



FHSSA

Compassion has no borders

FEBRUARY 2010

Quarterly Report

NEW PARTNER'S INITIATIVE (NPI)/THE CONTINUUM OF CARE FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS IN TANZANIA (CHAT) CONTINUES THROUGH 2010

FHSSA is pleased to announce receiving an official agreement modification from United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Tanzania that extends the end date of our "New Partner Initiative/Continuum of Care for People Living with HIV/AIDS in Tanzania" (NPI/CHAT) project from November 30, 2009 to September 30, 2010. This allows FHSSA, in partnership with Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) and the African Palliative Care Association (APCA), to continue to provide quality palliative care services at 13 Lutheran Hospital sites and support to vulnerable children in the communities around the hospitals.

CHAT started in January 2007 and has achieved considerable success in the first three years. We support 13 Lutheran hospital-based Palliative Care (PC) teams composed of a full time coordinator (a nurse), an assistant and a social worker with part-time support from a pastor and oversight from a doctor. The PC team works with the community to recruit and then train Home Based Care (HBC) volunteers. Volunteers identify and provide services primarily to those living with HIV/AIDS. In cases of severe illness or worsening disease, volunteers refer



A grandmother with her grandchildren outside of Marangu, Tanzania

individuals/families to the PC team who deliver a full spectrum of services from medical care to spiritual support and bereavement counseling.

The result is a PC/HBC team composed of hospital-based PC providers and volunteer community caregivers providing services from the point of diagnosis, through treatment, during disease progression (and if needed) to the end-of-life phase, and in bereavement. The PC team works

closely with the hospital based Care and Treatment Centers where anti-retrovirals (ARVs) are provided to insure a continuum of care to people living with HIV/AIDS.

To reinforce these services, the PC teams partner with local congregations to work in the communities and identify vulnerable children who are in the most need of bedding, nutritional support, health care, or educational support. Through these partnerships, the community and families of palliative care patients are supported.

Through October 2009, the project has trained 517 home-based care volunteers and has provided support to 10,850 individuals, the majority of which are people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, 8500 orphans and vulnerable children have been supported. Every CHAT site has been partnered with a US Hospice through our Partner Initiative so that each organization can have access to individualized and continued support and sustainability into the future.

NPI/CHAT is funded through a United State's Government-President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) grant. ☺



Palliative care volunteers with their home-based care kits at Bunda Hospice

FHSSA RECEIVES SECOND DFID GRANT FOR ZIMBABWE

In October, FHSSA received additional funding to expand its technical partner role for the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in Zimbabwe. DFID already funds FHSSA, through Island Hospice Services in Harare, Zimbabwe as the implementing partner, to develop three rural sites with palliative care, as well as to train four other DFID implementing agencies in Zimbabwe. The new grant of £193,711, equivalent to approximately \$316,524, is for training and mentorship to an additional 5 agencies over the next 2 years. Each agency will receive initial training followed by ongoing mentorship and supervision to



Mutambara UMC hospice caregivers graduation wearing their new uniforms.

incorporate palliative care into its home-based care operations. Health professionals, home-based care volunteers, program coordinators, and area pastors will all receive training and mentorship. At the end of the grant period,

recommendations will be made for sustaining palliative care within the specific context of each agency and its operating environment. The sites training cover every province throughout Zimbabwe. ☯

FHSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS WELCOMES THREE NEW MEMBERS

**Beginning in 2010, the FHSSA Board of Directors welcome three new leaders
Parag Bharadwaj, MD, Polly Rehnwall, and Linda Todd.**



Parag Bharadwaj, MD is the Medical Director of the Palliative Care Program of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. He graduated with

his MBBS from Kasturba Medical College in Manipal, India and with California Medical Board Certification. As a member of the FHSSA Board of Directors, his first hand experience working with hospice and palliative care in India will bring a unique perspective to the work of FHSSA as his experience is applied to the African context of care.



Polly Rehnwall is the Senior Manager of the Marketing, Sales and Customer Service Division at Simione Consultants, LLC. She

is a well respected expert in healthcare management and marketing. This expertise, along with her keen interest in Africa, will serve as a great asset for the Board of Directors as FHSSA continues to grow and evolve.



Linda Todd is part of the leadership team at Hospice of Siouxland in Sioux City, Iowa. She obtained her RN from St. Luke's School of Nursing in

Sioux City, Iowa and a BA in Organization Management from Sioux Falls College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. In 2003, Linda helped to establish the FHSSA partnership between Hospice of Siouxland and Howick Hospice in South Africa. ☯

LEGACY SOCIETY CONTINUES TO GROW



Ronald L. Whisnant, MarketPlace Manager for the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, is the newest, and youngest, member of **The Legacy Society**.

“Prior to joining the staff of NHPCO in 2003, I knew little about hospice care. Being here and meeting hospice people and finding out what goes on, I feel I want to leave something behind that will benefit people for years and years to come.”

The Legacy Society was created to recognize individuals like Ron who provide support for the FHSSA Impact Fund through their estate plans. Ron chose to include both the FHSSA Impact Fund and the National Hospice Foundation as beneficiaries in his life insurance policy.

