State of Caring 2018 conference

Carers Lounge
Hospital based support to carers

Sandra Rome
Carers in Bedfordshire

Think patient ● Think carer ● Think Carers Lounge
Hospital Carers Lounge
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Ward visits
Inter agency partners
Challenges

- Establishing & maintaining partnerships
- Maintaining positive relationships at all levels within the hospital
- The medical model: Hospital’s focus on the patient always the priority
- Red alerts!
- Discharge planning
Outcomes for Carers
‘I statements’

• I have access to information, advice and signposting services
• I feel supported so that I can maintain my personal wellbeing and remain in my caring role
• I am listened to by the people involved in my support
• I am able to adapt once my caring role comes to an end in a way that is positive for my own wellbeing
Carer Transitions

Key transition points for family carers

• Becoming a carer
• Sharing care with paid carers in the home
• Move into residential/nursing care
• End of life and bereavement
Carer awareness
Carers as experts
Keeping people out of hospital
Lessons learnt

• Strong sustainable inter agency partnerships
• Plan, resource and deliver for the long term
• Partnership making is a never ending process, but an essential investment
• Find a location with high footfall within the hospital
• Tap into the hospital’s communications system
• Recruit volunteers ahead of setup, ready to start
• Create a gateway into wider carer support services
Think Patient

Think Carer

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