



*Conversations to exchange best practices and explore new ideas*

# Session 1: Compassion Matters

March 16, 2023

*Presenter:*

*Melody Jobse, Community Engagement Lead*



BY  
Pallium Canada



*The BC Centre for Palliative Care  
is the provincial hub partner of the  
Palliative Care ECHO Project in British Columbia*

# x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əy̓əm (Musqueam) Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlíl̓wətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations



The BC Centre for Palliative Care, colonially known as New Westminster, is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples

We recognize that all of you joining online are participating from traditional territories of other Indigenous peoples. From coast to coast to coast, we acknowledge the ancestral and unceded territory of all the Inuit, Métis, and First Nations people that call this land home.

# POLL



# What is ECHO?

- ECHO spreads knowledge across the health system and community to the front lines of care
- ECHOs "all teach all learn" model connects Content with Context experts
- ECHO taps into your experience, resources and inventiveness

## What we expect of you

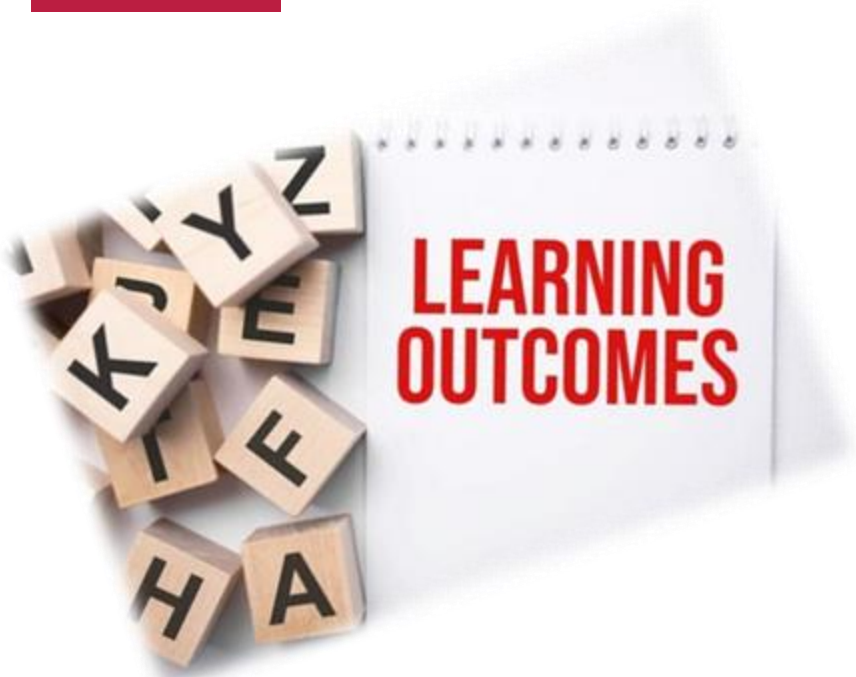
- Share your stories and your experience
- Participate in discussion and dialoged
- Build relationships with others across disciplines and geographic region





## Melody Jobse, Community Engagement

- Melody works with community organizations throughout the province to foster initiatives that increase awareness, understanding, and conversations about living and dying well.
- She provides strategic direction and practical support to develop resources and stimulate dialogue in urban, rural, and remote settings.
- Melody avidly promotes Compassionate Communities, a growing movement that educates and mobilizes communities to support one another during illness, dying, and loss.
- She has worked in the non-profit community sector for over 25 years, helping to advance the well-being of individuals in their daily lives.



...have an increased understanding of the Compassionate Communities concept

...be inspired to explore collaborations new strategies to work collectively with other communities in action



