

Prayer for Health and Social Care

Health + Care Sunday is an opportunity for your church to pray for and encourage those working in health and social care in your congregation and community. This brief guide sets out areas for prayer and could be used during a service or prayer gathering.

Pray for those in leadership roles in health and social care

- Pray for leaders in acute hospital trusts, community health trusts, primary care and integrated care boards, health and social care boards and trusts, children's and adults services.
- Pray for all who shape health and social care including NHS leaders and professional bodies and trade unions.
- Pray for those in government in your country or region who are responsible for health and social care. Pray that the government and policymakers will not prioritise efficiency over good care.
- Pray for compassion, wisdom and integrity in decision-making and that they would steward limited resources well.
- Pray that decisions would not adversely impact the poor and disenfranchised.

Pray for Mental Health Services

- Pray for the safety of both staff and patients in mental health services in both inpatient and community settings
- Pray for those waiting for timely help and for stretched crisis services
- Pray for patients with mental health problems, and their families

Pray for GP Surgeries, Dental Practices, and Community/ Primary Care Services

- Pray for all those working in primary care - GPs, nurses, allied health professionals, reception, and admin staff. Pray for those who feel fatigued and weary that they might have the compassion and resources they need.
 - Pray for those shaping community health and social care services for wisdom to understand the current challenges and inspiration to find solutions.
 - Pray for patients and their families struggling with their health and with accessing care.
- Pray for dental practices, dentists and their teams struggling with the demand for services.

Pray for Hospitals and the Ambulance Service

- Pray for hospitals and those who work in them in your area.
- Pray for services struggling with staffing issues including recruitment, retention, and illness.
- Pray for the work environment to be supportive and one where injustice, gossip, and bullying doesn't thrive.
- Pray for those waiting for care and those working hard to reduce waiting lists.
- Pray for frontline services including the ambulance service, and Accident & Emergency departments

Pray for Health and Social Care Professionals

- Pray for health and social care professionals who may be dealing with moral injury and distress due to systemic failings in health and social care as well as their own personal challenges in providing care.
- Pray for health and social care professionals to have compassion for patients and other colleagues
- Pray for Christian health and social care staff to have wisdom to know how to reflect Christ and be his witness in the places they work
- Pray that Christians will be the hands and voice of Jesus to the staff, patients, and service users they contact every day.

Pray for Patients

- Pray for those frustrated and weary with getting appointments and long waiting times
- Pray into factors which impact health including poverty, housing, addictive behaviours, unemployment, access to food, education, exposure to trauma, and adverse events in childhood.
- Pray that those who are sick would seek & know the God who heals (Psalm 103: 1-3)
- Pray that those approaching the end of life will be cherished and cared for joyfully. In an NHS under pressure, pray against people being wrongly seen or treated as an unwanted burden.
- Pray for services which meet patients social and spiritual needs including chaplaincy's, social prescribers, and church initiatives such as food banks and money advice services.

Eph 6:18

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.