Support in the Community

* Palliative Care
* Community Oncology Program of Saskatchewan (COPS)
* Health Promotion
* Groups
* Support for caregivers and assistance with Respite/Long Term Care Process

Referrals to Medical Social Workers can be made by self-referral, family, or health care providers.

Medical Social Worker Contacts:

Melfort
306-752-8882

Nipawin
306-862-6130

Tisdale
306-873-3760

Regional Long Term Care
306-752-1777

All Medical Social Workers are registered with the Saskatchewan Association of Social Workers.

Medical Social Work/Mental Health & Addiction Services are services of the KELSEY TRAIL HEALTH REGION

For more information about this or other services of the Kelsey Trail Health Region contact the Regional Office at 306-873-6600 or visit our website www.kelseytrailhealth.ca

Provincial Health Line—24 hour health advice
KTHR Quality of Care Coordinator
1-877-573-6601
**Introduction**

Medical Social Workers provide services in the areas of Acute Care, Long Term Care, Emergency/Outpatient Department, Home Care, and Palliative Care. Support may also be provided for Cancer patients receiving treatments at the local hospitals through the Community Oncology Program of Saskatchewan (COPS).

**Acute Care**

Emotional, mental, social and environmental factors may impact on an individuals recovery or stay in the hospital. Medical Social Workers may become involved in a patients care for a variety of reasons, including:

* Counseling with individuals that are experiencing difficulty coping with a diagnosis, prognosis, physical illness, grief issues, etc.
* Supporting individuals and families in the Palliative Care Program
* Screening individuals for referrals to Mental Health and Addiction Services
* Working with hospital staff to address psychological or social concerns that may impact on the patient’s health care needs

* Discharge Planning—assisting in discharges from Acute Care to the community, a Long Term Care Facility, Personal Care Home, or other care home
* Contact with spiritual care resources with individual consent
* Helping individuals access financial support programs primarily related to health benefits
* Involvement as a patient advocate or representative
* Participation in Case Conferences/Family Meetings related to patient care
* Suicide risk assessment and support
* Working with suspected cases of abuse or domestic violence (i.e. child abuse, spousal abuse/domestic violence and elder abuse)

**Long Term Care—Regional**

The Medical Social Worker acts as a resident/family advocate while providing support services to residents and their families. These services may include:

* Pre-admission facility tours
* Assistance with completion of the applications for Respite/Long Term Care
* Admission process
* Counseling—adjustment, crisis, resource, and supportive
* Assistance with financial planning and management
* Participation in Case Conferences/Family Meetings related to resident
* Assistance with completion of an Advance Health Care Directive
* Assistance with obtaining community resources
* Discharge planning and follow-up

**Confidentiality**

Medical Social Workers hold sensitive and personal client/family information in strict confidence, sharing such information outside the treatment team only when requested by law and/or authorized by the client and/or family.