



Faith in Older People Newsletter: December 2014

Faith in Older People Events

Caring for Older People - Contribution of Faith Communities

3rd February 2015 - Renfield Centre, 260 Bath Centre, Glasgow G2 4JP

Faith groups make a massive contribution to the care of older people helping them stay longer in their own homes, and supporting them if they move into hospital or care. Until recently this work has been largely unrecognised by central and local government. However all government policy relates to supporting people in their own homes as long as possible.

Recent research, Faith in Older People carried out with Samantha Luker of Edinburgh University, has begun to quantify the work done by faith groups. The findings will be of interest to all faith communities providing support for older people. If you would like us to send you a summary of the findings, please email us on info@fiop.org.uk.

You are warmly invited to participate in a workshop on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at the Renfield Centre, Glasgow, from 10am till 3pm, to

- Share your own work, ideas and aspirations for the care of older people
- Hear how the government views this work and how they might support you in it
- Consider the potential of working in partnership with other organisations to deliver more or better care and support

It is vital that the voices of the faith communities are heard in the wider debate about care of older people. Please let us know by Monday 19th January 2015 who would like to attend this event.
Email: info@fiop.org.uk

Inspiration for Today: Hope for Tomorrow

Monday 16th March 2015 - Renfield St Stephen's, Bath Street, Glasgow

This one day conference aims to provide encouragement to all those interested in supporting individuals to have more of a sense of meaning and purpose in their lives.

We have gathered together real examples of grassroots collaborative action to inspire us. They explore how we can work together at community level to tackle health inequalities and improve health and spiritual wellbeing.

We don't have any speakers; instead Andrew Lyons will be facilitating you to participate in discussions and workshops, which explore the potential for new kinds of collaborations at local and national level. There will be plenty of opportunities to contribute both your questions and your ideas. If you want to bring information about your work or to have a stall please contact Joanna Kemp at info@fiop.org.uk

We hope to attract up to 100 participants from across Scotland drawn from the health and social care sector, faith communities and chaplaincy.

Research undertaken by NES, in 2012 clearly demonstrated the links between person centred and assets based approaches to health and social care and the work of NHS Chaplaincy to promote both a sense of meaning and purpose in people's lives. Developing opportunities for the promotion of wellbeing and resilience or spiritual health in all Scotland's communities, particularly those suffering most from health inequalities, is a shared agenda, and relies on health and social care practitioners working together through co-production with community members, chaplains and faith communities.

This conference is being organised by Faith in Older People, the Health and Social Care Alliance and Animate and is sponsored by NHS Education for Scotland.

The event is free but registration is essential.

To book a place, please go to our website: www.faithinolderpeople.org.uk

For further information contact info@fiop.org.uk

Faith in Older People Resources

New monthly resources - FREE in December

Many of the people who come on our courses are pastoral visitors or clergy, looking for ways of keeping in touch with older people who move into care homes. We get about and do a fair bit of training - but with the best will in the world, our small team can't meet the demand. So we're devising a new system - resources which we will make available electronically to subscribers, specifically aimed at pastoral visitors and clergy going into care homes.

Each set of resources, which we plan to produce monthly, will give some ideas to promote meaningful communication with care home residents. These can be used either in one-to-one conversations, or as part of group devotions. December's offering, just because it's Christmas, is available as a special gift!

Download your free copy from the Latest News section on the homepage of our website: www.faithinolderpeople.org.uk Or contact us at info@fiop.org.uk.

If people like them, and want to subscribe to our monthly offering, there will be a small charge. We hope there will be feedback on how they are being used, to enable good sharing of ideas. Moving into a care home must be a very isolating experience and we really want to support those who are doing the hugely important work in keeping the connections alive.

Faith in Older People Appeal

Faith in Older People is very grateful for the financial commitment it receives from Trusts, Foundations and individuals. As a small organisation we work with a modest budget to raise awareness, provide learning opportunities and to influence policy at different levels about spiritual care.

To us the spiritual dimension is the core of a good person centred approach. Please help us to continue to promote its importance for older people.

Make a donation today, by sending a cheque, made payable to 'Faith in Older People', to Faith in Older People, 21a Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EL.

In the current economic climate, any donation you can make would be very much appreciated.

Faith in Older People Training

Understanding Loss & Grief

A course for pastoral visitors

Loss and grief are painful but routine aspects of the lives of our faith communities. This course aims to help pastoral visitors understand better and support people more effectively

Glasgow: 11th February 2015, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Ignation Spirituality Centre, 35 Scott Street, Glasgow G3 6PE

The cost for this workshop is £65

Creative Communication

Learn how to explore the existing creative talents of individuals to enhance communication and contribute to the spiritual well-being of people with dementia

Edinburgh: 18th March 2015, 9.30am - 1.00pm

Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR

Glasgow: 19th March 2015, 9.30am - 1.00pm

Ignation Spirituality Centre, 35 Scott Street, Glasgow G3 6PE

The cost for this workshop is £65

For more information, please visit our website: www.faithinolderpeople.org.uk

Other events and information

The 6th International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality: Paradox and Promise in the Pilgrimage of Aging 4th - 7th October 2015, Los Angeles, California

The 6th International Conference continues a series of international Conferences which began in Canberra in 2000. All have explored aspects of Ageing and Spirituality, and all have been held in countries of the British Commonwealth--Australia, New Zealand, England and Scotland. The 5th International Conference held in Edinburgh in 2013, explored the ways that Resilience and Creativity support the spiritual lives of older people. For more information, please go to the conference website: www.6thinternationalconference.org

Listening to churchgoers caring for loved ones with dementia

A request from the Revd Dr Albert Jewell, Research Fellow of Glyndwr University, and formerly Pastoral Director and Senior Chaplain with MHA. Currently in the UK there are some 800,000 persons with dementia. The great majority are older people who continue to live in their homes or with family members. The Christian Council on Ageing (CCOA), Methodist Homes (MHA), and Faith in Elderly People (based in Leeds) (FIEP) are working together as part of a growing movement to make society more dementia-friendly, not least by encouraging local churches to set an example for others.

Along with three colleagues, and as part of a series of studies on aspects of ministry and mission in later years, I am now seeking at least fifty people, who currently or within the past five years have had the main responsibility of caring for loved ones who are suffering from dementia, who might be willing to complete a short questionnaire seeking their views and the benefit of their experience. Confidentiality is assured and participants do not need to give their names when returning the questionnaire.

For more information, please email Dr Albert Jewell: ajj633@btinternet.com



Please support our work by
making a donation.
Send a cheque, made payable to
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