LOCAL PALLIATIVE CARE GRANTS PROGRAM - ROUND 1

Name of project: South Burnett Palliative Project Officer and Capacity Building Project.

Organisation: South Queensland Rural Division of General Practice Association

PO Box 774

TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Duration of the Project: June 2006 – March 2007

Purpose of the Project: To improve the care offered to and the well-being of palliative care patients in the South Burnett Health Service District.

Activities:

- collaboration among stakeholders consolidated through a Link Nurse group established to act in a liaison role.
- establish communication channels for referrals through development of a referral map and website.
- resources developed to educate stakeholders on Advanced Health Directives.
- education of stakeholders and the community on Advanced Health Directives.
- develop patient discharge tools.
- refine patient management systems through the development of tools and resources which will be incorporated into a Nurses Resource Kit.

Results:

- 22 Link nurses recruited. The nurses were offered a comprehensive education program to expand their knowledge of palliative care and were involved in a variety of activities linked to the project.
- website created. Referral map is being finalised.
- a DVD documentary on Advanced Health Directives was produced through the Program to assist in educating the community on health care planning. The DVD is approximately 18 minutes in duration. At the time of the report 500 copies have been disseminated throughout the community to General Practitioners, individuals, community service providers, healthcare facilities and community groups.
- a Discharge and Risk Assessment tool was developed in an attempt to standardise documentation throughout the community.
- the Nurses resource Kit was being finalised at the time of the report.

Resources:

- resources developed included; End of Life (EOL) pathway, EOL medication pathway, Discharge and Risk Assessment tool, Carers Information Sheet and Planning Checklist.
- education Program for Link Nurses and Nurses Resource Kit