



**Communities have the tools to support each other throughout life, right up to the end.
Communities care for each other in difficult times
and they are there for people when they need extra help.¹**

What are Compassionate Communities?

Compassionate Communities are groups of people and places where everybody recognises that we all have a role to play in supporting each other in times of serious illness, dying, death, grief and caregiving.

Residents of Compassionate Communities recognise that care for one another at times of crisis and loss is not simply a task solely for health and social services but is everybody's business. Everyone is ready, willing and confident to support each other in emotional and practical ways.²

What are Treasure Maps?

Treasure Maps reject the habit of describing communities by listing their problems.

Instead of focusing on the needs or the deficits, community asset-mapping focuses on the hidden wealth that exists in all communities. Community Centres, Churches, local businesses, nonprofit organisations and voluntary associations are all assets with valuable resources to offer. Retirees, artists, musicians, and ordinary youth and adult residents are also assets, and can contribute their individual skills, gifts and passions.³

How to create your Treasure Map

- Gather a group of members from your community
- List treasures in the following categories:
 - **1. Volunteering Associations and Informal Groups**
Small, informal groups of people working together with a common interest (usually as volunteers).
Examples: Local Council Volunteers, Meals on Wheels, Rotary Club, Cancer Support Groups
 - **2. Places**
Locations where people gather to support one another or for reflection.
Examples: Community Gardens, Community Centres, Parks
 - **3. Organisations**
Paid groups of professionals with expertise in relevant areas.
Examples: Palliative Care Teams, Wills & Estate Lawyers, Funeral Directors, Local Councils
 - **4. Other**
Anything else that emerges during the mapping process.

How to share and utilise your Treasure Map

- Share with people included in the map so they know they are included
- Share a copy with Palliative Care SA and Community Centres SA
- Include this as part of your staff and volunteer orientation
- Consider printing this out and make it available on your information board
- Consider other strategies of how this could be made available to your local community members

1. <https://www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk/strathcarron-4-steps>

2. <https://palliativecaresa.org.au/ccsa/>

3. *Ebony Howard. Unlocking Your Community's Hidden Strengths, A Guidebook to Community Asset-Mapping, Alabama Youth Justice Alliance & The Southern Poverty Law Center.*
<https://www.splcenter.org/20121126/unlocking-your-community%E2%80%99s-hidden-strengths-guidebook-community-asset-mapping>