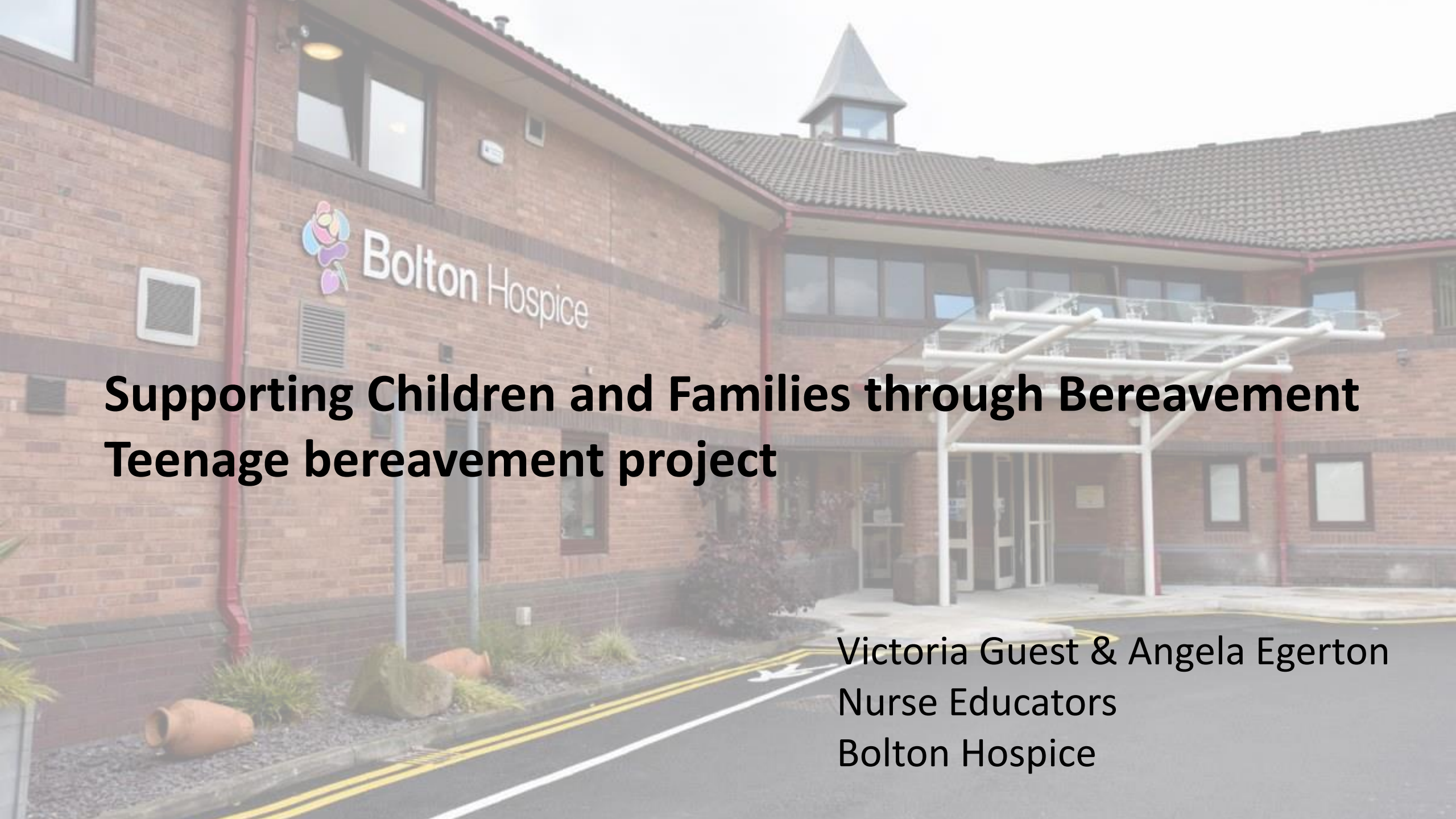

Supporting Children and Families through Bereavement
Teenage bereavement project

Victoria Guest & Angela Egerton
Nurse Educators
Bolton Hospice

Statistics

- 1 in 29 school children are bereaved of a parent or sibling. That's a child in every class
- More than 6,000 families are bereaved by suicide every year
- A parent of children under 18 dies every 22 minutes in the UK; around 23,600 a year. This equates to around 111 children being bereaved of a parent every day
- Up to 70% of schools have a bereaved pupil on their roll at any given time
- 92% of young people will experience a significant bereavement before the age of 16 years

CBUK 2018

What about the kids?

