

Friday, 16 December 2022

RESEARCH GRANT TO FUND CARE FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CARING FOR BEREAVED FAMILIES

Leading stillbirth parent advocacy group, Stillbirth Foundation Australia (the Foundation), today announced funding to improve understanding of the impact on health professionals of caring for families affected by stillbirth.

The grant will support research aimed to develop a deeper understanding of the health and well-being needs of professionals working with families who have suffered perinatal loss and to design evidence-based resources to combat work-related emotional stress, burnout and compassion fatigue.

Chair, Stillbirth Foundation Australia, A/Prof Sean Seeho says “It is becoming increasingly apparent that caring for families who have experienced perinatal loss has an impact on the health professionals offering support and expertise. By developing a better understanding of the emotional well-being of our carers and developing evidenced-based therapeutic programs that are effective and easily accessible for our midwives, social workers and doctors will ensure that the best possible care is provided to families experiencing perinatal loss when and where they need it.”

This project supports the Foundation’s mission to reduce the incidence and impact of stillbirth.

A grant of \$34 162 has been awarded to Dr Siobhan Loughnan and her team for their project on ‘Caring for the Carers: Supporting the wellbeing of health professionals caring for parents following perinatal loss’.

A/Prof Seeho acknowledged the efforts of the Foundation’s donors in making these grants possible and thanks them for their continued support.

“This research is only possible because of the extraordinary efforts of the Foundation’s supporters, who provide their time and energy to raise funds to help answer important stillbirth research questions, especially during this difficult and uncertain year for so many,” he said.

“We are incredibly grateful to all our supporters, particularly bereaved parents and their families, friends and colleagues who are dedicated to preventing the tragedy of stillbirth occurring in other families and lessening its impact when it does happen.”

“We also acknowledge and appreciate the efforts of the many researchers who share our vision of ending preventable stillbirths and supporting bereaved families who are impacted by this tragedy.”

To find out more about Stillbirth Foundation Australia visit: www.stillbirthfoundation.org.au