“Buying clothes or a car, those things all go away. Leaving a legacy means I will impact someone’s life. It is a good feeling to have done something worthwhile.”

The Legacy Society launch is set for April 21, 2010 in Washington, DC. This special evening celebration will honor donors who have shared their commitment to the work of FHSSA or NHF with a charitable planned gift.

To learn more, please contact Maureen Lilly, Director Planned Giving & Stewardship at 703-647-5173 or email mlilly@nationalhospicefoundation.org.

MAKE YOUR IMPACT...



The NHF is launching the **“Impact of Ten”** Campaign in Alexandria, Virginia with a kick-off open house on **Saturday, February 6, from 5-8 PM**. We invite you to join us in marking FHSSA’s tenth anniversary, honoring partners, commemorating achievements and celebrating a bright future. Visit www.fhssa.org for additional information.

IMPACT continues....FHSSA has made it our 2010 resolution to be challenged for compassionate giving. In celebration of FHSSA’s 10th Anniversary—a DECADE of IMPACT—more than \$35,000 has been raised to date in support of the FHSSA IMPACT Fund.

An exciting opportunity continues into the first quarter of 2010—the FHSSA Board committed to matching dollar-for-dollar every gift received until April 30. This means, every gift has **DOUBLE** the IMPACT—up to a total of \$50,000.

Thank you for helping us meet our IMPACT challenge match!

Guaranteed two easy steps:

1. Visit www.fhssa.org and click on Make Your Gift
2. Please email giving@fhssa.org or call 703-647-5176 to receive your additional IMPACT of 10 materials to share with 10 family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers.

Through the FHSSA IMPACT Fund, the National Hospice Foundation raises funds to support the programs of FHSSA. FHSSA **connects** organizations in the US and sub-Saharan Africa through our Partner Program and **collaborates** to provide quality, comprehensive, compassionate hospice and palliative care. FHSSA **expands** comprehensive care services to transform communities and **supports** families and individuals; **engages** our partners, individuals, corporations and foundations to **sustain** our efforts in order to multiply the impact of our services on the ground.

FHSSA LEADERSHIP VISITS COLLEAGUES IN TANZANIA, UGANDA, AND SOUTH AFRICA

In November 2009, FHSSA Board Chair, Becky McDonald, and Executive Director, John Mastrojohn III, traveled to Africa on a visit that included stays in Tanzania, Uganda, and South Africa. The purpose of this leadership visit was to provide administrative oversight of the NPI/CHAT program in Tanzania and to visit with hospice and palliative care leaders in Uganda and South Africa.

"The visit to Tanzania provided an incredible opportunity to see this project in action", said McDonald—a point on which both she and Mastrojohn agreed. "I was grateful for the opportunity to meet with so many of the staff and volunteers working on this project. Becky and I were honored to make home visits and meet several of the patients and families served," explained Mastrojohn. "There is no doubt that the relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT), the funding provided by PEPFAR, and the many FHSSA partners involved has created a program that is not only successful, but has the potential to be replicated elsewhere." Shelley Smith, FHSSA's NPI Director, was also on-site and coordinated the home visits with Dr. Paul Mmbando, Dr. Kristopher Hartwig, and many of the project staff and volunteers.

Following the visit in Tanzania, McDonald and Mastrojohn travelled to Uganda to meet with Faith Mwangi-Powell, Executive Director of the African Palliative Care Association (APCA) and the team at their offices in Kampala. While there, they had the opportunity to meet with staff, discuss recent developments in both organizations, and



(L-R) Liz Gwyther, CEO, Hospice Palliative Care Association of South Africa; Faith Mwangi-Powell, Executive Director, African Palliative Care Association; and Becky McDonald, Board Chair, FHSSA at the AORTIC Conference in Dar Es Salaam.

discuss opportunities for future collaboration. "Our only regret related to the APCA visit was that we would have liked to have been there longer. Faith is an amazing leader and she and her team have accomplished so much," said Mastrojohn. Both leaders expressed their gratitude for the visit, appreciation for the collaboration with APCA, and their excitement regarding opportunities in the future.

Following the trip to Uganda, McDonald and Mastrojohn attended the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) Conference in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. "Attending the conference provided us with a greater understanding of the impact of cancer in Africa, both now and into the future" explained McDonald. Both she and Mastrojohn attended a daylong preconference specifically focused on palliative care in Africa and a variety of conference sessions.

The last leg of the journey took McDonald and Mastrojohn to

South Africa. "We're thankful to Liz Gwyther, CEO, Hospice and Palliative Care Association of South Africa, not only for coordinating the program visits, but also for meeting with us and helping us to better understand the needs of hospice and palliative care patients and their families in South Africa," she said. While McDonald had made several prior visits to their FHSSA partner, Hospice Association of Witwatersrand, the focus of this visit was quite different. "This purpose of this visit was to meet with leaders and discuss opportunities for future collaboration," stated McDonald. They visited several programs and had the opportunity to meet with various program leaders.

"Overall, this trip was incredible," stated Mastrojohn. "All of the providers and leaders were extremely gracious and we learned so much from them. We are grateful to our many hosts and returned excited about the many opportunities for future collaboration".

FHSSA

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