

# Ethical challenges for hospice trustees

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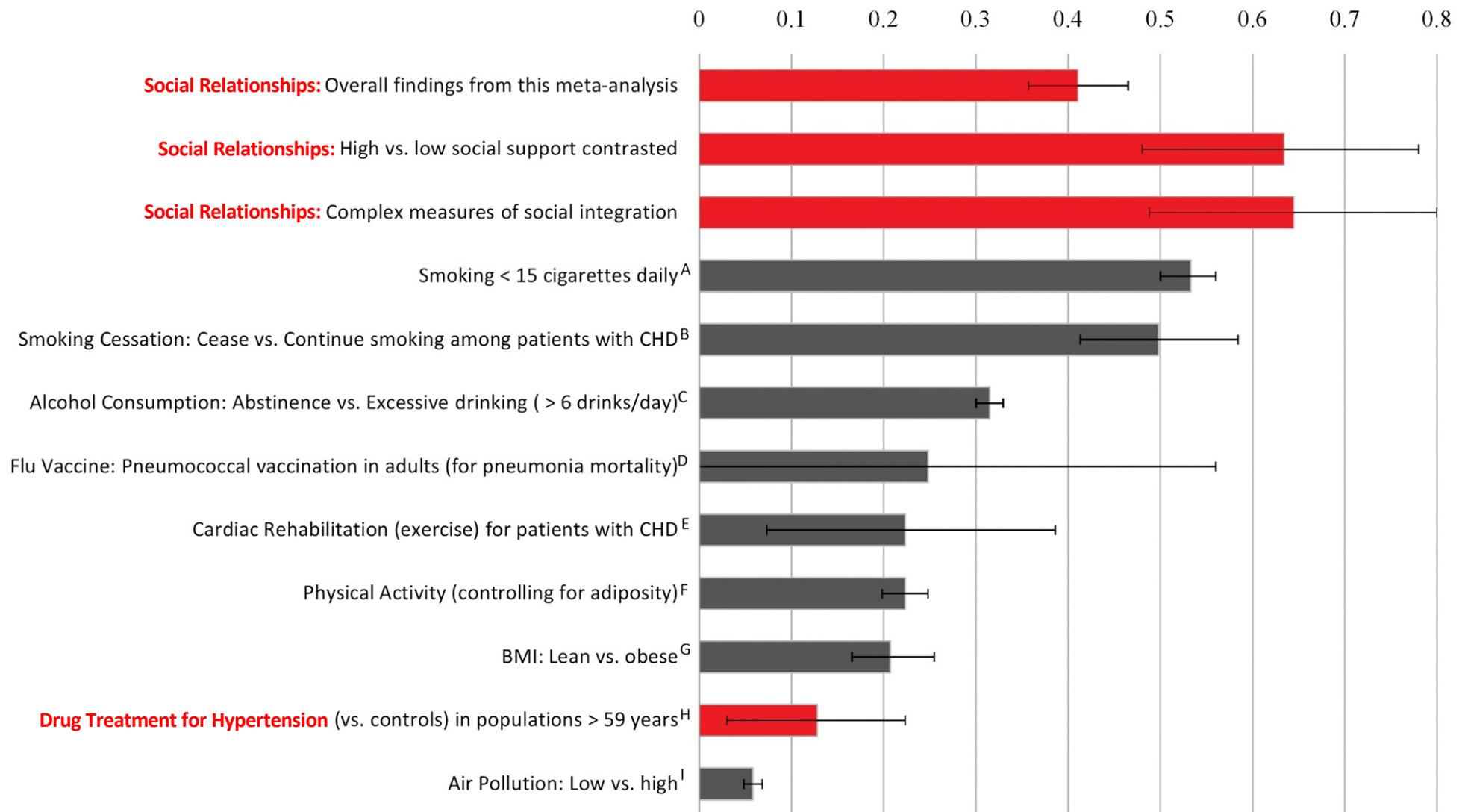
# Scene setting

- Introductions and current challenges and approaches
- Setting the scene – a bit of background about public health palliative care
- Discussion of implications and plotting a way forward

# Three major weaknesses of current palliative care model

1. Deficit focus rather than living well
2. Equity
3. Bereavement

# 1. Comparison of odds (lnOR) of decreased mortality across several conditions associated with mortality.



# 1. Deficit focus rather than living well

- Control of symptoms and needs assessment does not mean to living well
- Literature on what living well means at end of life
- Humans are social animals

Compassion is  
a potential in  
all of us

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Part of our evolutionary heritage – survival of  
the kindest.

