

Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

Spring 2019

2018 Global Partnership Award

Global Partners in Care announced that its partners, [Hospice of The Western Reserve](#) (located in Cleveland, OH) and [Helderberg Hospice](#) (located in Somerset West, South Africa), are the recipients of the 2018 Global Partnership Award. The award was presented to Hospice of the Western Reserve during the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's annual Leadership and Advocacy Conference on April 15th, 2019. Helderberg Hospice will receive their award at the African Palliative Care Association's 6th International African Palliative Care Conference in September.

The Global Partnership Award is an opportunity to recognize the outstanding efforts of a partnership that has demonstrated the core values of a true partnership: commitment to building a strong relationship, partner collaboration, staff contribution and commitment, and community outreach and involvement. The award comes with a \$500 donation to the international hospice partner.



"Hospice of the Western Reserve has shown what a tremendous impact one partnership can have in the delivery of palliative care. The long-term commitment they have made to Helderberg has made a lasting effect on the patients and families needing palliative care," said Mark Murray, President / CEO of Global Partners in Care.

"This partnership is as important as anything we do," noted William Finn, CEO of Hospice of the Western Reserve. New employees receive a briefing on the

partnership and the organization has named a conference room after its South African partners.

According to Gail Sykes, CEO of Helderberg Hospice, "The visits that we have been privileged to share over the years have highlighted our similarities and shown that as long as you have a hospice heart, we speak the exact same language. I personally was fortunate enough to be involved in the 2015 visit to Cleveland and was so impressed by the fact that all the staff members with whom we met were so welcoming and generous with sharing their time and knowledge. No request was too big or too difficult and as a result the time spent was most informative and has proved invaluable over the intervening years. It was a very busy time with not a minute wasted but we returned home energized and 'fed' by the generosity of our partners across the water."

Global Partners in Care congratulates Hospice of The Western Reservice, Inc. and Helderberg Hospice for their outstanding commitment to their partnership and for making a lasting impact on palliative care in Africa.



NHPCO Leadership and Advocacy Conference

As Global Partners in Care continues to move forward in building partnerships, developing education and research opportunities, and engaging in global collaborations, the recent NHPCO Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington DC provided rich opportunities to do just that. During the 3-day conference GPIC staff:

Celebrated the Global Partners in Care Award Recipient at the GPIC Luncheon.

Recognized the pioneer vision and compassion of FHSSA co-founder Dr. Bernice Catherine Harper who attended both the GPIC Advisory Council Meeting and Luncheon.

Engaged in significant discussions regarding leadership, funding, and collaborative training with the Advisory Council members who attended the conference.

Collaborated with the Hospice Foundation and Center for Hospice Care to present a workshop on engaging communities locally and globally.

Represented our partners in the Exhibit Hall at the GPIC exhibit booth where we shared information and handed out applications to several interested US hospice programs. We also made connections with many possible collaborators.

Sent a delegate to Capitol Hill to

Making the World Smaller Through Music

On Sunday, February 24, Northwestern Medicine DeKalb Hospice hosted its 8th annual fundraiser for its South African partner, [Knysna Sedgefield Hospice](#). The fundraiser, “Transformation through Rhythm,” was a concert featuring percussion music by the DeKalb High School Percussion Ensemble, Northern Illinois University Percussion Ensemble, and Harambee African Percussion Ensemble. About 300 people attended the event, some for the first time, some for the fifth time, and some for an admirable eighth time. The concert proved a success, raising over \$1,500 which will support the work of Knysna Sedgefield Hospice.

The festivities began with an inspiring letter from Knysna Hospice where they thanked both the performers and attendees for taking part in the event. “Your ongoing support is gratefully recognized. May you all share in the wonderful afternoon of music, and please know we are all so very grateful for your efforts and support.” Knysna also sent a video highlighting their work and conveying their mission of holistic palliative care in their South African community. They provide palliative care services at no cost to more than 240 patients per month. Their services include home visits, support groups, support for children of patients, bereavement, financial assistance and respite care – no small feat for a staff of less than 20.



The performances that followed proved impressive and exciting. Performers ranged from the college-aged NIU Percussion Ensemble down to young children in the Harambee Percussion Ensemble. Onlookers agreed that the participants performed with palpable heart and soul. The hard work and enthusiasm that they put into this performance

was evident. Denis Kidde, Program Coordinator for Global Partners in Care, was particularly impressed with a piece by the youngest group, called Isai Tauyo Pano, claiming their passionate drumming “electrified the audience.”

“I firmly believe that this is a heart-warming, fun event for the entire community and for all ages... It’s the kind of music people clap and sing along to. You will leave with a smile on your face not only because of the music, but because you’re helping support people on the other side of the planet. You’re helping make the world a better place through music,” said Greg Beyer, Professor and Director of Percussion Studies and co-director of the NIU Percussion Ensemble.

At the end, all three groups joined together to perform a closing act in which they asked for audience participation to learn a rhythmic clap. This gesture highlighted the motivation behind the fundraiser: unison between many different people to create something truly beautiful.

“Music and rhythm unite us and are uniquely human. Just as the children in Knysna Sedgefield Hospice benefit from therapeutic drumming, we gather and beat in time to support, honor, and unite with our brothers and sisters in South Africa,” Jen Conley, Music Therapist and Counselor at Northwestern Medicine Hospice DeKalb said. “Music truly makes the world smaller and this benefit concert is a wonderful example of this.”



Events like these can be successful fundraisers for partnerships, but they are also important to raise awareness of palliative care and the needs in palliative care globally.

Announcements

Join us at the 6th African Palliative Care Conference

September 17-20, 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda

GPIC looks forward to gathering partners and collaborators at this conference. For more information, visit [their website](#).

Partnership with Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT)

GPIC has partnered with ELCT for many years to enhance access to palliative care across Tanzania. There are currently 8 partnerships between US organizations and ELCT palliative care programs. We were pleased to host a visit of ELCT Palliative Care Coordinator, Dr. Paul Mmbando, in April to advance this collaboration.



raise awareness about the work of GPIC.



Palliative Care: A Neglected Global Health Priority

The Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) held its 10th Annual Conference March 8-10, 2019. CUGH is a Washington, DC-based organization of over 170 academic institutions and other organizations from around the world that are engaged in addressing global health challenges. CUGH was established in 2008 with generous funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and The Rockefeller Foundation. Its mission is to support academic institutions and partners to improve the wellbeing of people and the planet through education, research, service and advocacy.

For the first time in its 10-year history, the conference included a panel discussion on Palliative Care: “Palliative Care: A Neglected Global Health Priority.” Global Partners in Care helped sponsor the panel and assisted in leading the effort to form a global palliative care working group at CUGH.



“We are encouraged that the issue of palliative care is rising in importance in the global health community,” said Lacey Ahern, GPIC Program Director.

Also advocating for palliative care was GPIC Advisory Council member and Director of the Walther Supportive Oncology Program at Indiana University School of Medicine, Dr. Jim Cleary, who participated in the Global Cancer Symposium as part of the CUGH Conference. In speaking to the Symposium audience, he emphasized the important of cancer care for all (rather than only treatment) and pointed out the important role of palliative care in that care.

Partnership Surveys

These are very important for us to gather feedback – this helps GPIC better support you. Any partners who haven't yet filled these out – please do so! Contact Cyndy with any questions (searfossc@globalpartnersincare.org).

As GPIC continues to focus on research and education as one of its priorities, we look forward to future collaboration with CUGH.