PEER SUPPORT INITIATIVE - WDHB







Waikato District Health Board









Waikato District Health Board

Key Contact Themes for Peer Support Group

- Trauma or resus patients
- Workload pressures
- Verbal or physical abuse from patients or family members
- Personal issues outside of workplace
- Workplace behaviours



Goals

- Listen and support
- Confidentially and integrity
- Collegiality
- Value staff
- Recognise need for further referral





Staff Survey – First Audit

85% Staff Completion of Survey



What are barriers to Access?

- #1 Time constraints
- #2 Nothing!
- Confidentiality concerns
- Fear of judgment



Staff perspectives of what PSG achieves in our ED

- An open door
- Debriefing. Get 'whatever' off our chests
- A SAFE place to discuss difficult topics
- Confidentially
- Knowing support is there if needed
- Let's you talk about the abnormal with someone who gets it!
- Stress Relief

And finally

• "Not Sure"..... (we value honesty)!





Initiatives post Survey

- Communicating confidentiality & the PSG role
- Referrals from senior nursing and medical teams
- Expression of interest to include MDT – HCA and increased PSG numbers
- Guideline for larger team follow-up to improve efficiency of team
- Reduce access stigma: 'hot debriefs' lead by SMO on shift – (increased PSG presence).





Team Development

- Workplace Support Person training
- 6 weekly meetings
- Registered Psychologist support for PSG
- Peer support welcome pack
- Trello App
- Focus of Wellness





Departmental Initiatives

Support, Grow, Nurture...

- Staff education
 - staff safety and de-escalation training
- Staff wellness and resilience sessions
- Increased Social events
- Wellness & Roster Governance Group
- Employee of the Month







Flow on Effect

Blue Forms

- Workplace professionalism & behaviours
- Escalation of staff safety
 - MHS Nurse Practitioner in ED
 - Increased MH presence
- Increased security support for aggressive patients and safety partners





Where to Next?

Ongoing Development & Presence

- Changing workplace
 - Cross section of staff in PSG
- Communication with staff
 - In-services, email reminder to senior groups regarding referrals, lobbying for management support
- Wider DHB Interest
 - Staff Safety Action Group & Directorate recognition



