

Specialist Oncology, Palliative & Bereavement Service

News Letter Summer 2015 issue 4

United Lincolnshire Hospitals 
NHS Trust

Bereaved Parents and Sibling Day May 2015

On Sunday 10th May by kind invitation and partly funded by St. Barnabas hospice in Grantham, we held a combined family day for families bereaved of a parent, spouse, child or sibling. 10 children and 12 adults attended and the sunny, warm weather meant that we could take full advantage of the beautiful garden.

The theme of the day was 'One step at a time' in relation to the process that people work through during their bereavement. Families spent time in a range of planned psycho-social activities either as a family or with age related peers, supported by staff facilitators and were given the opportunity to explore their own thoughts and feelings of their grief to date.

We were able to enjoy a sumptuous buffet lunch provided by St. Barnabas and additional foot shaped cake and biscuit treats kindly made by Nicky. The families left with a lavender scent bag endorsed with our service 'tree of life' logo to help them remember their day and slices of delicious home-made foot shaped cake generously made by Heather.

Feedback from the day was positive and parents have since commented that they found the day "Inspiring" in terms of how some individuals have made changes to their lives and some of the older children remarked that they were glad of the chance to share their feelings with those of a similar age.

My thanks go to everyone who helped to make the day a success and to the families for their brave and honest Participation. Penny

Charitable Trust Fund

Our charitable fund provides finance to purchase valuable resources i.e.; books for children about bereavement and illness, therapeutic play toys and art materials, memory boxes, bereavement family days, support groups and sibling days.

Charitable donations make a real difference to our families and are very much appreciated.

Please make cheques payable to our Charitable Trust Fund:-

Children Bereavement Fund LO24

FAO (For the Attention of) Ruth Dones at the address below.

Useful Books

Missing Mummy by Rebecca Cobb

Tear Soup: A Recipe for Healing After Loss

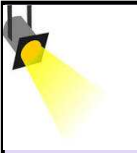
by Pat Schwiebert and Chuck DeKlyen

P.A.C.T. The PACT (Parents and Carers Together) meet monthly. The group is for any parent with a child who has a complex medical illness or progressive disease and attends main stream school. The group support each other with the issues that often arise from multiple hospital appointments, dealing with siblings and a wide range of other matters. They meet in Sleaford. If you would like more information please contact the team.

Contact Details:

Ruth Dones, Team Lead
Specialist Family
Practitioner Team
Grantham & District
Hospital
101 Manthorpe Road
Grantham
Lincs NG31 8DG
01476 464259





A Spotlight OnThe Children's Community Nursing Team

The community children's nursing teams within the United Lincolnshire trust is a developing service consisting of three teams based in Lincoln, Grantham and Boston. Each team consists of experienced children's nurses and health care support workers. In addition, we also have access to specialist teams who we can involve if required to deliver appropriate care to our children and families. These include the family support team, a training team and specialist nurse in learning disabilities.

The teams have direct involvement with children and work closely with their parents and carers to provide advice, support and direct nursing care to infants, children and young people from birth to 18 years, who need ongoing nursing care and are under the care of a consultant paediatrician.

We do this by working in close partnership with other health care workers, including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dieticians and other services involved with the child.

Date for your Diary:

Following the success of our latest Family Day we will be organising another event to take place on October 11th 2015. Information and invites to follow so watch this space

Check out our website -

http://www.ulh.nhs.uk/about_us/patient_services/specialist_family_practitioner/resources.asp

Or type specialist family practitioner lincs into a search engine

Picnic for all Bereaved Families

Wednesday 26th August 2015 at Jubilee Park ,Woodhall Spa Lincolnshire LN106QH

Meet at the Bandstand
Time 11.00am-3.00pm

All welcome and don't forget your picnic or swimming costumes as we have some half price tickets available for the pool.



New Arrivals to the Team

Ruth Dones started working as our new Team Lead in May and Carolyn Bruce started as a practitioner in January. Both Carolyn and Ruth have experience working with children in various community settings. Then, in June, Jane Newton joined the team to provide much needed administration support and keep us organised. It's been a pleasure getting to know them all and we welcome them to the team and look forward to working with them in the future.



If you require this information in another language, large print, audio (CD or tape) or braille, please email the Public Involvement team at patient.involvement@ulh.nhs.uk