

The value of workplace carers networks

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Business case

Consultancy

Supporting carers at work makes business

 in 9 in your workforce will be caring for someone who is ill, Itali or has a disability to the current economic climate it is an important time to retain skilled workers. rather than recruiting and retraining new



Working with embrace-learning, Carers UK and EfC launch new e-learning courses designed to support carers and their line managers; these courses will deliver our expertise directly to your PC/laptop, giving your employees direct access to on-line training.



Employers Supporting Working Carers is a new membership hub for employers, large and small, across Oxfordshire. It is run by Oxfordshire County Council with support from EfC and Carers UK.



We produce a wide range of resources including practical guides, policy briefings, research, factsheets, toolids and sample HR policies. Our publications can also be purchased by non-members and are available to download in the resources section for members.



Our regular members' networking events give members the opportunity to share good practice and discuss any challenges or opportunities in an informal setting. Our next event will be in early Spring 2015.

Latest news

Flexible working: one in three employees wants to change the way they work

Only a quarter of people feel that work is central.

Annualised hours contracts: five key steps Annual by annualised hours

contracts can be beneficial for

TAEN/ GFTU Project conference examines better support for working carers

A final conference of an EU funded project. Negotiating Improvements.

Two in three 55 yearolds-acting as carers Middle-aged adults are stacking under the strain of balancing caring

Carera UK responds to new threshold for social care

The Government has published (on 23rd Outober) the statutory regulations.

Carera UK responds to Intest CQC State of Care report

Carers UK welliames CQC's message that it is calling

Privacy

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Employers for Carers

Employers membership forum

- Provides a practical service to employers seeking to develop carer friendly workplace policies and practices
- Identifies and promotes the business benefits of supporting carers in the workplace
- Influences employment policy and practice to create a culture which supports carers in and into work
- Maintains a Leadership Group committed to working with Government to inform policy and influence practice

Chaired by British Gas and supported by the specialist knowledge of Carers UK

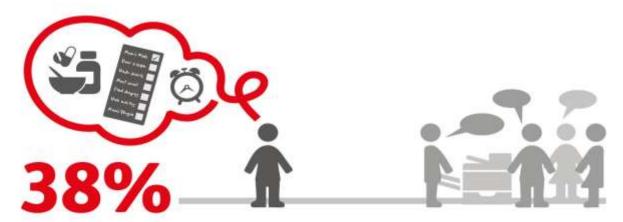




carers have felt **lonely or socially isolated** as a result of their caring responsibilities



57%
of carers have lost touch
with friends and family
as a result of caring



of carers in full-time employment have felt **isolated from other people at work** because of their caring responsibilities





How we help

The four 'P's

- Policies
 - Reviewing, implementing and embedding
- Promotion
 - Publicity and awareness raising activities
- Practice
 - Tips and tools for managers and employees
- Peer support
 - Setting up, supporting and sustaining workplace carers networks (including online)
 - EfC 'network of networks'





How networks help

Policies

Reviewing and shaping policies

Promotion

 Raising awareness about workplace policies and external support available

Practice

 Helping to ensure that policies are better understood by carers and managers

Peer support

- Whether face to face or virtual/online
- Across a range of caring circumstances and situations





What can networks look like?



- A hub of information and support
- A network both of information and people
- A signpost both to workplace and external support
- A source of peer to peer support
- Virtual/online and/or face to face
- A resource for employees and managers





Home

Welcome to Carers Connect!

Carers Connect is a website and interactive network designed especially for LFB staff who are carers. It provides information, support and advice on issues related to caring.

Carers Connect has been developed by the London Fire Brigade in collaboration with Carers UK and the support of Employers for Carers.

Carers Connect offers an easily accessible way to find information quickly and to connect with other colleagues with caring responsibilities.

Remember this is your website! We have tried to provide information on most of the key aspects of caring, but if you have any suggestions about topics that you would also like to see included please contact us.

Who is a carer?

Carers provide unpaid care by looking after an ill, frail or disabled family member, friend or partner.

Read more...











forum



new



stages of caring





Blue Light Infoline find out more...

THE CARE ACT find out about the changes...





LFB case study

The benefits

- Provides practical information
 - About both workplace and external support available
- Promotes workplace support for carers
 - Among colleagues and line managers
- Increases employee engagement
 - Whether carers wish to access support discreetly or openly
- Helps create a more open culture
 - Both about caring issues and more widely
- Offers valued peer support
 - Helps to tackle carer isolation and stress





Examples of network activities

- Web pages/section on staff intranet
- Digital networks and forums
- Buddying and mentoring
- Face to face meetings of network members
- Lunchtime sessions with external speakers
- Masterclasses
- 'Knowledge calls' and webinars
- Information stands at workplace inclusion and wellbeing events









The business case for networks

Recruitment

- Increasingly seen as an employee benefit
- Enhances reputation as an 'employer of choice'

Retention

 Helps get information and support to employees before they reach 'breaking point'

Resilience

 Peer support helps carers to feel 'less alone, less stressed and more able to cope'

Results

• Improved staff engagement and performance







Carers UK is here to make life better for carers



We give expert advice, information and support



We connect carers so no-one has to care alone



We campaign together for lasting change



We innovate to find new ways to reach and support carers

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