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Found in every part of us, genomics,  
biochemistry, physiology, behaviour, social etc

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We have to recognise it within us before we  
do anything else

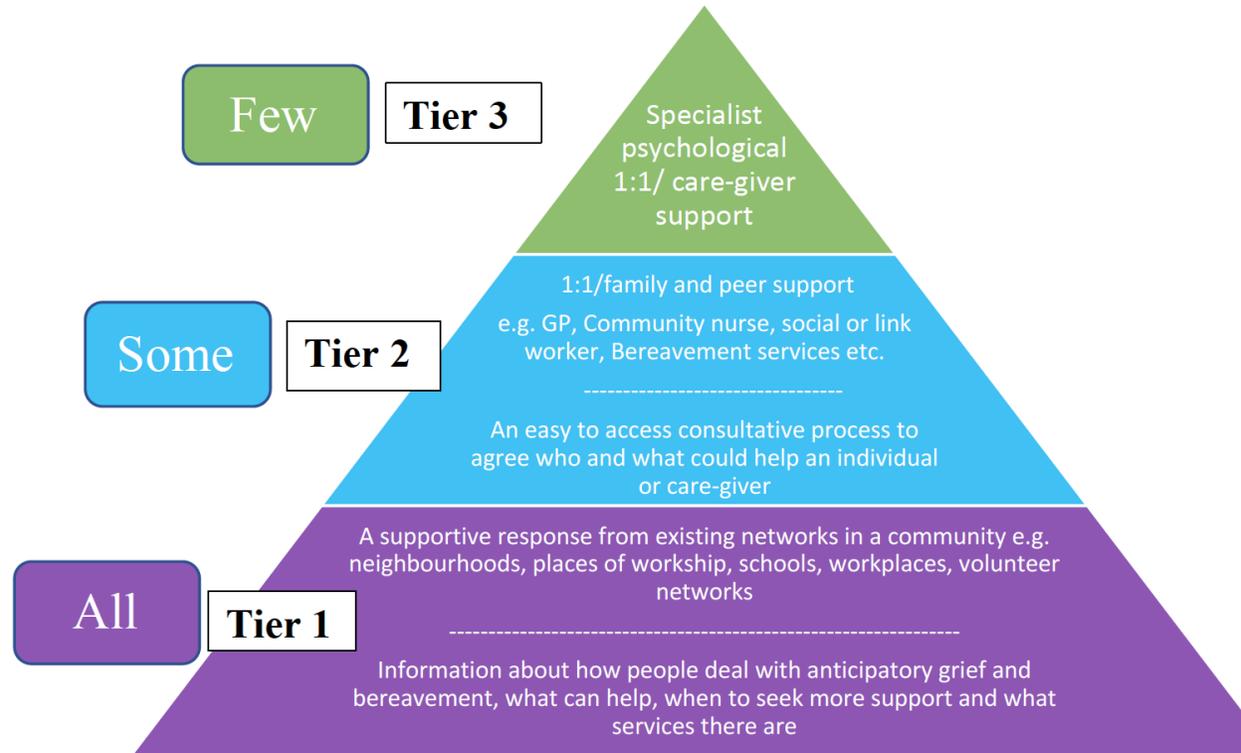
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Recognise that others are the same.

