

THE TRUACANTA PROJECT

HELPING EACH OTHER WITH DEATH, DYING, LOSS & CARE

Truacanta: Scotland's Compassionate Community Project

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Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care



Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care



Creative conversations in Highland



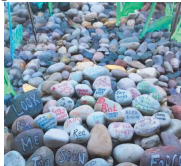
Bulb planting for absent friends in Dundee Botanic Gardens



Intergenerational activity in Highland



Public participation events in North Berwick



[Truacanta] adjective

/tru:akanta/ from Scottish Gaelic - Compassionate; having, feeling or showing compassion

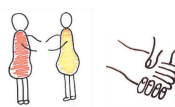
- a national compassionate community project
- run by Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
- funded by Macmillan
- aimed to support groups in Scotland to build local, sustainable compassionate communities
- worked with communities in Ayrshire, Dundee, Highland, North Berwick and Perthshire from 2020-23.

Supporting Scottish communities to find ways to improve local experiences of death, dying, loss and care

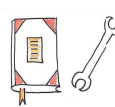
- + community development support and advice
- + networking and learning opportunities
- + support with evaluation
- + small quarterly grants
- + community-led
- not prescriptive



talk + plan



Supportive environments



increase knowledge + skills



The Truacanta Perthshire listening bench



Planning Ahead Conversations - Body Donation
42 views May 4, 2022 A #SaySomethingDundee conversation about body donation with Vivienne McGowan MBE, Bereavement Manager, Centre for Anatomy. Say Something Dundee made use of social media and apps during the pandemic



Highland Truacanta took activity online during the pandemic



Selfie Wings by Truacanta Perthshire, young carers and a local artist

Evaluation

- > External evaluators
- > Evaluating the project as a whole
- > Support available for local evaluation

Looking at
> the impact of the local activity
> the effectiveness of the model

Impact

The impact of the five local projects:

- ✓ Local projects had a positive impact despite the challenges of the pandemic
- ✓ Progress has been made in all the intended outcome areas set out at the start of the project
- ✓ Truacanta enabled partnerships which increased impact
- ✓ Work will be sustained beyond the life of the Truacanta Project
- ✓ All the projects leave legacies within their communities

The effectiveness of the model:

- ✓ Work was led by communities
- ✓ Communities found the Truacanta Network helpful
- ✓ Communities benefited from being part of a national project
- ✓ Access to central expertise and resources was beneficial
- ✓ There are limits to what can be achieved without extra people and money

Our Learning

- Volunteers/community members aren't a free resource
- Community development can feel unintuitive
- Defined outcomes can exist alongside uncertainty
- A national organisation can add value to local work by making available resources that can be used and adapted locally
- No two community development projects will ever be the same
- Money is an important factor...
-and so are networks, supportive peers, institutional support, motivation, and a sense of purpose
- Support and input from third sector, statutory and private sector can complement and sustain activity



Next Steps

TRUACANTA

SCOTLAND'S COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY NETWORK

EASE
END OF LIFE AID SKILLS
FOR EVERYONE