Medical Benevolent Association of NSW

1) How does the MBW assist?
The Medical Benevolent Association is a free service available to all registered medical practitioners, medical students and their families in NSW & ACT (and other necessitous people as determined by the council). The MBA is able to provide social and financial assistance to doctors who are impaired or unwell and their families, including the families of deceased doctors.

All requests for assistance are made to the MBA Social Worker. The Council members do not have any face to face contact with people the MBA is assisting. The requests are discussed and where thought appropriate approved by the Council.

The overriding aim of the MBA is to promote independence.

2) Confidentiality
Confidentiality is a priority for the MBA. The Social Worker is obliged to advise the MBA council of relevant information in order for them to meet their responsibility in making formed decisions about how best to assist. The Councillors, are required to keep this information confidential.

3) How does it work
The social worker will meet with the doctor or family to discuss their situation and make an assessment of the assistance required.

Not all requests are for financial assistance. The Social Worker is able to provide counselling if appropriate.

4) How to make a referral
Doctors and family members may self refer or can be referred by a third party – (e.g. colleague, family member, friend, DHAS). However the MBA is unable to assist unless the doctor or other necessitous person is aware of and accepts the referral.

If you are unsure about making a referral contact the Social Worker and discuss how the MBA can assist or what other assistance may be available.

5) About the MBA
The Medical Benevolent Association of NSW was established in 1896 by a group of medical practitioners. They were concerned for colleagues who did not consider retirement or illness and made no provision for themselves or their families.
The MBA is an independent body. It has no obligation to any other body. It is a registered company with an authority to fundraise and tax deductibility for donations.

The MBA is managed by a Council. Counsellors are directors of the Association. The Council comprises up to 20 registered medical practitioners.

More information is available on the MBA website: www.mbangsw.org.au

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