



# FOCUS ON COMPASSION

a quarterly newsletter

## More than 20 Palliative Care Programs in Africa are Waiting for Partners

### FHSSA Plans to Meet This Need Through a New Campaign

In October, FHSSA launched a six-month campaign to recruit US organizations to partner with African colleague programs. The campaign, titled **“One Cause, Two Continents: Commit to a New Friend in Africa”** seeks to energize US programs to take the next step in becoming partners. The campaign will end in March, 2012.

FHSSA now has more than 20 African palliative care programs waiting to be matched with a US partner. Some programs have been on the waiting list for more than a year.

Each of those African organizations has a proven track record of providing compassionate care. They seek assistance to continue to grow and meet the needs in their communities. Through FHSSA, these organizations are seeking friendship, technical assistance, and support.

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ONE CAUSE,  
TWO CONTINENTS  
Commit to a new friend in Africa



## The Pain Management Initiative Continues—and Expands

### The Goal is to Strengthen Pain Management and Palliative Care in Africa

FHSSA and the African Palliative Care Association (APCA) have been collaborating to improve pain management among palliative care patients receiving care in hospitals in The Gambia, Kenya and Malawi for the past year.

*(See page 1 of the January issue of Focus on Compassion for a full description).*

The initiative builds upon ongoing efforts aimed at strengthening pain management and palliative care as a whole within a total of six hospital settings in the three countries. A review meeting was held in early September in Mombasa, Kenya. During this two-day meeting, participants shared lessons learned and challenges faced.

#### **Achievements and Challenges**

Project participants from each country described successful activities to date:

- Used advocacy and sensitization meetings with authorities responsible for policy development to

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## Three Colorado FHSSA Partners Participated in a Networking Meeting and Met the Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania

**Special to *Focus on Compassion***  
**by Patricia Kelley and Craig Hafner,**  
***Friends of Tanzania***

In October, representatives from three hospice programs in Colorado with partnerships with palliative care programs in Tanzania attended a networking event in Denver. This event was arranged by **Friends of Tanzania (FOT)** a non-governmental organization started 20 years ago by a few people who each had lived and worked in Tanzania, many years before.

This was the first of several events FOT held during the visit to Colorado of Her Excellency Mwanaidi Sinare Maajar, Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania, and Dr. Switbert Mkama, Councilor, Public Relations and Education at the Embassy.

The networking event was held at the University of Colorado in Denver. It included 19 Colorado-based organizations with connections to Tanzania as well as many individuals who had lived, worked and/or visited Tanzania over many years, or who are Tanzanian. In total, the event brought together over 100 people with a variety of knowledge, skills, and experience related to Tanzania.

Each organization had prepared a one page summary of their work to give to Ambassador Maajar and Dr. Mkama before the event. During the event each organization had a table with materials and representatives to describe their work in Tanzania.

All participants were encouraged to network with each other and many, if not all, had an opportunity to speak with the Ambassador.

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### **One Cause Two Continents,** *continued from page 1...*

New partners will join the current 93 FHSSA partnerships that in 2010 collectively provided the following support:

- Over \$450,000 sent to partners in Africa
- Over \$122,000 in-kind donations (medicines, supplies, etc)

These donations supported nearly 3,000 staff and 4,000 volunteers who served 60,000 patients and 300,000 family members in African communities.

We urge all interested to join our effort to ensure compassionate care is available to all in need in the US

and Africa by becoming a partner or champion. To learn more, visit [www.fhssa.org](http://www.fhssa.org) or contact us at [info@fhssa.org](mailto:info@fhssa.org) with any questions. You have the chance to make a tremendous difference in the lives of people in Africa, as well as in your own program and community.



We noticed many people visiting others' tables, discussing and learning about others' work, sometimes finding mutual friends and/or connections in Tanzania, and enjoying being with others who share their appreciation of Tanzania and Tanzanians.

### **The Value of Networking for FHSSA Partners**

It's likely that if you are with a US hospice that has a partnership with a palliative care program in Africa you probably see or hear about many needs that are outside your mandate and expertise. Issues like chicken farming, school fees, equipment, latrines, clean water, income generating projects, etc. There are so few American organizations supporting palliative care in Africa, but there are other organizations working on those issues. So, before you consider expanding the scope of your partnership beyond palliative care, consider who else could help with other needs.

In Colorado, for example, FOT knows organizations working in Tanzania with water and sanitation in schools, others that assist orphans and vulnerable children, another that helps with girls' secondary education and leadership training, and another that completes or renovates schools, etc.

