



Ms Willamae Stuart

Bahamas

*Who will care for me? Providing care in
'my home' for older people*



Safe Nonmedical Senior Home Care who will care for me in “My Home!”

Challenges  Opportunity

4th COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES
CONFERENCE


10-11 March 2018 Royal College of Physicians London UK

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The OPPORTUNITY:

is to create an entity which exudes warmth, love and holistic caring, draws the family to your agency and enhances their quality of life

This presentation covers the following areas and is designed to share the opportunities for establishing a services for Elderlies: Who will care for me in “My Home”:

- Overview
- The presentation: Challenges  Opportunity
- Conclusion

The impetus: for developing such a service grew out of:

1. My training and experience as a Community Health Nurse working in the city and Family Islands – rural area of The Bahamas
2. Supervising Nursing Students in the Basic RN, Community Health Nursing and Midwifery Training Programme
3. Nurse Consultant within the Public Hospitals Authority

4. Health Consultant in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer,
Ministry of Health Bahamas

This Consultancy in the Ministry of Health afforded me the opportunity to gather the evidence needed to provide Safe effective non medical care for persons at their personal homes

OVERVIEW

- ✓ There is an abnormal amount of Boarders in acute care Institutions despite the limited number of Government and private Long term Care Facilities.
- ✓ Based on the perception that The Bahamas has a young population, long term care is not a major priority in The Bahamas
- ✓ These “bed blockers” are causing a financial burden on the health care system, and has an impact on timely delivery of Acute Care
- ✓ Research has shown that it cost an excess of \$1,000/00 (USD) a day to housed one Boarder in an acute care setting.
- ✓ There is limited grant funding for long Term Care in The Bahamas.

According to the 2016 Genworth Cost of Care Survey of Long-Term Care Costs, the average cost per year for a nursing home, semi-private room is \$82,125.

With the growing costs of full-time care, some families are keeping Mom or Dad at home and getting extra help during the day or for extra assistance.

Here in lies the opportunity to provide home service to meet this need and deliver safe care to the elderly

<https://www.agingcare.com/articles/signs-a-senior-needs-help-at-home-143228.htm>

The **OPPORTUNITY** was to develop a service to be delivered by qualified PCA/T under the supervision of the RN.

In the Bahamas there is no organized licensed service which focuses on non medical home care .

The culture is that the family takes care of the elderly

This notion is quickly fading due to younger grand parents and the need for all family members to work to support aging family members

The challenge is paying for home care as Personal nor group insurances pay for Long Term Care

THE PRESENTATION began as challenges . How ever Opportunities presented in answering the elderly wish to remain in heir homes as follows:

- Improving the care and life of the client as well as their families
- Training and enhancing the contribution of Certified Nursing and Patient Care Assistants to health of the population
- Providing Training and employment for this group of persons now in the field and opening the door for others to enter into the field to enhance their ability for employment.

DEVELOPING THE SERVICES

Vision, Mission, Motto and Philosophy was developed for identity and brand of services to guide and evaluate staff.

NAME was created indicating my company's mission:
Safe caring for elderly in their homes.

Logo ideas came from the name: care services Hearts and hands, people, hearts and hands; House/ hearts.

Target population needs were identified based on Maslow's Hierarchy which influenced the cadre of staff.

- **Determine the services offered.**
- What you, or those you hire, Patient Care Assistants/ Technicians, are physically capable of providing

Obtain the necessary permits and licensing.

Business Licensed, professional qualifications.

Provide requested documentation for approval.

It was determine that **funds** will be generated from Family / personal or other insurances

Staffing:

Determine the skills need by staff and where will they come from to provide the services offered .

The opportunity was to commence a training and certification Programme for of Patient Care Assistants /Technicians as there was no such programme in the Bahamas

The Bahamas School of Innovative Health Care Professionals was established with a curriculum based on Competencies from The United States, Royal College of Nursing , (London England) and Trinidad and Tobago Training Programms for this cadre of staff.

Determining Prices - Considerations:

Overhead was at a minimum as this is a service entity

Transportation and advertising are big costs.

Decide:

- what to charge per hour, minimum number of hours are per job, cost of fuel advertising costs throughout the year.
- Discounts to be offered: for regular bookings, multiple days in the same week and the maximum distance willing to travel.

Create a fee structure:

Determine cost per hr. or cost per week

8 hr. shifts.....

4 hr. shifts

12 hr. shifts

Must consider:

- clientele
- Government minimum wage level
- Holiday Pay

PRESENT A PROFESSIONAL IMAGE

Create printed material. Using desktop publisher to create a Brochure, business cards and fliers

Create all necessary forms for staffing, recording and evaluation

Determine agency and Uniform, color

Establish communication system: email address, telephone and cell number

Establish standards for accepting clients as follows:

- Referrals can come from any source .
- Initial interview with client and family will serve to determine which clients will be accepted
- Clients must be under the supervision of a medical doctor,
- with referral notes for home care
- Determine Who will be the contact for the family
- Determine services requested and have client and family sign off (Schedule and items for care/services)

Standards for Staffing

- PCA/T trained and certified by Bahamas School of innovative Health Care Professionals (No Regularization of PCA/T in The Bahamas)
- In possession of a current Medical Health Certificate with immunization current including Hep B, and Mantoux and Food Handlers certificate
- Current Basic Life Support and EKG Certification.
- Completion of application form
- Signing confidentiality commitment

CONCLUSION some success experienced

1. The service is at the end of its first year
1. The aim is to have between 6 – 8 clients on the roster
2. Three clients have be recipients of the service for more than one year.
3. One has been a client for the past 4 months
4. Four clients died

4. One does not require care any more

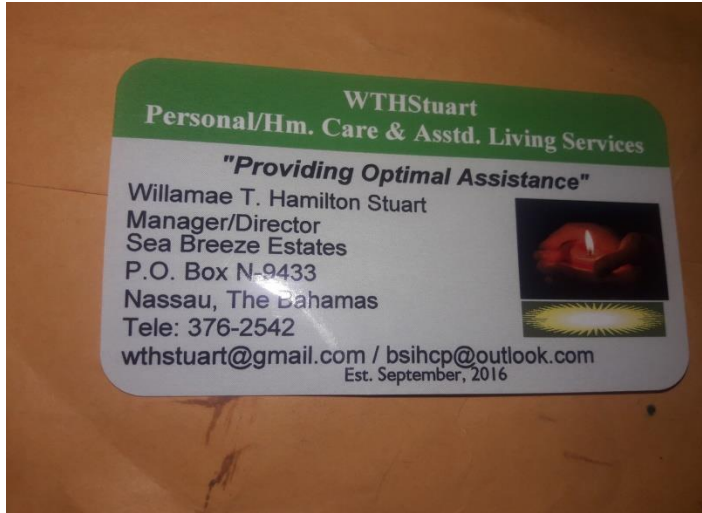
5. Two Referred to a Nursing home for Nursing Care

6. Payment is by the family

Future:

Advertise for increase in clients (2-4)

Agitate for remuneration from National Health Insurance



Thank you

REFERENCES:

<http://www.who.int/countries/bhs/en/9> Bahamas Statistics,

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs404/en/>

<http://www.alittlehelp.org/>

<https://www.agingcare.com/Articles/village-help-seniors-age-in-place-167977.htm>