

# Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide



## Remembering Khumbulani on 7th anniversary of The Rocking Horse Project in Eswatini

While visiting a hospital with a group of ladies from church, Denise Mortlock noticed a group of children in need of extra attention that did not have access to palliative care services. Seeing these children's situation struck a nerve with Denise, and so began the journey of The Rocking Horse Project (RHP) in Eswatini.

Denise, who serves as the executive director, has grown RHP from an idea into a reputable organization that aims to improve the quality of life for children and young people with life-shortening conditions. Raquel da Silva, the organization's program manager, handles most of the RHP's day-to-day activities which include working in hospitals, hospices and homes to make their patients as pain-free and happy as possible. They offer support and encouragement to pediatric palliative care teams as they undergo specialist training, sharing expertise and skills upon request.

[Click to read more.](#)

## Importance of education in palliative care

In spite of its growing recognition and expansion, the field of palliative care has struggled to reach its full potential in the global context. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the leading deterrents of palliative care growth include a lack of national health policies and systems that include palliative care, limited palliative care training, and barriers to accessing opioids and other essential medicines for pain relief. To advance any of these goals, trained palliative care professionals are necessary and the lack of palliative care education must be addressed.

To palliative care professionals, the benefits of the field are obvious; its diverse applications in a variety of circumstances can alleviate much of the unnecessary suffering around the world. But the number of palliative care experts is sparse, and too many health professionals fail to recognize its effectiveness. In fact, of the 40 million people who are in need of palliative care each year, only 14% receive it.

[Click to read more.](#)

## World Hospice and Palliative Care Day Fundraiser

To help our US partners raise funds during the COVID-19 pandemic, we have created country-specific fundraising support materials which will allow our US partners to raise funds online. The electronic fliers provide information about how the pandemic is impacting the country's palliative care landscape as well as providing information on how donations can help buy PPE and other essential items. Please [contact us](#) for more information!



## Our Contact Information

\*{{Organization Name}}\*  
\*{{Organization Address}}\*  
\*{{Organization Phone}}\*  
\*{{Organization Website}}\*

\*{{Unsubscribe}}\*

## COVID-19 Updates

Get the latest updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa from the [Africa\\_CDC](#).

[Prevent Epidemics](#) recently published a comprehensive overview and update on COVID-19 in Africa

## Did You See This?

Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja were very proactive in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic back in March. [Missed our story on this? Read more here!](#)

## Hats and Masks on For Children's Palliative Care

The second Friday in October is a day for raising international awareness of the need for children's palliative care and the work of children's palliative care services worldwide. [The International Children's Palliative Care Network](#) will hold their annual awareness event on October 9, 2020. "Hats and Masks on for Children's Palliative Care" aims to raise funds for children's palliative care, but more importantly, to raise awareness of the rights of very sick children with incurable and life-threatening illnesses to receive palliative care. [Click here to learn more!](#)



## Partners, Please Send Us Your Stories!

We want to share stories of the amazing services you provide. Photos and videos are a great way to help others feel connected to your work. [WeTransfer](#) is an easy way to send large photos or videos that are too big for email.

**You can also help us spread the word! Follow us on social media and share our story with your networks.**



Your donations allows our partners to continue delivering services during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

DONATE