Our purpose was to develop a network of colleagues to support each other through sharing ideas and contacts, and perhaps to suggest resources for specific areas of expertise. This can be more valuable than money. The more people you meet, the more you can share information which can improve the work of all of us.

## **FHSSA Presents Endo Pharmaceuticals with the 2011 Spirit of Compassion Award**



*FHSSA Executive Director John Mastrojohn (left) presents the Spirit of Compassion Award to Brent Fisk who received it on behalf of Endo Pharmaceuticals for their work supporting pain management in Africa.*

**F**HSSA gave the 2011 Spirit of Compassion Award to Endo Pharmaceuticals in recognition of the impact this company has had on the delivery and understanding of hospice and palliative care throughout Africa. In addition to being a generous supporter of the Pain Management Initiative, Endo Pharmaceuticals has taken a leadership role in garnering the support of donations from other organizations.

The Spirit of Compassion Award recognizes individuals or organizations whose leadership, philanthropic commitment and generosity support the mission and vision of FHSSA. This year's award was presented at the special event, *From San Diego to Africa* that was held in conjunction with the

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's 12th Clinical Team Conference in San Diego.

During his remarks, FHSSA's Executive Director John Mastrojohn said, "By sharing your resources and expertise, we have been able to improve pain management among palliative care patients in hospitals in several African countries. We are grateful for your compassion and dedication to a continent where the resources are so sparse and the need so great."

In accepting the award, Brent Fisk, government affairs analyst for Endo, said: "We are honored to be a part of such a great organization with a great cause as FHSSA. The dedication you have for this work in Africa only makes us want to work harder for you."

# FHSSA Global Partnership Award 2012

## Deadline for Self-Nominations is February 1, 2012

**T**he FHSSA Global Partnership Award recognizes the exemplary work of one US/Africa partnership each year. We are looking for a stellar example of a partnership that has demonstrated leadership and innovation and has significantly contributed to the sustainable development of hospice and palliative care in 2011.

### **Eligibility**

Each US partner program is invited to nominate themselves and their African partner for the work they accomplished in 2011. All applications received by the FHSSA office by February 1, 2012 will be considered. All applications must be approved and signed by your programs' director or CEO.

### **Selection Criteria**

The following criteria will be used to determine the award recipient:

- Successful completion of the basic partnership goals
- Creativity in fundraising
- Staff engagement in the partnership
- Collaboration between partners
- Local (US) community engagement

### **Review**

Each application will be reviewed by a committee consisting of FHSSA staff, members of the FHSSA Board of Directors, and leadership of the African Palliative Care Association.

### **Recognition**

Both the winning US and African partners organizations will receive the FHSSA Global Partnership Award at the 2012 NHPCO Management and Leadership Conference (MLC) during a special presentation at the FHSSA Breakfast on March 29, 2012. The partnership receiving the award will also be announced during the conference's opening plenary. A prize of \$500 will be awarded to the recipient African partner. Additionally, the winning partnership will be depicted on a sign at the FHSSA booth during the MLC's Expo. Lastly, the two organizations' names will be added to a plaque at the National Center for Care at the End of Life, home to FHSSA, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the National Hospice Foundation.

**The application can be downloaded from  
[www.fhssa.org/GlobalPartnershipAward2012](http://www.fhssa.org/GlobalPartnershipAward2012)**



## Join the People to People Trip in South Africa

Hospice care in South Africa redefines the parameters of hospice care as we generally know them in the US. This summer, FHSSA Executive Director John Mastrojohn will be co-leading a People to People Citizen Ambassador delegation to Cape Town and Durbin, along with Dr. Elizabeth Clark, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers. For more information about this incredible opportunity, visit [www.peopletopeople.com/NASWNHPCO](http://www.peopletopeople.com/NASWNHPCO).

# Successful FHSSA Event, From San Diego to Africa, Raised More Than \$50,000



*Guests enjoyed the sounds of Sené Africa at the From San Diego to Africa fundraiser.*

**W**ith more than 200 guests and great San Diego weather, this year's FHSSA event at NHPCO's 12th Clinical Team Conference was a huge success. Conference attendees, board members, and special guests mingled, danced, and bid on the over 100 auction items, which included authentic African treasures and a safari trip in South Africa. The grand total of money raised to support FHSSA was \$51,487.

Prior to the event, an exclusive VIP reception was held for top level sponsors with a beer tasting from Stone Brewing Co. At this event, guests sampled a variety of beers, some not available to the public as they are from a private collection.

