

# Focus on Compassion

COMPASSION HAS NO BORDERS



## India Partner Visits the U.S.

### Staff from Narikeldaha Prayas Make Their First Trip to Visit U.S. Partner

Despite being thousands of miles apart,
Narikeldaha Prayas of West Bengal, and
Hospice of Kankakee Valley(HKV) located in
Illinois, share a common mission and deal
with similar challenges. In October, Dr.
Shyamal Sarkar and Aditya Manna traveled
from India to visit HKV to learn more about
HKV's operation and share their own
information. The two organizations quickly
learned that they are working towards the
same goal-provide compassionate, comfort
care at the end-of-life.

"The need is the same, the culture and the environment is different (but) the medicine is more or less the same,"

says Dr. Sarkar.

The two organizations developed a partnership through Global Partners in Care in 2014 and have been communicating through email at least twice a month. The October trip was the first in-person meeting.

During their visit, Dr. Sarkar and Aditya spent time learning from their partner about disease specific training, documentation, and the importance of the interdisciplinary approach of hospice care.

When asked what information Dr. Sarkar found most beneficial, he named several things and was particularly impressed with HKV's documentation system. "The details are fantastic," says Dr. Sarkar. "Our documentation needs to be improved a lot."

Narikeldaha Prayas service area includes two to three districts in West Bengal. Their average daily census is 500 patients. With only 21 volunteer staff members, it is only possible to see two to four patients per day. Dr. Sarkar hopes that their partnership with HKV will help strengthen their volunteer numbers.

"HKV is a very serious partner," says Dr. Sarkar.

"Their activity [partnership] will give us new points to manage our patients at home."

In addition to spending time with their partner in Illinois, Dr. Sarkar and Aditya traveled with Rachel Zajicek, lead social worker at HKV, to NHPCO's 16th Clinical



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# New Partnership Announced!

Global Partners in Care is pleased to announce a new partnership between Hospice of the North Coast of Carlsbad, California and Nkhoma Hospital of Nkhoma, Malawi. The U.S. partner will work with their international partner to expand access to palliative care.

Sharon Lutz, executive director at HNC expresses why it was so important for the organization to partner with Nkoma Hospital:

"During my very first trip to Malawi in 2007, I was very impressed with the resourcefulness of the people. The devastation of HIV was so evident but the people did not speak as if they had little hope. If parents had died from AIDS the older children or cousins were raising the younger children. Everywhere you looked young girls, ages 8 to 12 were carrying their siblings on their backs as they worked or walked to the market place.

The ability to accept life as it came was amazing.

The hospital staff had so little in the way of medical supplies and medications and yet they made due.

I hope that through the resourcefulness of the Nkhoma hospital staff and the developing palliative team we can problem solve together. Their creativity in managing symptoms will be a learning experience for HNC."

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Team Conference held in Grapevine, Texas. There, they attended sessions and the Global Partners in Care's fundraising event, "A Night at the Taj Mahal." From the conference, Dr. Sarkar and Aditya headed home to India.

When asked what they plan to do next Dr. Sarkar said that they will begin writing an education plan and are hopeful to progress in the next year. The partners have agreed to continue exploring areas where they can help each other.

Rachel says that HKV is hoping to travel to India in the next few years. "Even though cultures are so different half-way across the world, we are all working for the same goal," she says. "It's pretty cool to see that it is a universal theme."

of the need for palliative care is in low and middle income countries.

Your gift to Global Partners in Care supports compassionate care where the need is great and the resources are few. Please DONATE NOW.

