

Tasmania has received funding to improve Access to Palliative Care. The Better Access to Palliative Care (BAPC) program is a three year project funded by the Australian Government (through the Tasmanian Health Assistance Package). The objective of the BAPC project is to increase Tasmania's capacity to provide access to community based care for people with life limiting illness, nearing the end of their life.

The funding is aimed at how supporting people to die in their own home, affirming the Palliative Care Australia focus "Let's work together". hospice@HOME (h@H) has been developed under this banner, and focuses on how we, as a community can work together to support people who choose to die in their own home.

The hospice@HOME (h@H) packages deliver community based care, enabling individuals who would prefer to die at home to do so. h@H is not a replacement or duplication of existing services. h@H packages aim to work within the system we currently have and enhance the services so that we are able to support people and reduce fragmentation and inconsistency. The 'wrap around' packages of care are a top up to current services and will run concurrently with existing care arrangements.

h@H packages are developed in a manner that is fully inclusive of the client, their family, carers and the community in which they live. The packages are tailored to ensure that Tasmanians who would prefer to die at home are able to do so, and their priorities for care are known and appropriately communicated.

The h@H packages broker a range of services including personal care, nursing, equipment and domestic support. Wherever possible, existing service providers involved in the patients care will be used to deliver these additional services.

There is a single point of referral through TasCarepoint. TasCarepoint will gather information about existing service involvement and then facilitate a referral to h@H.

Currently at the end of July there have been 287 packages of care offered and delivered to clients in Tasmania. At the end of May, 51% of these clients have achieved their goal to die in their own home. We hope that we can improve on this even further into the future.

We are aiming to increase awareness for h@H across all regions of the Tasmanian communities, and would like to offer information sessions to community groups and associations. We would welcome the opportunity to come and present our approach to service delivery and how to receive services through the h@H packages.

Clinical Nurse Managers:

Helen Jarman	CNM South	Hobart Office
Tim Nyborg	CNM North	Launceston Office
Dianne Stingel	CNM North-West	Burnie Office

For more information;

Call 1800 467 742 (1800HOSPICE).

or

To refer call TasCarepoint. - 1300 769 699