# BC Centre for Palliative Care

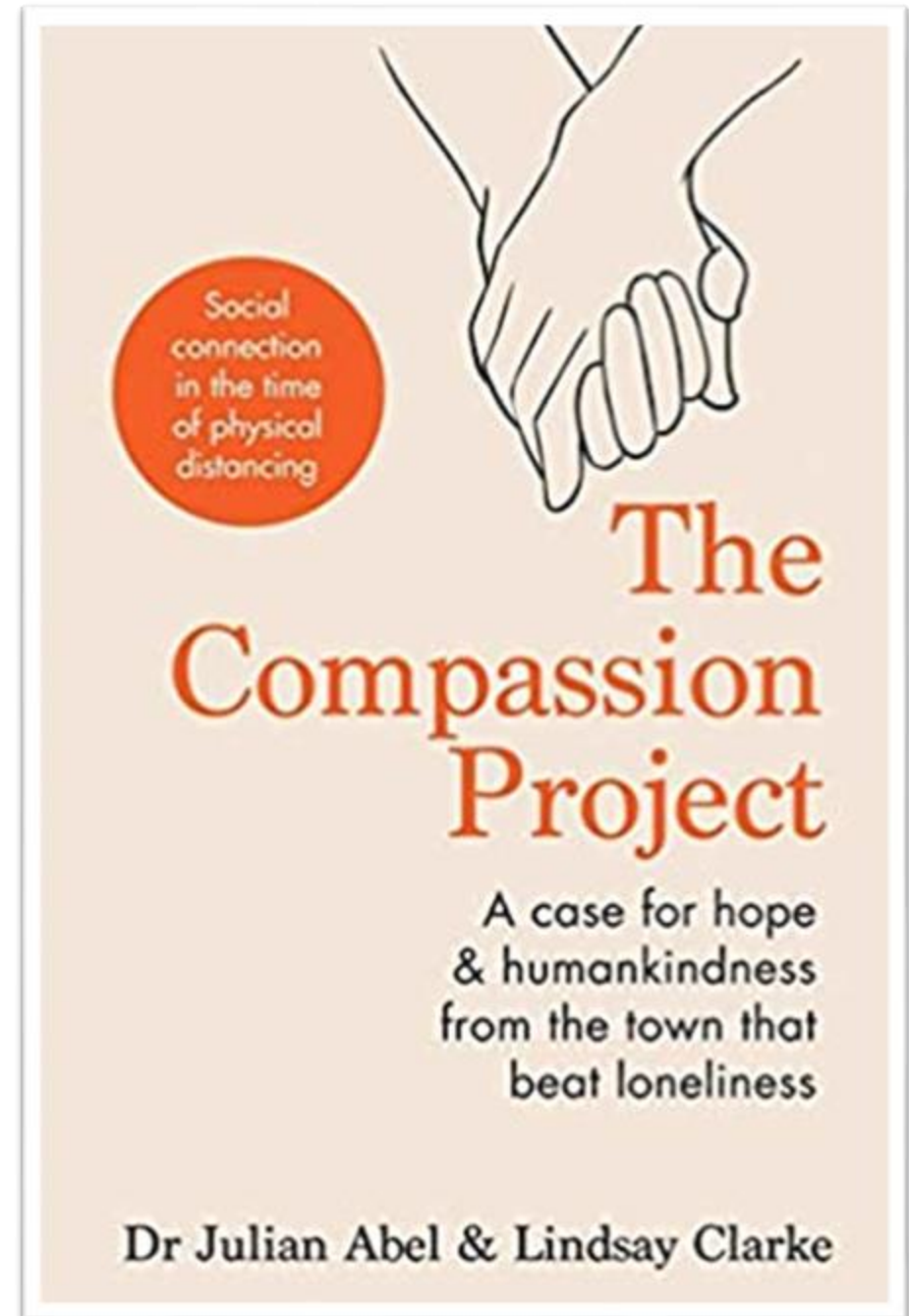


- Integrate palliative approach to care into chronic disease management & care provided by **health systems**
- Reorient **health services** closer to home
- Strengthen **community** role & capacity
- Create supportive **environments** for patients & families
- Develop **individual** skills to cope with illness