# "A Night at the Taj Mahal" Event Raises Funds for Global Partners in Care

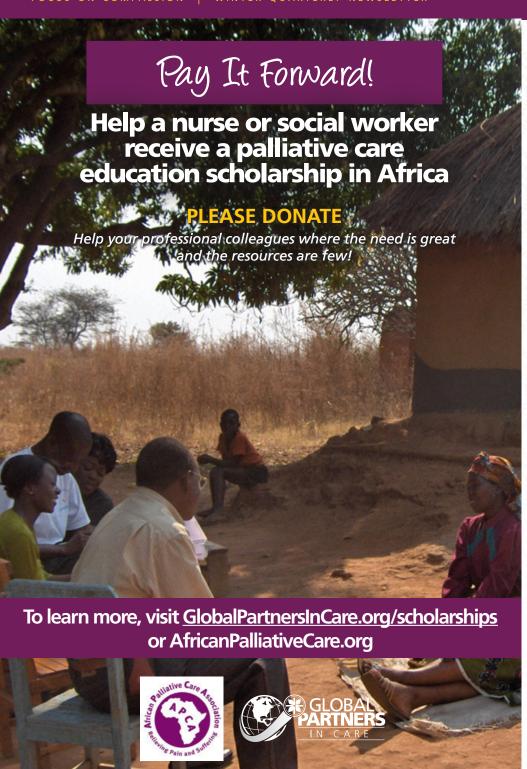
The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's 16th Clinical Team Conference was held in mid-October in Grapevine, Texas. One of the highlights of the conference was the event "A Night at the Taj Mahal"- a fundraiser for Global Partners in Care. Festive decorations, traditional Indian dance, assorted activities, and plenty of celebration contributed to a great evening and successful event.

Throughout the night, attendees had the opportunity to browse the silent auction and learn more about the Global Partners in Care and the African Palliative Care Association's palliative care education scholarships (for nurses and social workers in Africa) that was promoted throughout the conference. Funds raised benefited Global Partners in Care and the scholarship program.









### You can make a donation to support a scholarship:

### Online:

By Mail: Make checks payable to: Global Partners in Care - African Palliative Care **Education Scholarship** 

1731 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314

By Razoo: Donate your birthday, holiday gifts and more. Check out fundraising ideas and how to set up an online razoo fundraiser account at www.nationalhospicefoundation. org/fundraise.

### Why you should donate to the African palliative care education scholarship fund:

- "The burden of diseases needing palliative care is so high and continues to increase yet there are very few trained palliative care service providers so support is needed in order to expand the service especially to the rural areas."
- Past Scholarship Recipient, Lilongwe, Malawi
- "...I am very grateful for the scholarship and that with few well trained palliative care provider many patients are not accessing the care they deserve and die in pain silently. The challenges in healthcare delivery system are enormous and most of them can best be addressed by integrating palliative care."
- Past Scholarship Recipient, Malindi, Kenya
- "The palliative care training scholarship in Africa will continue to go a long way in alleviating the struggling of health workers interested in the training and thereby alleviating the suffering of the patients in Africa."
- Past Scholarship Recipient, Ibadan, Nigeria

# **Upcoming Professional Conferences**

Indian Association Palliative Care 23rd International Conference Feb. 12-14, 2016 Pune, India http://iapcon2016pune.in

**National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization 31st Management and Leadership Conference** 

Preconference Dates: April 19-20, 2016 Main Conference: April 21-23, 2016 **Gaylord National Resort and Convention** Center, National Harbor, Maryland www.nhpco.org/MLC2016

2nd International Children's Palliative Care **Network Conference** May 18-21, 2016 Buenos Aires, Argentina www.icpcnconference.org

To learn about other educational opportunities, visit www.globalpartnersincare.org/education.

# Pay it Forward. Become a Global Partner Today.

Our Partner Program provides the opportunity for hospice and palliative care organizations in the U.S. to support a hospice and palliative care organization in another country. To help our partners engage in a wide variety of activities to expand and improve services, Global Partners in Care:

- Provides personalized consultation and ongoing technical assistance
- Wires financial donations from U.S. partners to their respective international partner
- Collaborates and coordinates with international and national palliative care associations
- Networks partners together so they can learn from each other

Learn how your organization can become a global partner  $\hbox{\bf at } www. \hbox{\bf global partners in care.org/become-partner.}$ 

# From Our Global Partner Application Files

Panodzi Palliative Care Centre

# Who? Pamodzi Palliative Care Centre

What? Provide palliative care services at small clinic in

Where? Balaka, Malawi



Meru Hospice

Meru Hospice



# Who? Meru Hospice

What? Alleviate suffering through awareness creation of life limiting illnesses and provision of palliative care to those in need.

Where? Meru, Kenya

Pamodzi Palliative Care Centre

To partner with Pamodzi Palliative Care Centre or Meru Hospice please contact Global Partners in Care.

**Learn more** about our partnerships and how your organization can become a global partner by visiting the partnerships page on our website.



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