WHY A CHAPLAINCY SERVICE?

The Facts
Students today face a more complex and challenging environment than ever before.

- 15% of young Australians are currently experiencing an anxiety condition
- Bullying is the leading social issue among SA students
- Just under half of all divorces occur among couples with children under 18
- 15% of SA students miss out on breakfast


Support in SA Schools:
Outcomes from a 2014 Survey

Grief & Loss

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Figures</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FUNERALS</td>
<td>121</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEMORIALS</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY DEATHS</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAFF &amp; STUDENT DEATHS</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Other Activities

- Mentoring
- Healthy Eating*
- Support for Parents
- Suicide Prevention
- Anti-Bullying*

Figures based on 5 monthly overview / *PCW’s address the top two social issues expressed by students in the 2013 ABS Census of School

WHAT IS A CHAPLAINCY SERVICE?

A Chaplaincy Service is provided by a Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) in a school community on behalf of the local combined Christian community to provide additional support as needed.

Pastoral Care Workers
- Provide pastoral care in a ‘first response’ capacity to critical incidents, refer to specialist support and to provide ongoing presence and follow up
- Work closely and in partnership with leadership and other wellbeing staff in schools to provide pastoral care and practical support to students, families and staff as requested
- Are well positioned to work across the whole school to ‘build a sense of’ community, harmony and cohesion
- Are trained and equipped to provide their school with a unique dimension of social, emotional and spiritual support in line with the DECD wellbeing framework

Partnerships
Your local school and your local church work together to provide your Pastoral Care Worker.

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PASTORAL CARE WORKER:
ILMA LO IACONO

My name is Ilma and I am the Pastoral Care Worker (PCW) at Millicent North Primary School. I moved to Millicent in 2012 and love living in the South East! I enjoy walking, especially along the beach and coastal trails, bike riding, gardening, cooking, preserving fruit and vegetables and craft (including knitting and crochet). I am married, have two adult daughters and several grandchildren.

I bring the skills and experiences from being a qualified Social Worker into the role of Pastoral Care Worker. I participate in many school activities and programs including: breakfast club, sports days, excursions, concerts and special lunch and recess activities (i.e. Easter, Mother’s Day, Reconciliation Week, Father’s Day and Christmas). My main focus is wellbeing, and providing positive and encouraging support for students, staff and the whole school community. It is a privilege to be a part of the Millicent North Primary School community and I look forward to meeting you and being a support to you.

My regular days at school are:

Tuesday & Wednesday
CHAPLAINCY & WELLBEING

Chaplaincy Services promote student wellbeing, engaging young people in activities that are preventative and which support early intervention and referral of mental health issues.

PRINCIPALS ARE SAYING...

The benefits of the program are clear and include; increased attendance at school by identified students, social and emotional support, increased access to social skills programs and families feeling supported in time of crisis such as suicide, death and family separations.

Primary School Principal

A lot of student problems never eventuate because Trev has provided support and encouragement early on. The students always walk away from their time with him with more bounce in their step....It is hard to imagine our school without thinking of our Worker.

High School Principal

Schools Ministry Group (SMG) coordinate and facilitate Chaplaincy Services in government schools across South Australia.


- SMG partners with schools, local churches, state and federal governments to deliver Chaplaincy Services through the engagement of a Pastoral Care Worker.

- SMG works collaboratively with these partners in the recruitment, supervision and ongoing professional development of PCW’s to ensure the placement of high quality workers who are well equipped to support young people and strengthen communities.

- Pastoral Care Workers are funded from two main sources - the National School Chaplaincy Program (administered by DECD) and the local church communities.

- The Chaplaincy Service provided through your PCW is a voluntary program offered to school communities.

www.smg.asn.au