

Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

GPIC Welcomes New Student Learners



Michael Vega

Global Partners in Care recognizes advancing research and increasing opportunities for learning are important aspects of enhancing access to quality palliative care worldwide. We work with partners around the globe to advance research, provide internships and support scholarships for palliative care training. This year, GPIC welcomes two student interns: Michael Vega, a second year Master of Public Health student from Saint Louis University and Lena Dougherty, a third-year undergraduate from the University of Notre Dame.



Lena Dougherty

Following in the footsteps of [Lydia Thomas](#), Michael will be part of the collaboration between GPIC and the African Palliative Care Association (APCA). He seeks to address health disparities and social justice issues in diverse local, national and global settings. His concentrations in global health and biosecurity & disaster preparedness will allow for a more extensive understanding of how to address worldwide health needs that transcend national boundaries.

[Read more about Michael and Lena](#)

Making Partner Connections

We recently held group Zoom meetings for our partners, bringing together our US partners on one call and then our African partners on another. These town hall-style meetings let GPIC provide a few updates and field comments, answer questions and facilitate discussion among the partners. Partners provided valuable feedback to GPIC as well as sharing, listening and learning from one another.

There are common challenges facing our partners in Africa such as impacts of climate disasters on their work, the need to train more leaders in palliative care on the continent, the impact of decreasing financial resources and the need for sustainability models. Partners exchanged ideas on tackling these issues and GPIC will also explore ways we might help them collectively face these challenges.



US partners shared fundraising ideas and thoughts on addressing the challenges of sustaining a partnership through organizational leadership changes.

The calls also spurred many individual follow-up conversations between partners. For example, an organization in Malawi is now sharing more on their work to involve chaplains in palliative care with an organization in Uganda who is just getting started on this.

US partners swapped ideas on how to engage staff on a deeper level. They also shared creative fundraising ideas like focusing on a specific project that staff can rally around or getting your CEO on a roller coaster to raise money!

These calls are one way in which we will continue to expand our network of sharing and connecting partners for opportunities to learn and grow their impact. Partners like learning about the work their colleagues across the continent are doing and appreciate the ideas it generates for their own organization. We encourage partners to continue to share stories of impact with us so that we can include them in this newsletter and beyond!

NHPCO Annual Leadership Conference 2nd – 4th October 2023

Join GPIC at ALC 2023 to network with US partner organizations and learn more about becoming a partner if you aren't already one! We will also present our 2022 Global Partnership Award.

<https://www.nhpco.org/education/conferences/2023-leadership-conference/>



Uganda Conference on Cancer and Palliative Care 14th – 15th September 2023

Be part of this conference cohosted by PCAU and the Uganda Cancer Institute to explore cancer and palliative care. Deadline for abstract submission is 25th June 2023.

<https://conference.pcauganda.org/>



6th KEHPCA National Palliative Care Conference 15th – 17th November 2023

KEPHCA and palliative care leaders across Kenya will explore the importance of inclusivity in making palliative care accessible to all in need. Deadline for abstract submission is 30th June 2023.

<https://kehPCA.org/conference/>



Support the Training of Palliative Care Leaders

In partnership with the African Palliative Care Association, we offer a limited number of scholarships to health care workers to train in palliative care. The demand for specialized palliative care training in Africa is high and we must expand our reach. Some schools report that up to 50% of admitted palliative care students do not enroll because of financial difficulty. Please support the training of these future palliative care leaders!



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African Palliative Care Education Scholarship Fund

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