

The Compassionate Community Ideal



A



AWARENESS & ADVOCACY

There are community-wide activities to raise awareness about end-of-life issues and create a strong co-ordinated voice to support the idea of creating a compassionate community.

B



ATTITUDE & COMMITMENT

There is a commitment at all levels in the community towards supporting people affected by serious illness, caregiving, dying and grieving by adopting the idea of Compassionate Communities.

C



LEADERSHIP & CAPACITY

There is a dedicated organization, group or individual leading the implementation of the compassionate community idea including enlisting volunteers, professionals and partners, pooling resources, facilitating access to training and tools, and coordinating activities.

D



NETWORKS & CONNECTIONS

There are established supportive networks to check-in with and monitor the changing needs of those in the community (neighbours, seniors, frail elderly, caregivers, newcomers, homeless people, and other vulnerable people). There is a system to connect people to one another and direct them to helpful community supports groups and services.

E



OPPORTUNITIES & RECOGNITION

There are those in the community who are continuously looking for and harnessing funding opportunities, innovations and partnerships with other compassion-based movements and programs such as age-friendly communities, dementia-friendly communities and programs to support the homeless.



What is the Compassionate Community Ideal?

The Compassionate Community Ideal is a simple tool developed to inform, inspire and assist in identifying important features in building an ideal compassionate community.

How to build a compassionate community using this tool?

Start with awareness and advocacy activities to build a commitment at all levels towards making your community more compassionate. As your community moves forward, you can build momentum and success by adopting other features suggested by the Compassionate Community Ideal.

Each community may adapt the Compassionate Community Ideal to create its own approach.

The development of the Compassionate Community Ideal was informed by the experience of compassionate communities' champions from across British Columbia.