



# Lifecraft Suicide Bereavement Support Service

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Suicide Bereavement Liaison Worker

# Background

- National Picture, Zero Suicide Alliance forming
- **Suicide Prevention Implementation Group**
- Multi-agency partnership
- Suicide Prevention Strategy
- Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2017-2020
- Collating data identifying priorities
- Pathway of care reporting boards Safeguarding & H&WB

# Strategic Planning

- Identified gaps in service provision
- Business case to support funding
- Funding LA and CCG
- **Priority 4** – Provide better information and support to those bereaved or affected by suicide
- **4,1** Develop and implement a bereavement support service for people affected by suicide.

# Business Case

- The economic cost of each death by suicide in England for those of working age is estimated to be £1.67 million (2009 prices, Public Health England 2016).
- This covers the direct costs of care, indirect costs relating to loss of productivity and earnings, and the intangible costs associated with pain, grief and suffering.
- 70% of that figure represents the emotional impact on relatives.
- A conservative estimate is that 10 people are directly affected by each suicide death.
- Friends and relatives of people who die by suicide have a 1 in 10 risk of making a suicide attempt after their loss. Those bereaved by suicide are also at an increased risk of psychiatric admission and depression.
- Furthermore there are considerable costs associated with non-fatal suicide events that are difficult to quantify, but would include potential long-term physical health costs, A&E costs and follow-up psychiatric care.

# Proposal

- Post Suicide Bereavement Support Service 15hrs pw (£15.5k with an additional £5k from Public Health)
- Deliver a responsive service for those bereaved as a result of suicide as incidences occur
- Draw on examples of good practice from other areas such as the 'AMPARO' model in Merseyside.
- Draw on multi-partnership working between police, coroner's office and a family liaison officer/team.
- Ensure that the family liaison officer initiates first contact with affected families within three days of bereavement.
- Following the first contact the team begin the process to meet the family within seven days.
- Identify others within the bereaved person's circles who may require support,
- Make referrals to bereavement or emotional support services
- Signpost families and loved ones to further sources of support

# Job Description

- Part time 15 hrs
- Salary £28K pro rata
- Mental health experience
- Qualified Counselor
- Work autonomously
- Driver

# Service Planning

- Officer Induction
- Research
- Marketing
- Partner Engagement
- Local resources
- Recording Systems
- Evaluation

# Lifecraft A5 Flyer

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH**  
*Suicide Bereavement Support Service*

Suicide represents an individual tragedy and a loss to society. The impact on those left behind can be devastating. Evidence suggests that early intervention support can benefit individuals in the grieving process. Lifecraft aims to ensure information and access to support is available to those bereaved by suicide.

The loss of a loved one to suicide is a uniquely devastating circumstance that leaves the bereaved with unanswered questions and complex feelings that can be hard to understand and process, our service at Lifecraft understands this and is here to offer help and support.

The suicide bereavement support service is available to family and friends in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area.

**We are able to provide:**

- Early contact with families
- A named liaison worker
- A home visit to meet the family and offer support
- Information on services available in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- Liaison with other services
- Follow up telephone support for the family
- Signposting to practical support
- Information on procedures that take place when there is a death by suicide

Please contact Lifecraft for more information.

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[www.lifecraft.org.uk](http://www.lifecraft.org.uk) [www.cpslmind.org.uk](http://www.cpslmind.org.uk) [www.stopsuicide.org](http://www.stopsuicide.org)



# Service Delivery

- Make contact with family / partner / loved one
- Confirm visit, follow up with email / letter
- Visit family, offer support provide information on available help
- Arrange to return or follow up with phone call sign agreement
- Seek responses to any requests for information from service users
- Assist family on an on-going basis (hours per week)
- Close service further to one year provision confirm with letter
- In line with supervision assess the on-going service commitment
- Following closure – acquire feedback on service from family

# 3 Key points

## The Family

- ❑ Crisis Intervention
- ❑ Emotional Support
- ❑ Practical Support

## The Worker

- ❑ Line Management
- ❑ Clinical Supervision
- ❑ Flexibility