



"Because you are more than your diagnosis"

Farewell to CaSP and Thank You to All Our Volunteers!

Dear All,

As the CaSP project sadly comes to an end, I want to thank you all personally for your support, time, and dedication as a volunteer within this project. It's no easy task being a volunteer, but without your support the CaSP project simply would not have been the success that it was. Experiencing a cancer diagnosis is never going to be easy, but if, with your help, we have eased that burden in any small way, then we see that as a success. Sometimes, the smallest act or kindness makes the biggest difference.

I recognise that many of you have volunteered with us for many years and have taken on several volunteer roles during that time. Such flexibility is to be applauded, and I hope that you have also learned a great deal about our organisation, human nature, support, and the inherent skills required.

I know that some of you are staying with us in a different volunteer role, thank you, but I want to thank all of you for the help and support you have freely given to us over the years and to the people we support, and I wish you well wherever your next journey takes you.

Thank you.

Speak soon, travel well and stay safe,

Sue Read (CEO), Beth Johnson Foundation



There were 23 active volunteers



14 new volunteers were recruited



273 hours of client support



515 calls, texts, emails and visits

CaSP volunteers also gave over three hundred hours to other aspects of volunteering such as attending support meetings and supervision, receiving training and co-ordination of support for clients.

Messages of thanks from our clients...

"I would like to express my gratitude to the BJF for the provision of this support at a time of fear and isolation"

"The volunteer proved to be a Godsend; nothing was ever too much trouble"

"You have been a great help to me. The volunteer calls have been great and kept my spirits up"

"The volunteers have been so good to me, thank you for everything"

"Sorry the service is ending; I will miss the calls"

"Bless you, you are the best friends I've ever had"

"Thank you for everything you have done and good luck for the future"

When I joined Beth Johnson Foundation in January of this year the Staffordshire Cancer Support Programme had a small group of dedicated volunteers supporting a few clients through home visits. The service had undergone several changes and volunteering was very much in need of revival. We had barely started to develop the updated volunteering programme when Coronavirus hit the news and shortly afterwards, we were in the first national lockdown. Within a couple of weeks we had hatched plans to deliver the service through telephone befriending and to recruit and train volunteers online. Our existing volunteers rallied to deliver this new model of service and we had a fantastic response to our appeal for help with fourteen new volunteers joining the CaSP team.

As you can see from the above graphic our volunteers provided hundreds of hours of support that included over 500 calls, texts, and emails. I am very sad that funding was unavailable in time to continue the service but very glad that we were able to make the difference that we did.

We have done everything possible to ensure that our clients will receive support from elsewhere following the ending of CaSP. Some of our volunteers will continue to help clients under the umbrella of other services such as Macmillan Cancer support.

Many of our clients have expressed their thanks for the support they have been given and so I pass on their thanks to you, the volunteers.

Thank you also, from me, for being such a great team. I hope you have gained something for yourselves through helping others and that you will continue with volunteering either with Beth Johnson Foundation or in another organisation.

You have all been brilliant, well done!

Andrew Colclough Volunteer Co-ordinator

Thank You!

Beth Johnson Foundation

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