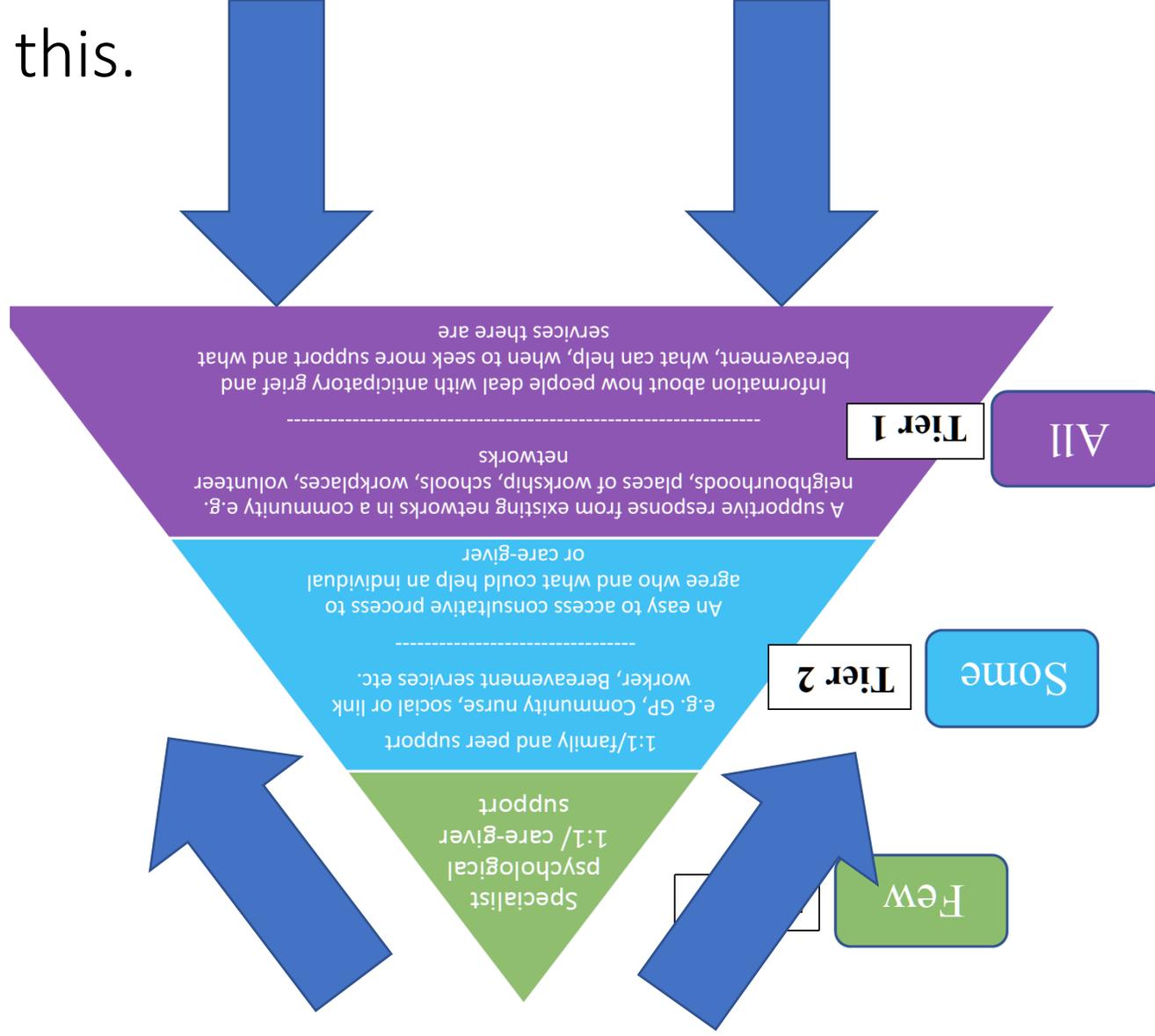
## 2. Equity

- Palliative care mostly for cancer but this is only 25% of deaths. What happens to the other 75%?
- The terrible phrase hard to reach represents the majority of people who do not have direct or indirect access to palliative care.
- **Social morbidities, physical morbidities and mortalities** are all there and should not be ignored. This is the moral dilemma facing palliative care.
- Who is missed out by palliative care services? (By disease, by cause of death, by diversity, by structural inequity.)

