

HEALTHCARE SUNDAY

20 October 2002

The Cost of Caring

Thoughts for the day...

Healthcare Sunday Drop-by

Lunch/tea/BBQ - arrange a flexible get together with simple (or elaborate!) refreshments. Invite all of the Christian healthcare workers you know in your area and send invitations to local churches to link up with others you don't yet know. You could also ask to put up posters in the local hospitals, GP surgeries, Social Services etc.

Healthcare Sunday Service

The rest of the pack gives more detailed ideas and content to put together a service but you could offer to lead a service/part of the service/prayer slot etc. to bring a focus on people in your congregation who work in healthcare - there are probably more than many people realise.

It could also include an overseas slot for appropriate missionary links that your church has.

If the Sunday slot is not available, you could offer to do a talk for a home group on 'A day in the life of...' and talk about whatever it is you do!



There are many ways to use the resources contained in this pack - they are simply tools for you to use and make the most of the opportunity.

Here are a few ideas to get your creative juices flowing. If you don't think the ideas are very good, come up with something better! And if you do come up with something, please let us know so that we can share it with others for next year.

Have fun!

Offer prayers

A lot of churches have prayer diaries or use written prayers as part of their liturgy. Why not write some prayers down and offer them for use in an appropriate slot?

Healthcare Sunday through the year

The year is full of days-for-this and weeks-for-that but Healthcare Sunday can last all year!

It could help your church to have regular (small) reminders of what is going on and who is involved. E.g.

- Identify the major health related sites within 1-2 miles of your church and pray for them in turn through the year, using anyone in the congregation who works there as a focal point.
- Hold 6 short interviews during the year with people involved in healthcare; find out their issues and pray for them during the service.
- bring along a Sunday Newspaper to the service and use the health related stories it contains to give focus and content to your prayers that day.
- Encourage members of your congregation to 'adopt' a healthcare worker and find ways to encourage them in their work. Just taking an interest will make a difference.