# Compassion Matters

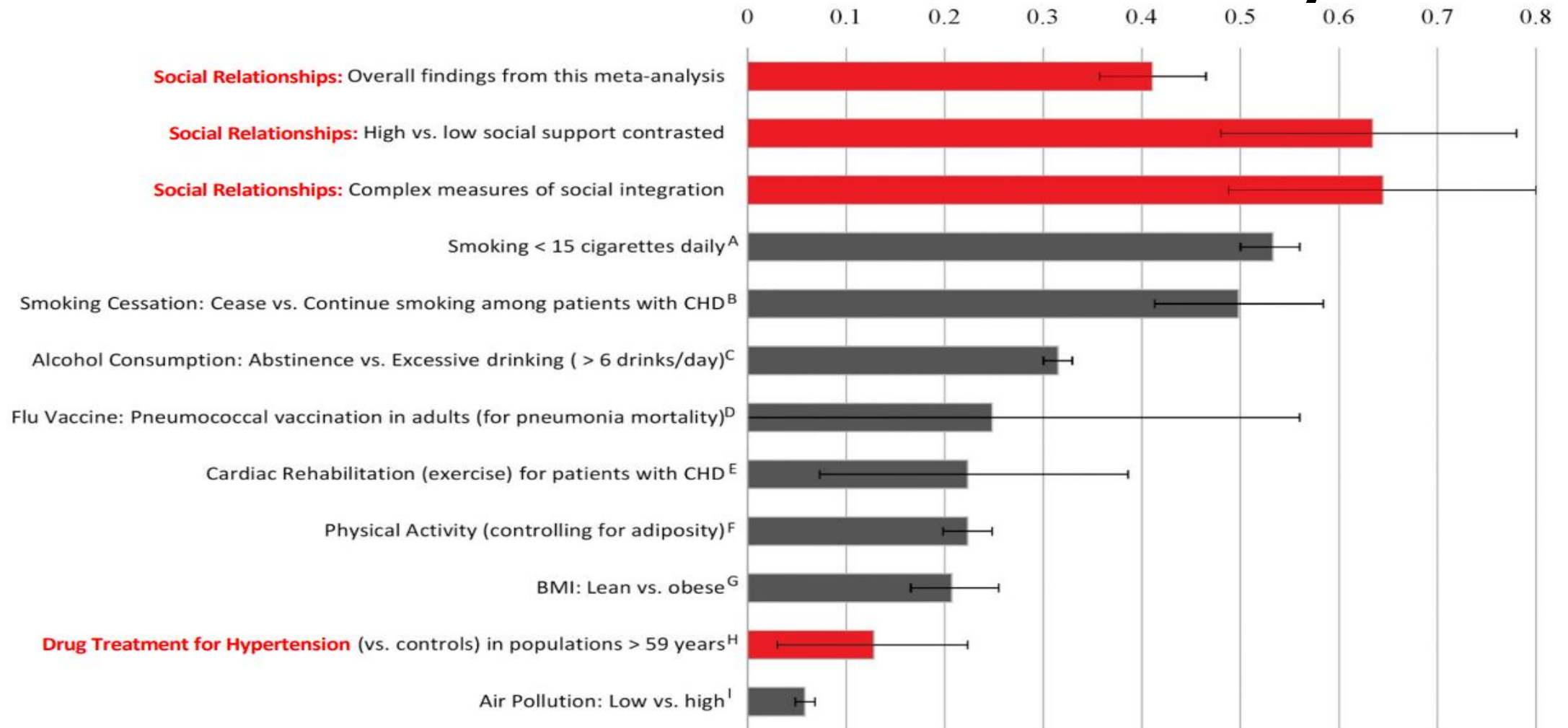
*Compassionate community begins not with the imposition of an ideology but with the cultivation of the active power of compassion with individuals.*

*-Dr. Julian Abel*





# Comparison of odds (inORD) of decreased mortality across several conditions associated with mortality



# Frome, England: An enhanced and integrated model of primary care and compassionate communities

- Population: ~ 28,000
- Catchment: ~100,000
- Referrals from physicians to various community supports with development/ training of new community networks as needed



# Compassionate Community model

Family doctors identify patients who need community supports

**Referral to → Health  
connector → Central Hub of  
resources**

Community 'talking' cafes

Database of existing supports & volunteers

Connections to services/volunteers in their area

Recommendations for groups from the hub

**>1000 Community connectors trained to "*signpost*" resources**

Where no supports exist --> Help build networks of support

# What is a compassionate community?

A community where people support each other during serious illness, end of life and grief.

A community where people plan in advance for the way they want to be treated and cared for during serious illness and near end of life.