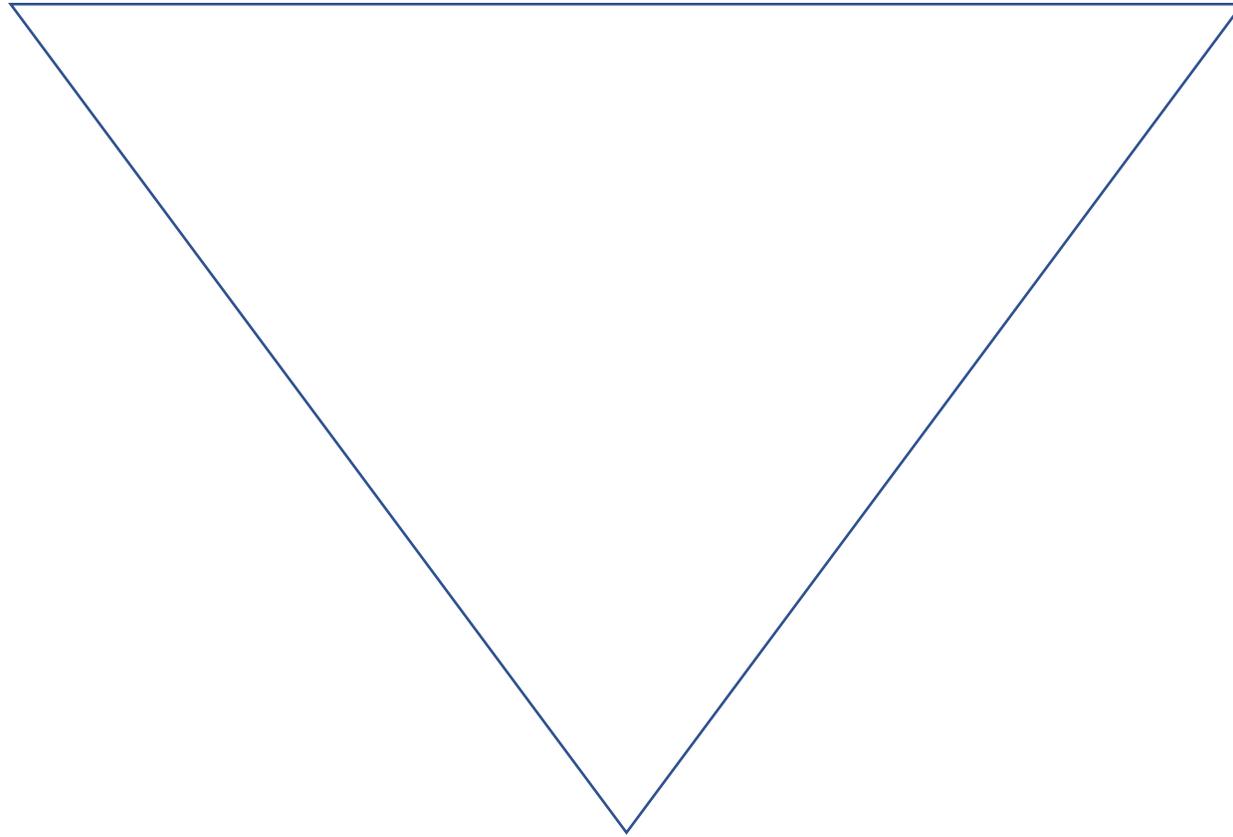
# 3. Bereavement



It should be this.



Graphic of 95% rule



# Three issues

1. Importance of relationships at biological and personal levels
2. Power relationships, community development and unintended harms of professionalisation
3. Redesigning professional care in the light of the above