As guests began moving to the Tiki Pavilion for the main event, they were greeted with the sounds of Sené Africa. Originally from Senegal and gaining much recognition in the San Diego area, they played the drums, guitar, and a traditional African kora to an appreciative, dancing crowd.

## FHSSA thanks the following sponsors for their generous support.

### **Platinum Sponsor**

- Community Health Accreditation Program (CHAP)

### **Diamond Sponsor**

- Gilchrist Hospice Care

### **Gold Sponsors**

- The Elizabeth Hospice
- Hospice Pharmacia
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### **Silver Sponsors**

- The Denver Hospice
- San Diego Hospice and The Institute for Palliative Medicine
- Hospice of Siouxland
- VITAS Healthcare Corporation

### **Bronze Sponsors**

- Arbor Hospice
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- Hospice and Community Care Insurance Services
- Hospice of the Valley, California
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- Galen Miller and Bob Ward
- Mark Murray

- National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Foundation
- Outcome Resources
- Polly Rehnwall
- J. Donald Schumacher, PsyD
- Suncoast Hospice and Suncoast Solutions

### **Patrons**

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- Deanne Sayles
- Christine Swann
- Wells Consulting Services

### **In Kind Partners**

- CCR Events
- Lions Wines LLC
- John Mastrojohn III and Mike Davids
- Stone Brewing Co.
- Town and Country Resort & Conference Center



# Partners Can Now Donate Online to Their African Hospices

A secure online form is available on the FHSSA website

We've had many requests over the years from U.S. partners to make it possible for them to donate to their African partner online, rather than collect and send large numbers of checks to FHSSA. We heard you!

Now, partners can donate online, using a credit card, on our secure website, and designate the funds for your partner hospice. We will be able to easily track donations and provide you with reports as needed. The form is found on the **Partners Resources** page of the website. In the "I want to donate to" area, use the pull-down menu to find the name of your hospice and the partnership country. For example: "ABC Hospice's Partnership in South Africa." Any questions? Contact [info@fhssa.org](mailto:info@fhssa.org) or 703-647-5176

## Pain Management Initiative, *continued from page 1...*

obtain commitment from Ministries of Health, hospital management teams, and district health teams.

- Trained physicians and other health professionals on pain management and palliative care.

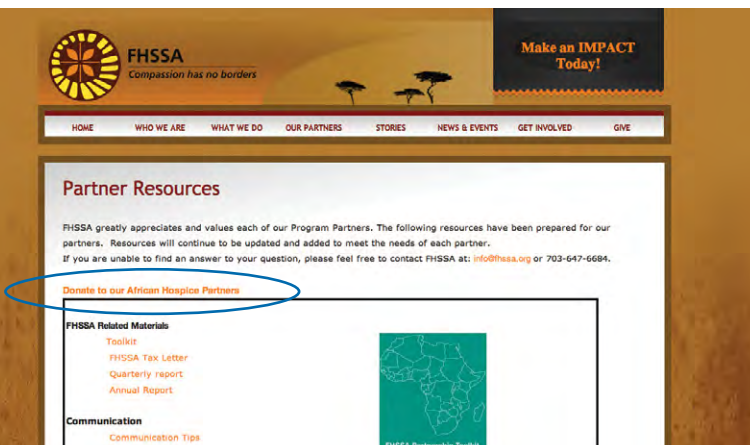
An achievement noted by all was improved collaboration with hospices and better referrals, making it easier for patient to access pain management. Some hospitals also formed pain management committees/teams.

Participants said the main challenges included the still-limited number of prescribers, the inconsistent supplies of opioids, and the ongoing unwillingness of some health personnel to prescribe opioids.

The three countries will continue their work by conducting further training in their institutions and extending sensitization to other referral hospitals. They will also conduct further advocacy to reach more key implementers to support pain management issues.

## Reaching Three More Countries

During the meeting, the second phase of the initiative was launched, adding three new countries: Rwanda, Swaziland, and Zambia. Participants from each of these countries explained the current status of palliative care in hospitals and the challenges they are facing. They also developed work plans and strategies on how they could strengthen pain management and palliative care in their respective institutions.



The Foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa is now doing business as FHSSA.



**FHSSA**

*Compassion has no borders*

1731 King Street, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314  
CFC# 11018 • (703) 647-5176  
[www.fhssa.org](http://www.fhssa.org) • [info@fhssa.org](mailto:info@fhssa.org)



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