*A compassionate community empowers people's voice in their own care helps them to live well and with dignity right until the end.*

# Health Connections Mendip (2013)

- Community-led & community-driven
- Mapping of Assets and or/services in the community
- Addressed gaps in services via mapping process\*
- Development/access searchable directory

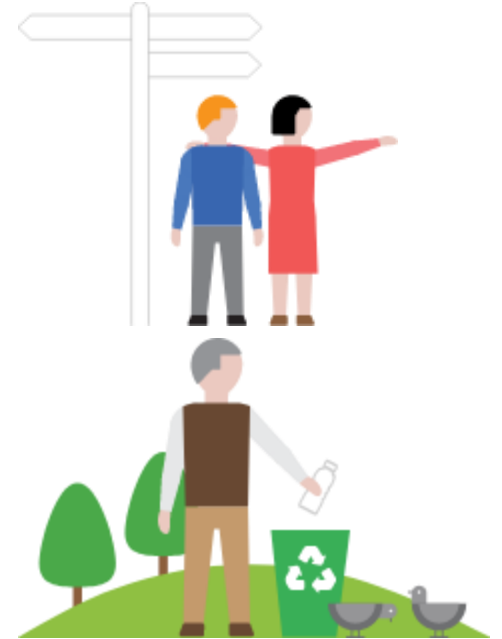




# Community Health Connectors

Trained and supported volunteers who

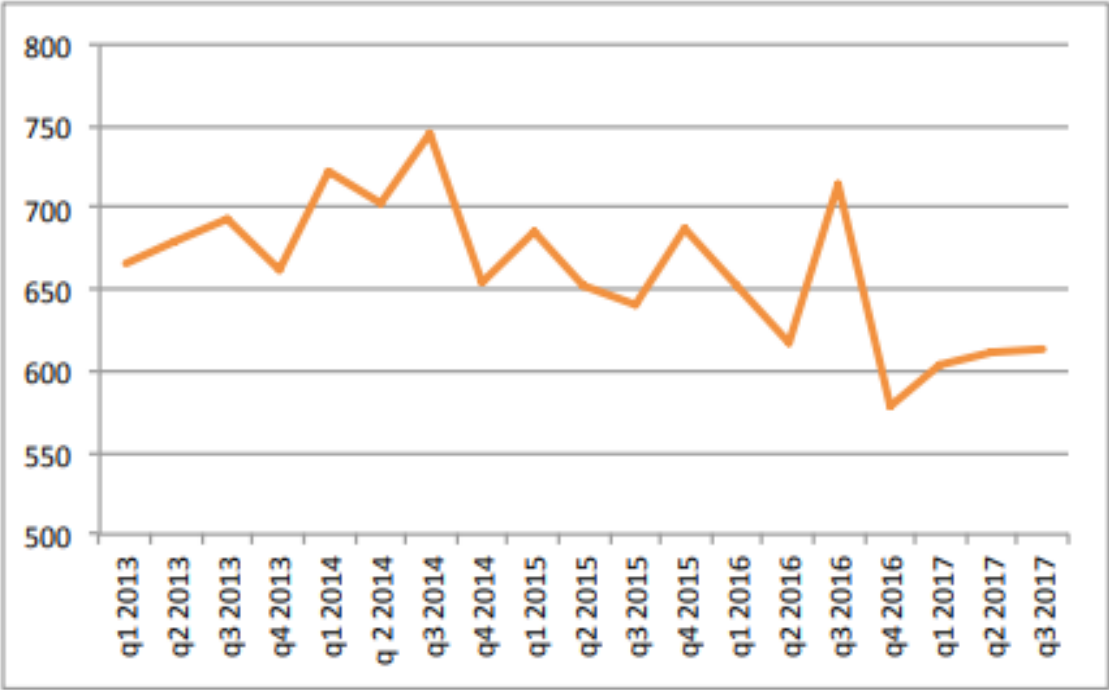
- Use their ability, skills and experiences with people to help transform health + wellbeing of individuals in their communities
- Connect persons to get involved in social actives, create groups to meet local needs, *signposting* them to relevant support & services within their community proximity
- champion health and health choices, removing barriers and creating supportive networks and environments