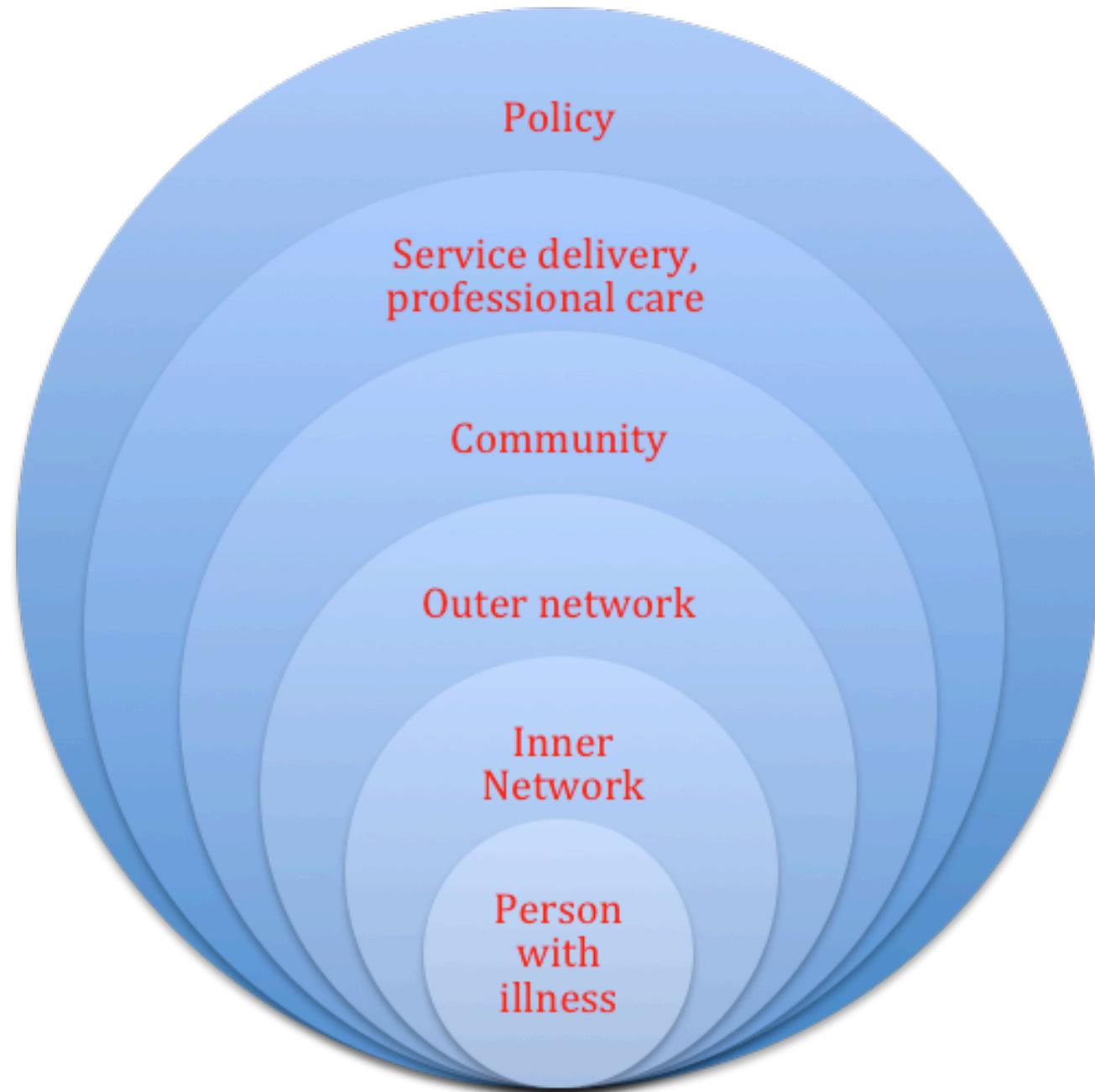




# Prof Bessel van der Kolk – The Body Keeps the Score

Social support is not the same as merely being in the presence of others. The critical issue is reciprocity, being truly heard and seen by the people around us, feeling that we are held in someone's mind and heart. For our physiology to calm down, heal, and grow we need a visceral feeling of safety.

**No doctor can write a prescription for friendship and love. These are complex and hard earned capacities.**



## 2. Power relationships, professionalisation and community development



# THE DENVER PRINCIPLES - (Statement from the advisory committee of the People with AIDS)

We condemn attempts to label us as "**victims**," a term which implies defeat, and we are only occasionally "**patients**," a term which implies passivity, helplessness, and dependence upon the care of others. We are "People With AIDS."

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALL PEOPLE**

1. Support us in our struggle against those who would fire us from our jobs, evict us from our homes, refuse to touch us or separate us from our loved ones, our community or our peers, since available evidence does not support the view that AIDS can be spread by casual, social contact.
2. Not scapegoat people with AIDS, blame us for the epidemic or generalize about our lifestyles.

# Yarning about Sad News and Sorry Business

## Know the community you are going into

- For many non-Indigenous Australians there has been limited opportunity to interact with and learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their diverse cultures, including communication styles, family structures, lived experiences and beliefs.
- A failure to appreciate diversity and acknowledge complexities within communities *'condemns policies and programs to failure'*.
- Knowing the community is the best way to ensure the most effective method of consultation, which extends to more than geography, language or health statistics, to include consideration of politics, key stakeholders, other current and past engagement processes and topics, and other important issues taking place in the community.

# Yarning about Sad News and Sorry Business

- *It is different in each community and you just don't know if you are getting it right.*
- *I would be ok in my community but if I went to another place and had to talk I'd make sure I talked to some other people quietly first so I could work out what the people in the room expected or thought was ok*
- *Don't think that individuals or organisation represent everyone, talk to all people and the right people about the topic, the ones who are part of the topic and living it*



# COVID-19 RESPONSE: Compassionate streets and neighbourhoods

The challenge for health and social care services during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which physical distancing is a mainstay of the response, is how to maintain vital human social contact without increasing the risk of virus transmission.

Resilience of caring networks at end of life in particular can make the difference between a peaceful death at home and an emergency admission to hospital which ends in death. Carer exhaustion in end-of-life care is common in usual circumstances. Reducing hospital usage in these current circumstances is particularly important.

Providing both physical and emotional support is a demand of the heart, our own compassionate response in these times of hardship with the fears and concerns brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. **Particularly urgent is the need for support and social connection to those undergoing the experiences of death, dying, loss and caregiving.**



Information provided by PHPCI and Dr Julian Abel  
[www.phpci.info](http://www.phpci.info)

A compassionate community response can be thought of as fitting into three categories.

