# Focus on. Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

## **Partnership Highlight: Snowline Hospice & Hospice Ethiopia**

If we were asked to name the qualities that contribute to a robust, successful partnership, those qualities would include: engagement by staff and leadership on both sides of the partnership, joint planning on strategic goals, and a commitment to deepening the partnership's impact. As this excerpt from Snowline Hospice's annual report shows, their partnership with <u>Hospice Ethiopia</u> encompasses all of these.

"In 2019, Snowline established a partnership with Hospice" Ethiopia through Global Partners in Care (GPIC). Our collaboration will include exchanging clinical information, along with best practices in hospice care that Snowline has developed in the past forty years.



Shockingly, there are merely three nurses and one social worker that delivers hospice care throughout all of Ethiopia, a country with a population of 100 million! All of these professionals work for Hospice Ethiopia. Unlike the United States, there is no government funding for hospice care; therefore, Hospice Ethiopia must raise money from donations locally and abroad to offer care to people in their most vulnerable role, most living with diseases such as AIDS and Cancer. Interestingly, El Dorado county was in the same state of hospice care when Snowline Hospice opened its doors in 1979.

Snowline became acquainted with Hospice Ethiopia through a former nurse for Snowline, Amele Waterman. She knew of the great need and shared her passion for this care with her team at Snowline. Snowline's medical director, Dr. Jeanine Ellinwood, had the opportunity to travel to Ethiopia with Amele and see the need and the great work that Hospice Ethiopia does with such little resources.

Ephrem Abathun, Executive Director of Hospice Ethiopia, said: 'Hospice Ethiopia relies on the generosity of its partners to maintain support to our patients. We greatly appreciate each and every one of them. We will be able to keep providing relief for people suffering from untreated pain and life-threatening illness because we have compassionate partners like Snowline Hospice.'

Our partnership will help by increasing Hospice Ethiopia's long-term funding to achieve its mission; specifically, it will allow Hospice Ethiopia to build capacity to expand care and access to services."

Click here to read their full Annual Report

### **Creative Fundraising for COVID-19 Response**



During the holiday season, our US partner, Center for Hospice Care (CHC) hosted a holiday craft sale to support their partner, the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU). The sale was open to all CHC staff and volunteers and included traditional Ugandan crafts that the CHC team had purchased on previous partner visits to Uganda. With some of the Uganda crafts, CHC also hosted a raffle to raise additional funds for COVID-19 relief. Both activities raised nearly \$1,500 which PCAU used to support their Road to Hope program for orphaned child caregivers.

### **Management of Chronic** Pain in Children

Earlier this month, the World Health Organization issued important new guidelines on the management of chronic pain in children.

Click here for the guidelines



### Join us at the Virtual 2021 Leadership and **Advocacy Conference**

Global Partners in Care will host a virtual booth at NHPCO's Virtual Leadership and Advocacy Conference. Live chat times will be available March 23-26 with the virtual booth available for two months post-conference. If you will be attending this conference, pay us a visit and see what we can do for your organization!



# **Gone but not Forgotten – The Rocking Horse Project**

The Rocking Horse Project (RHP), a pediatric palliative care organization based in Eswatini is partnered with VITAS Healthcare of the Inland Empire in California. Sharing and understanding the work of each other is a key component of a successful partnership. The Rocking Horse Project recently shared some touching stories about children that passed away while in their care in 2020. At the beginning of each new year, the RHP staff reflects on the previous year's work and the children who sadly passed on. "Each life is unique and each child holds their own special place in our hearts. Each child's passing is felt. The ones we got to know better with time, one could say had more sparkle in them than the average person, despite being unwell. They were filled with such determination and vigour to get better and return home if they were admitted to the hospitals and loved to share their stories of what they would do once they were discharged." Their lives were short, but each child left a lasting impact on staff and caregivers. Below are their stories:

# Remembering each child by some special quality:

**The curious outspoken one:** This teenage boy was so ill we weren't sure what to expect. However, he recovered well and went home, but some months later he was readmitted at the hospice we work with where he passed away after a few months. During his time at the hospice he always made sure he told us what he needed and that one day he would complete his education and become a doctor so he could help other sick children. He was never shy to ask us, in his very charming usage of long eloquent words in the letters or texts he sent us, to buy him a ball, shoes, or other items he had seen at the shops. He also had a wonderful sense of humor and when asked if the RHP laptop with which he was entrusted was working, he would answer by saying "its fine, not even one bruise." The last months of his life were difficult, yet he never gave up fighting to get better. The bond between him and his mom, who had given up her job to be with him, grew so much as she cared for him and it was such a beautiful expression of dedication and love as one witnessed their relationship. Read more stories

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