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Provider urges people to talk about death

By Dominic Musgrave

A CARE group is encouraging people to talk more openly about death, and especially, to think about Palliative or 'end of life' care.

Morris Care launched a special video to coincide with the recent Dying Matters Week, to help everyone learn more about end of life care and how to choose what is right for a loved one when the times comes.

The provider's chief operating, Sue Austin, said: "It is inevitably a difficult time when a loved one is coming to the end of their lives, but we believe that everyone deserves the best bespoke care at this time.

"We have created a short, poignant, but helpful video which sensitively introduces the subject in a way which will connect with people, open their minds to the choices available for those final hours, days or months of life, and how the right individually tailored care can be a great comfort and give peace of mind to loved ones and their families too."

The group's end-of-life approach to care emanates from its own wealth of experience, with its range of homes, which have been operating for over 30 years, with 426 nurses and carers.

It takes cues from other countries around the globe, helping residents

live well towards the end of their lives as part of its commitment to genuine person centred care.

Sue added: "Every individual deserves a tailored plan incorporating a care outline where food and drink, symptom control, and psychological, social and spiritual support is agreed, co-ordinated and delivered with genuine compassion.

"Person-centred care is a term that can be banded around in our industry but what does it actually mean? We believe that person centred care is about three things – the individual, their family and the staff caring for them – genuine person centred care cannot truly exist if only one or two components are in place.

"For example, finding out about the person's preferences and wishes is central to being able to provide the very best end of life care.

"As part our end-of-life programme we map the care plan through a wheel of provision which expresses our areas of clinical and social competence amongst the professional network from the moment the resident arrives in our home.

"It encapsulates our full offer but importantly outlines how we work holistically with professionals, the family and the individual to reassure and build trust at this intense and difficult time."



Alzheimer's Society has launched a new campaign calling on the public to set aside their differences – from age to tastes and social standing to political allegiances – and unite in the fight against dementia, as it's set to become the 21st century's biggest killer. Celebrities and sports stars including Jo Brand, James Cracknell, Meera Syal, Robbie Savage and Uriah Rennie are backing the biggest ever campaign from the charity calling on people to come together to defeat dementia. The campaign is also being supported by Richard and Judy, Carey Mulligan, Hugh Dennis and Sally Lindsey.

Home fined for failure to employ a manager

A CARE home provider which failed persistently to comply with national standards regarding the employment of a registered manager has been fined £4,000 by the inspectorate.

CQC issued the fixed penalty notice to Epsom Lodge Care Homes Limited after inspectors found that a registered manager was not employed – which is a legal obligation. Inspections took place on April 8 2016 and September 19 2016 and the reports record that there was no registered manager in place. CQC inspectors found that the home in Epsom, Surrey had failed to have a registered manager from January 2016 until March 2017.

Epsom Lodge had told CQC that a manager had been employed since February 1 2016 – although the manager's application to register had been rejected because there were gaps in the information needed. CQC subsequently issued a fixed penalty notice, which the provider has accepted and paid.

Debbie Ivanova, deputy chief inspector of adult social care for London and the South, said: "We will keep Epsom Lodge under review to ensure that standards are sustained. We will not hesitate to take further action if necessary to ensure residents receive the service they are entitled to expect."

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