Parish Nursing Report July-September 2023

The Skylark grant, specifically for equipment has been used to purchase a blood pressure monitor and cuffs of varying size, weighing scales and display board. The service is at the point of purchasing a laptop. Our thanks go to Baildon Town Council for this £500 grant.

The Parish Nurse service has been advertised via the two Baildon medical practices, library, the three pharmacies, in the churches and on several social media sites. Awareness raising and some assessment of community need has been undertaken by speaking to groups, Rotary Club and Mother’s Union, and through manned displays at events, such as St James’s community strawberry tea. Displays have included a regional twenty minute exercise challenge, summer safety, and mental health. The intention is to highlight national health campaigns. A range of health advice leaflets have been sourced and are readily available. Health promotion and disease prevention are an important aspect of the service.

The PN has liaised with the Wesley Wellbeing team, St Hugh’s centre, and Community Link, giving a presentation to explain the scope of the service and encourage referral. Carolyn (PN) is currently liaising with Baildon Community First Responders to facilitate a practical resuscitation evening in November, with scope to widen invitation to further events should there be demand.

Demand for the PN service is steadily growing. Opportunistic listening and advice is provided at Wednesday Coffee, most Wednesdays in termtime 10am-12pm in an informal way. Three from the community have engaged in a more intentional, ongoing manner, two in response to advertisement, one from a hub hirers activity. Support has been provided by email to two, by text to three, and by phone to three. The PN has accompanied three to medical appointments and undertaken four home visits, delivering information leaflets, as requested, to two regarding treatment and diet. Sign posting has directed service users to other groups within Baildon, the pastoral visiting scheme and charities/ schemes such as Alzheimer’s Society, Blue badge application and Bradford safe and sound falls alert. Reasons for accessing the service are mainly loneliness and isolation, anxiety, bereavement, and support with short and long term conditions. It is hoped that as unmet community wellbeing needs are further explored the PN service can recruit volunteers from the community to support and call upon specialists to deliver tailored sessions.