6 August 2018

Dying to Know Day: Bringing death to life

Dying to Know Day (8 August 2018) is an annual day of action dedicated to bringing to life conversations and community actions around death, dying and bereavement.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) Clinical Director, Community Integrated and Subacute Services and Geriatrician, Dr John Endacott, said: “Talking about the end of life can be frightening or confronting, but most people will want to talk about it if they are asked in the right way. Dying to Know Day encourages people to talk about death and dying so we make these conversations less frightening.”

To start the important conversation around life, love, ageing, dying and loss, SCHHS is sponsoring a documentary film event on 7 August 2018, Love in Our Own Time. It follows ordinary Australians, bearing witness to lives beginning and ending, and capturing moments that compose the lives we lead. For more information, or to book, visit the Queensland events page at www.dyingtoknowday.org.

Four SCHHS staff members, Dr John Endacott, Dr Louise Welch, Dr Colin Dicks and Wendy Pearse, will be speaking on 8 August 2018 at the Ignite Talk “Dying to Know”. These are short, fast-paced talks to help grow the capacity of individuals and community groups to take action toward end of life planning. To book visit www.stickytickets.com.au and search ‘Dying to Know’.

SCHHS will also receive a visit from Dr Will Cairns OAM, Clinical Lead for Queensland’s Statewide Strategy for care at the end of life. Dr Cairns will join us to hear about the work being undertaken at SCHHS to support the state-wide strategy for end of life care.

Dr Cairns said: “We spend a lot of time planning for the other big events in our lives such as weddings or the birth of a child, but many Australians are still not comfortable talking to their family or doctors about their wishes if they were to become seriously unwell.

“Families and clinicians want to make decisions with confidence that this would be what the person wants, these discussions make it much more likely your end of life wishes come true.”

For more information visit www.dyingtoknowday.org.

ENDS

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:
Dr Will Cairns OAM, Clinical Lead for Queensland’s Statewide Strategy for care at the end of life and Wendy Pearse, End of Life Care Project Officer, available for interviews/photographs upon request.

Where: Sunshine Coast University Hospital or phone if preferred

Date: 8 August 2018, all day. 9 August 2018, before 12:00pm.

Follow us!  

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