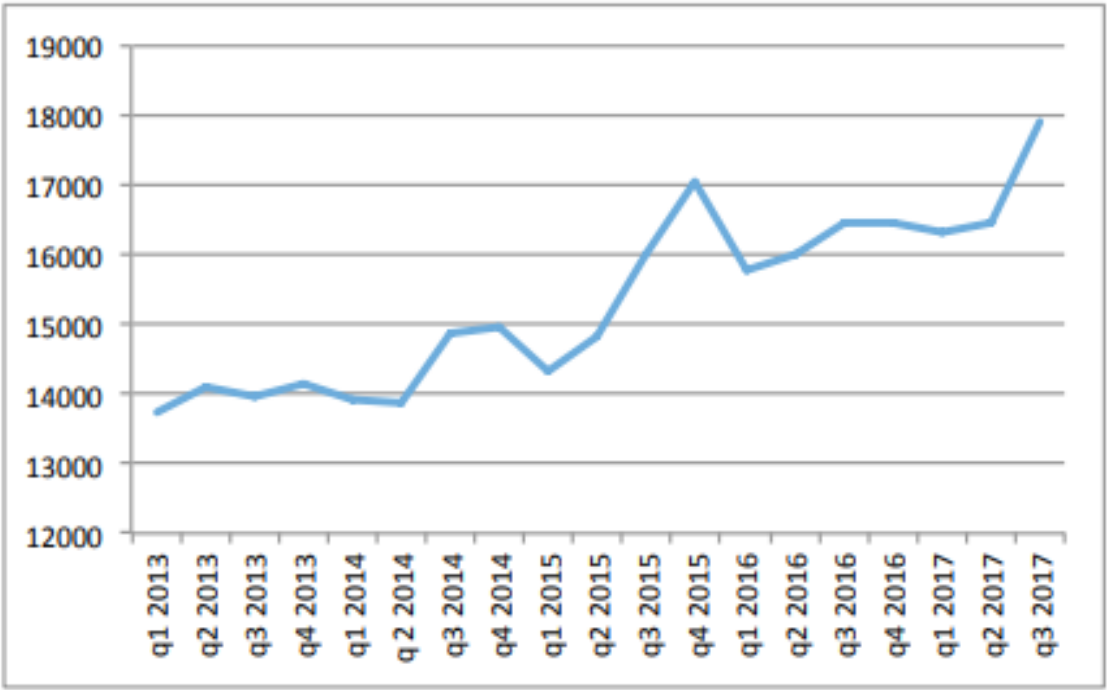
# Community development essentials

1. Service Directory
2. Community Connectors
3. Groups
4. Health connectors/ community promotions

# Outcomes : quarterly emergency admissions Frome compared to the rest of Somerset (2013 – 2018)



Frome emergency admissions



Somerset emergency admissions

# A global movement - Compassionate Communities



Community is an **equal partner** in the provision of health care & social support **at the end of life.**

# Why is Community an equal partner?

Illness, caregiving, dying,  
and grief are life  
experiences

We spend 95% of our  
lifetime in the community

Communities are rich in  
social assets, skills and  
talents

Individuals have the  
capacity to define and  
solve their own  
problems to support  
their own

***a non-clinical approach to palliative care*** that engages and empowers communities and citizens to take responsibility in the provision of psychosocial, spiritual, and practical supports for the patient and family caregivers.



# Harnessing the power of compassion



Breakout  
Rooms

- What was the most intriguing/inspiring thing you learned. How might you apply it in your work/daily life?
- Can you envision any opportunities for collaborations or partnerships with other organizations? What could they look like?
- What resources or supports do you need to help shape, spread kindness via Compassionate Community?

# What did we hear and learn from each other ?



# How can we support your work? What do you need?



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Website: [bc-cpc.ca](http://bc-cpc.ca)

"The warmth of your heart  
prevents your body from rusting"



# The Palliative Care ECHO Project

The Palliative Care ECHO Project is a 5-year national initiative to cultivate communities of practice and establish continuous professional development among health care providers across Canada who care for patients with life-limiting illness and is supported by a financial contribution from Health Canada.

Production of this presentation has been made possible through a financial contribution from Health Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada.



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