

Palliative Care Social Work at Pilgrims Hospices



Activity

What is the role of the specialist palliative care social worker?



Palliative Care Social Work at Pilgrims

- Support to find practical care at home or ongoing nursing or respite care
- Advice around housing, employment, finances and benefits, funding and grant applications
- Advocacy
- Safeguarding, mental capacity & deprivation of liberty safeguarding (DoLS)
- Carer wellbeing support groups
- Helping people prepare for the end of their lives through advanced care planning and psychosocial interventions
- Bereavement support services
- Family support including work with children
- Community engagement
- Complex, person centered holistic assessment of practical and psychological needs of patients and their families



What is palliative care social work?

- Palliative
- End of Life
- Bereavement Care
- Social Work
- Social Workers
- Palliative Care Social Workers

Palliative Care Social Work at Pilgrims

Social work is an integral part of the multi disciplinary team here at Pilgrims Hospices.

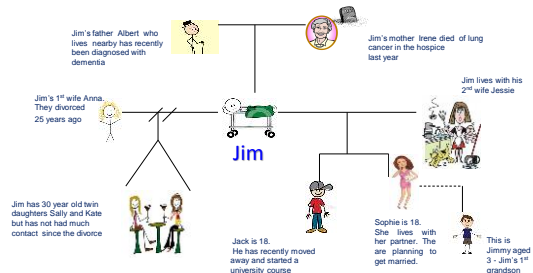
We offer an holistic service, ensuring interventions take account of the whole person as well as their family and those who are important to them.

We have the desire and ability to see people as whole people and not as a set of problems, to understand the connections of their lives and to seek to act on rather than ignore, the constraints and discriminations they experience in society.

We work across boundaries and are often the link between health and social care for both the people we work with and our professional colleagues.



Principles & Practice in End of Life Care



Introducing you to Jim's Genogram



Final thought.....

Is dying a medical or social concern?



What Palliative Social Workers offer

- Recognise the impact of loss, grief, death and dying on the whole family and the people who play a part in supporting the dying person.
- Contribute to building and maintaining therapeutic relationships.
- Support people to deal with conflict, anger and frustration in a helpful manner, seeking to strengthen and sustain relationships



What Palliative Social Workers offer

- Provide clear, truthful and understandable information about all aspects of someone's condition and service options.
- Work in partnership with dying people and those who are important to them, to comprehensively assess their needs.
- Work with people to plan their care, drawing on their own resources and networks as well as looking to other sources of professional or community support.



What Palliative Social Workers Offer

- Help dying people and people who are close to them, to identify apparent changes in mental and physical capacity and respond supportively.
- Support people in decision making or ensure that decisions are made in their best interests, using appropriate legislation.
- Work with dying people and the people who are close to them to identify and meet needs arising from loss and bereavement.



Last but not least....

- Help people to identify when they are at risk of or have suffered abuse or neglect and support them in making choices about what action they would like to be taken.

Taken from: The Role of Social Work in Palliative, End of Life and Bereavement Care.

Association of Palliative Care Social Workers.

