

Focus on. Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

Exciting Announcement for the 2020 Global Partnership Award

Our Partnership Program is central to our mission of enhancing access to hospice and palliative care globally. Each year we recognize an exceptional partnership that demonstrates core values of a true partnership: commitment to building a strong relationship, partner collaboration, staff contribution and commitment and community outreach and involvement.

Given the enormous challenges our partner organizations – and all palliative care workers – faced in 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to acknowledge **all** of their extraordinary efforts in a special way.

Please join us virtually on **March 24th at 1pm EDT / 4pm GMT**. As part of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's Leadership and Advocacy Conference, we will be making a special announcement about this effort. This invitation is open to everybody whether or not you are attending the conference. [Please register here.](#)

We will miss seeing many of you in person at this year's [NHPCO Leadership and Advocacy Conference](#). GPIC will have a virtual booth and hope that attendees will come visit us there!

Upcoming Webinar – *Building Your Online Presence: The Next Steps* 6 April at 8:00 AM EDT / 3:00 PM Nairobi

In partnership with the [African Palliative Care Association](#), we are hosting a series of webinars aimed at supporting organizational capacity in online communications. This is open to all hospice and palliative care organizations. Please [register](#) in advance.

Hail and Farewell – GPIC Advisory Council

The advisory council is an extraordinary group of people to work with. During our quarterly meetings, they share their knowledge of palliative care provision to help guide our work. Many are, or have been, in GPIC partnerships, and share those experiences with us. We sincerely appreciate all that they do to support GPIC. After serving two terms, members rotate off the council to allow new members to join. We have four members leaving the council who have not only helped GPIC grow, but also helped define our work. It has been a pleasure working with them and to have their guidance as we seek to improve the quality of life and death for those in need of palliative care. We want to thank them for dedicating their time and talent to the Global Partners in Care Advisory Council!



Stacy Orloff, EdD
Vice President, Innovation and Community Health at Suncoast Hospice (Empath Health)

Dr. Stacy Orloff has worked at Empath Health/Suncoast Hospice for over 30 years. She chairs the organization's partnership with HospiceWits located in Johannesburg, South Africa. Stacy has led four trips of Empath Health staff to visit HospiceWits and also coordinated multiple trips for the HospiceWits staff to visit the US. This successful partnership is one of our oldest and the first to receive the Global Partnership Award in 2011, setting a high standard for others to follow.

Stacy recently reflected on her time as an Advisory Council member. "I frankly don't remember a time not being involved with FHSSA and GPIC. My first trip to South Africa was back in 2007. There will be a missing piece in my heart, I'll be honest, about not participating on this level. It's a part of who I am. Whatever I can do to help, you know you can count on me."



Robin Fiorelli, LCSW
Senior Director of Bereavement and Volunteer Services at VITAS Healthcare

In her role, Robin Fiorelli has overseen the functioning of all of VITAS bereavement and volunteer programs across the nation for the past 27 years. She is also the liaison between VITAS' African hospice partners and Global Partners in Care, which includes 10 partnerships in South Africa, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya and Eswatini as well as over 300 VITAS employee donors across the United States. Robin has been involved with the Advisory Council for over 10 years, serving as a mentor to several new partnerships as well as advising Global Partners in Care staff.

"I've had an amazing ride. I've met some of my 'besties' throughout this time. I have received much more than I ever gave. I've had the most fulfilling, amazing experiences and I'll help however I can."



Faith Mwangi-Powell, MSc, PhD
CEO, Girls Not Brides, a Global Partnership to End Child Marriage

Dr. Faith Mwangi-Powell is a public health expert with more than 20 years of experience in leading, managing, and implementing health programs. In her current position, she is responsible among other things, for catalyzing the partnership strategy for *Girls Not Brides*. She was the founding executive director of the African Palliative Care Association and has supported palliative care advocacy and services in over 20 African countries. Faith has been an important part of GPIC's work in Africa for many years.

"I have been so proud to serve on the Advisory Council for GPIC. It has been a privilege and a real honor to see their work grow from strength to strength. I hope we can do this again in the future."



Cathy Hamel, MA
President of Gilchrist Services at Greater Baltimore Medical Center

Cathy Hamel has been with Gilchrist since 2008 and helped establish their GPIC partnership with Nkoaranga Lutheran Hospital in Tanzania in 2009. Through Cathy's leadership, Gilchrist has provided their partners critical funds for patient care. They have also purchased an ambulance, funded a nationwide conference on palliative care, bought playground equipment for children in the palliative care program, provided scholarships for children, funded support groups and facilitated five educational exchanges to and from Tanzania. They were also the recipients of the Global Partnership Award in 2014. Cathy served as the co-chair of the GPIC Advisory Council for two years (2015-2017).

Thank you!

Welcome to the Advisory Council

For the next few months, we will be introducing you to our newest members!

Edo Banach, J.D., President & CEO National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

Edo Banach is president & CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. He is one of the newest Advisory Council members and is looking forward to engaging with and learning from our hospice and palliative care colleagues around the globe.

[Read Edo's full bio](#)



Tuesday, 16 March, was **World Social Work Day!** Social workers were honored worldwide for the incredible and vital roles they play in every medical field and specifically in palliative care. This year, the day highlighted "Ubuntu: I am Because We Are." Thank you to all of the social workers around the world, especially those who assist in getting palliative care services to those who need them most. [#WSWD2021](#)

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