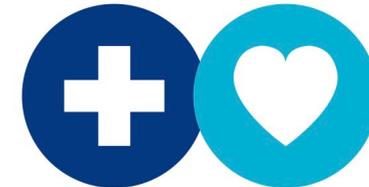
## What **communities** are best placed to do



- Identify street or neighbourhood champions
- Organise street or neighbourhood teams of helpers
- Providing practical help – shopping, cooking, cleaning, gardening, and more
- Giving emotional support – compassion, love, laughter, listening, friendship and more
- Forging new connections now and in the difficult months ahead

## What **communities and professionals** best do together

- Monitor and provide symptom control
- Understand nursing care at home
- Share the resources of communities and service
- Support advance care planning
- Build support around people who are grieving and isolated



## What **professionals** best do



- Manage difficult symptoms
- Provide video consultations and assessments
- Give training in symptom control at home
- Link with street teams when professional resources are absent
- Provide specialist bereavement care to those with complex grief

### 3. Redesigning palliative care

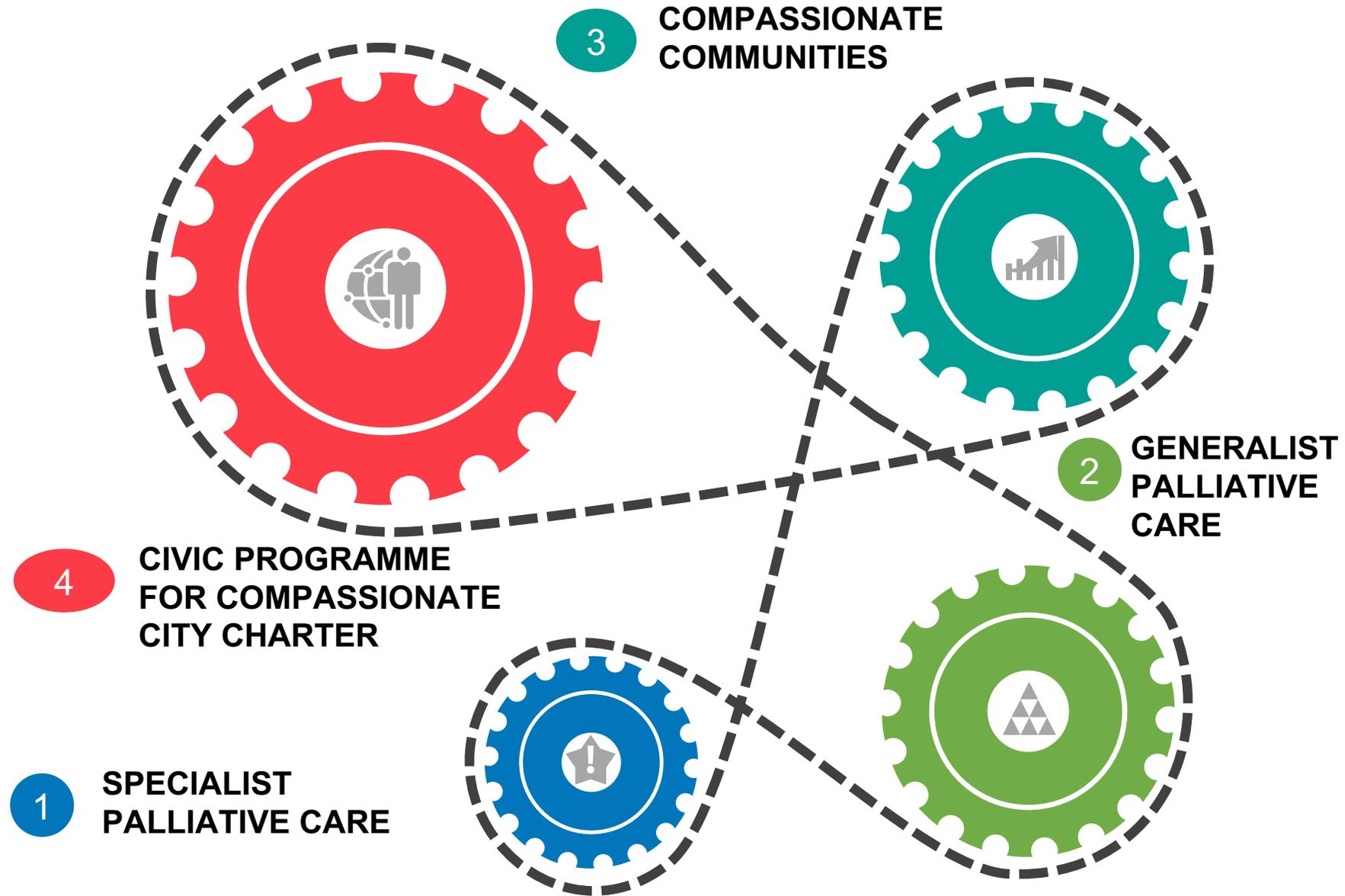
- Ground up participatory community development
- Compassionate communities and compassionate cities.

