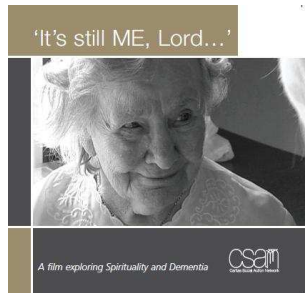


Training Days Dementia & Spirituality



Biography

Ben Bano M.Sc, CQSW, DMS – biographical note

Introduction

Ben Bano qualified as a social worker in 1972 and spent most of his career working in Mental Health across health and social care. In addition to managing a Mental Health Day Centre, he worked as Team Leader in a Mental Health Team, as a Joint Commissioner, and latterly as Director of Social Care and Older Peoples Services for the East Kent Mental Health Partnership Trust before he retired in 2005. As Director in the Trust he was also Executive lead for the Trust Chaplaincy services.

In 2007, following a period of independent freelance work, he founded Telos Training. (www.telostraining.co.uk) Since then Ben has been involved in training and management consultancy in mental health services on a range of topics.

Training activities in relation to dementia

Over the last two years Ben's work has had a focus on working with dementia in the context of person-centered care. He has facilitated more than 30 workshops for local authority staff on aspects of dementia care, including working with perplexing behaviours and management of the environment.

Ben has become increasingly interested in meeting the spiritual needs of people with dementia and has delivered a series of training days on this topic which have been commissioned by a number of authorities, including Kent County Council, East Sussex County Council, and South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

In October 2008 he was commissioned by Caritas Social Action Network to produce a DVD on understanding and meeting the spiritual needs of people with dementia and unpaid carers. The DVD, called 'Its still ME, Lord', was launched in October 2009 and it will be made available to parishes through the Society of St Vincent de Paul. Further information on obtaining the DVD can be found on www.csan.org.uk.

Clients – 2009/2010

Ben's client list for 2009 has included:

Kent County Council,
East Sussex County Council,
South West London and St Georges NHS Trust,
Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust.
South London and Maudley Foundation Trust
Caritas Social Action Network

He presented an Open Lecture on Spirituality and Dementia at the Post-Graduate Centre, St Martins Hospital Canterbury, and a workshop on inclusion and older people at Staffordshire University (with Professor Susan Benbow) (January 2008). He also delivered a workshop at Springfield Hospital, London, on Personalisation and Spirituality in October 2008 as well as a workshop on Spirituality and Dementia at the University of Worcester in September 2009.

In May and November 2009 he addressed the national meetings of the Society of St Vincent de Paul on the theme of a person-centered approach to working with people with dementia. He has co-authored a forthcoming article on older people and inclusion with Professor Susan Benbow which is due to appear in June 2010. He is also co-authoring a chapter on spirituality and dementia for a forthcoming textbook on Mental Health and Spirituality to be published by Pavilion Press in September 2010. In November 2009 he took part in a Radio Wales religious programme 'All Things Considered' on the theme of 'Spirituality and Dementia'. He is currently developing on-line learning materials to support the Caritas Dementia Project.

Ben is also a Eucharistic Minister with his parish in Deal, Kent, where he brings Communion to people with dementia in local residential and nursing homes. He has a particular interest in the ways in which Faith Communities can play a key role in place shaping in local communities and takes an active role in his local Church. He is currently studying for a Licence in Theology.

Ben can be contacted on 07887 651117 or by email: benbano@aol.com

January 2010