identifying gaps in provision, good practice examples and opportunities to improve services
- Establish 3 pilot sites (NHS & VCS in partnership) to test the Bereavement Pathway & publish results of the testing process



## Our aims for year 2 cont...



- Establish service user group to ensure the pathway is focussed on needs of bereaved people
- Identification of key issues in NHS/VCS joint working, examine methods of creating pathways between services
- Identification of joint training opportunities



# Stakeholder Events



## Key points:

- CHALLENGES
  - Education, information, communication & liaison
  - Sharing of good practice and experience
  - Infinitely variable circumstances
  - Identifying and assessing those in need of help
  - Consistent processes
  - Resources and funding
  - Geographical distance
  - Identifying who are the bereaved

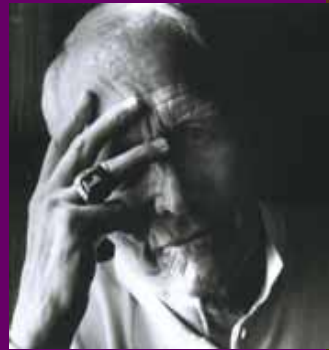


# Stakeholder Events



## Key Points:

- SOLUTIONS
  - Conversations with patients and loved ones
  - Networking
  - Information available at common points
  - Hospice model
  - Existing guidance
  - Self assessment
  - Open up debate, break down taboo



# Bereavement Pathways Project