# Compassionate Communities

The neighbourhood is the unit of change (Cormac Russell)

- Building of resilient networks of support around families of care, main emphasis is love, laughter and friendship with practical tasks
- Skilling up of caring networks
- Increasing neighbourhood capacity to care for those who experience death, dying and loss
- Integration and building of trusting relationships with health and social care teams
- Develop of service directory
- **Community development worker as professional role**

# Palliative Care – The New Essentials





# Specialist Palliative Care

- Ease of contact with palliative care services – Zoom, Teams, Facetime, video link.
- Immediacy of advice and visits
- Specialist beds open to all
- Training of carers in the community – network development, manual handling, injections
- Participation in implementation of compassionate city charter

# Generalist palliative care/primary care

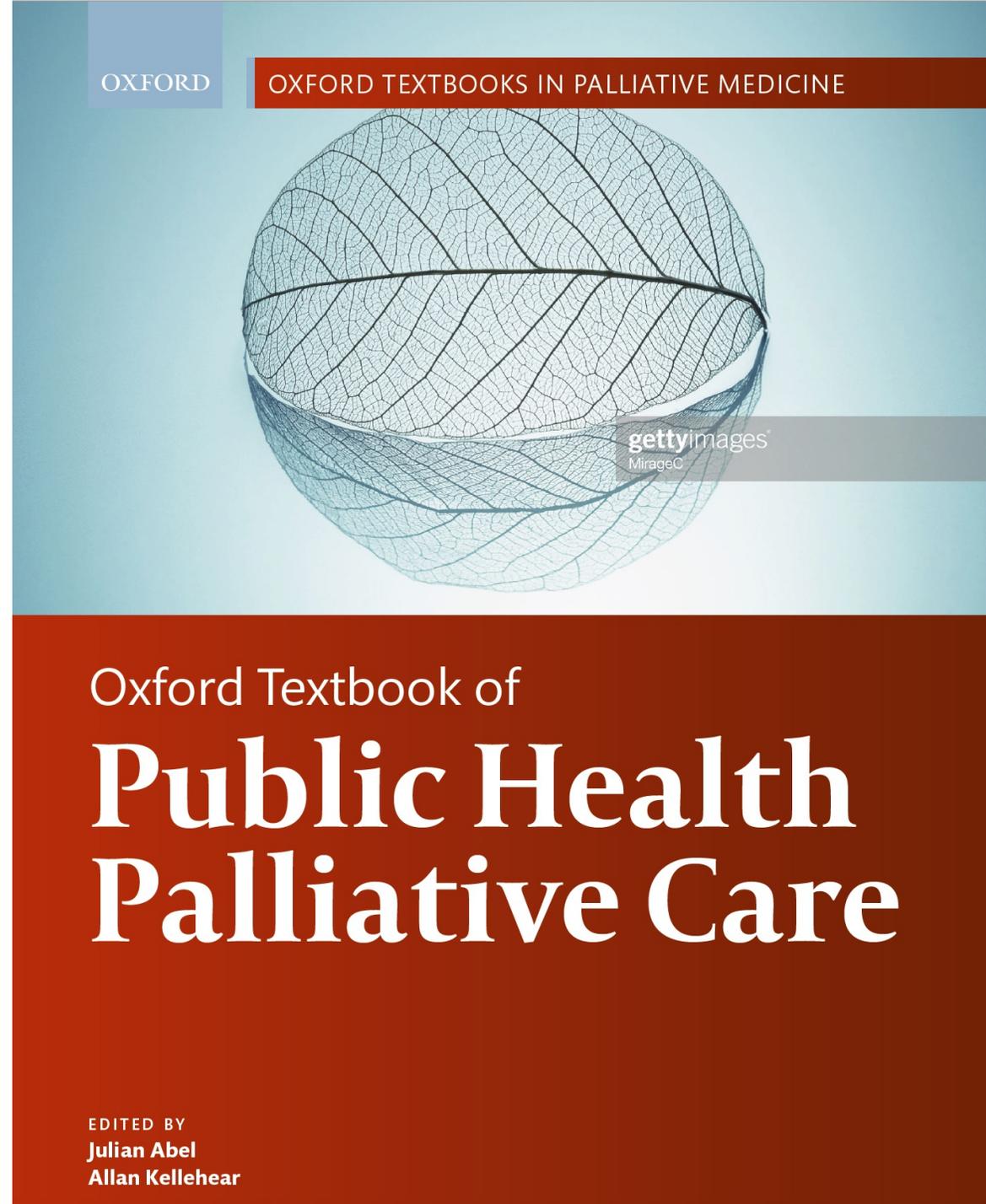
- Proactive identification of people in need of support
- What matters conversations
- Linkage and coordination with community resource at point of contact
- Systematic after death audits for continuous improvement (QI methodology)
- Community development workers are part of the clinical team

Other videos if we have time.