Bolton Hospice
caring from the heart

The Family Bereavement Project

Moving Forward

Challenges

Where did it begin

Dying Matters Week 2018

- Free training offer to local school and nursery staff
- Feedback from attendees about lack of cohesive bereavement support in the area
- Dying Matters Award - November 2018

Feedback

Existing model

Current bereavement support at Bolton Hospice

Adult only support available

No support to children post bereavement

Creative therapy only offered to children visiting hospice leading up to the persons death

Children who eventually need support may not be known to the hospice

Sporadic support and lack of joint working across departments

Feedback about support in Bolton

- A need for more support for teachers and school staff on the "front-line" with bereaved children
- Bolton people at a disadvantage when trying to access bereavement support
- CAMHS waiting lists extremely long
- CAMHS referrals medicalise bereavement, where it should just be a natural process
- Winston's Wish no longer available in the area

Received Cash 4 Kids funding

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NQ5j1YWU74&t=4s

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Where did it begin?

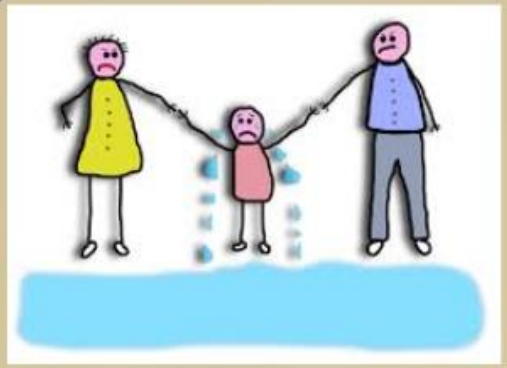
Challenges

Moving Forward

Child Bereavement UK

Getting started

Feedback



THE FAMILY SPACE

Feedback - staff

Successful first family bereavement session
Thought provoking and rewarding

Feedback - families

What about the kids?

Bolton Hospice
caring from the heart

Where did it begin?

The Family Bereavement Project

Challenges

Moving Forward

The vision was to provide a service to the wider Bolton community

Challenges

1

Marketing

How do we market to families? Or do we select families according to set criteria?

2

GDPR restraints

Who can we contact legally, when can we contact, storing and processing information.

3

Children

Children who may not have visited their relative or significant other at the hospice. How do we reach them?

4

Time

Issues for children may only arise months after the death, and we may have offered the Families project too early.

What about the kids?

Next Steps

To embed the family bereavement project in the hospice

To deliver comprehensive child and teenage bereavement training to schools across Bolton.

Further work

Our aim

Final thought...

Teen bereavement project

Bolton Hospice
@boltonhospice

Such a kind donation 😊 we are thrilled to be able to put this money to such good use in the #Bolton community going forward.

Excited to see the future unfold with the support of the #Freemasons.

Bolton District @boltondistrict · Jul 17
@boltonhospice will be able to provide support to teenagers who are grieving following the death of a parent or other close family member thanks to a grant of £17,500 from East Lancs Freemason @pglel
#charity #Freemasons

Bolton Hospice
Published by Felicity Ransom [?] · 19 July at 20:30 ·

Thanks to a £17,500 grant from Bolton District Freemasons, we are now able to offer training to equip high school teachers with the skills and confidence to support teenagers during bereavement.

The grant follows the success of our award-winning project 'Supporting Families & Children Through Loss, Grief and Bereavement', as it was recognised that there was a need to provide similar support for teenagers.

These young people would not normally have access to hospice bereavement support but thanks to this funding, we are able to reach people during a difficult time through the already turbulent years of adolescence and we can only offer our gratitude and appreciation to the Freemasons for their generosity!

Offering loss, grief and bereavement training to all secondary school in Bolton.

Most grieving young people do not need a ‘bereavement expert’ they need people who care.

Child Bereavement UK 2018

You can't prevent the birds of sorrow from flying over your head, but can prevent them from building their nest on it.

Children's Grief Awareness Week UK

15-21 November 2019

Thank you for listening