- **Brereton and Ravenhill**
- **[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIM6XOXueyw&list=PLVA2ZDXTI\\_2SYYpmi5\\_aA1Yy940--0nZ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIM6XOXueyw&list=PLVA2ZDXTI_2SYYpmi5_aA1Yy940--0nZ4)**

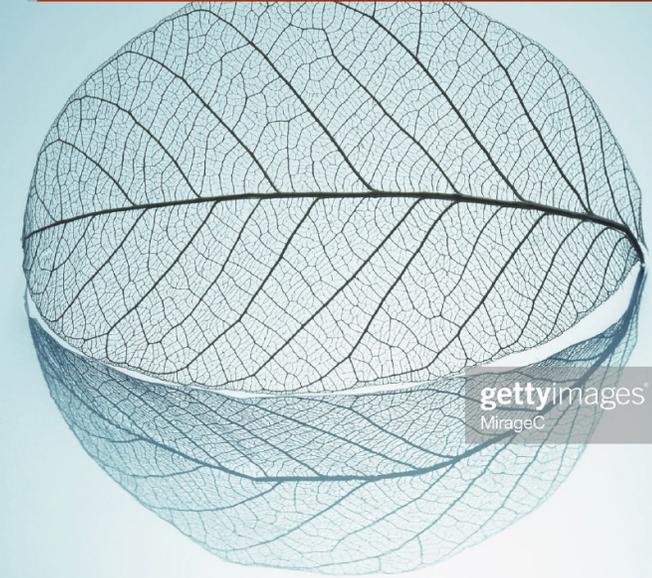


What does palliative care look like reimagined?



OXFORD

OXFORD TEXTBOOKS IN PALLIATIVE MEDICINE



Oxford Textbook of

# Public Health Palliative Care

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# Resources

- **Prof Julianne Holt-Lunstad on Survival of the Kindest Podcast** <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/dr-julianne-holt-lunstad>
- Holt-Lunstad J, Smith TB, Layton JB (2010) Social Relationships and Mortality Risk: A Meta-analytic Review. PLOS Medicine 7(7): e1000316.  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1000316>  
<https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1000316>
- **Prof Steve Cole on Survival of the Kindest Podcast** <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/professor-steve-cole>
- **Prof Dacher Keltner on Survival of the Kindest Podcast** <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/dacher-keltner>
- **Born to Be Good: The Science of a Meaningful Life** Dacher Keltner
- **The Power Paradox** Dacher Keltner

# Resources

- Ernesto Sirolli  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/ernesto\\_sirolli\\_want\\_to\\_help\\_someone\\_shut\\_up\\_and\\_listen/transcript](https://www.ted.com/talks/ernesto_sirolli_want_to_help_someone_shut_up_and_listen/transcript)
- <https://blogs.bmj.com/spcare/2021/10/01/community-sources-of-bereavement-support/>
- The Denver Principles  
[https://data.unaids.org/pub/externaldocument/2007/gipa1983denverprinciples\\_en.pdf](https://data.unaids.org/pub/externaldocument/2007/gipa1983denverprinciples_en.pdf)
- Dr Libby Sallnow Survival of the Kindest <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/libby-sallnow>

# Resources 2

- Holly Prince Survival of the Kindest <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/holly-prince>
- United Nations Human Rights Based Approach <https://unsdg.un.org/2030-agenda/universal-values/human-rights-based-approach>
- Cormac Russell – Nurture Development <https://www.nurturedevelopment.org> and Survival of the Kindest <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/cormac-russell>
- Angela Fell Survival of the Kindest <https://www.compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk/podcast/Angela-fell>
- <https://gatherfor.medium.com/maslow-got-it-wrong-ae45d6217a8c>

# Resources

- Compassionate Communities UK website <https://compassionate-communitiesuk.co.uk>
- Compassionate Communities UK YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUPnQsd1iuHFOSybGaYJFIw/videos>