

Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

Exploring Disaster Preparedness in Palliative Care

In May, GPIC welcomed Michael Vega, a second year Master of Public Health (MPH) student from Saint Louis University, as an intern to fulfill his practicum experience. Michael's concentrations within his MPH were global health (GLOH) and biosecurity & disaster preparedness (BSDP), which provided us an opportunity to explore more deeply how disasters have impacted our palliative care partners. Michael's internship allowed for an in-person orientation at our GPIC offices in Mishawaka, Indiana, some virtual work and a one-month field experience in Uganda with the African Palliative Care Association (APCA).



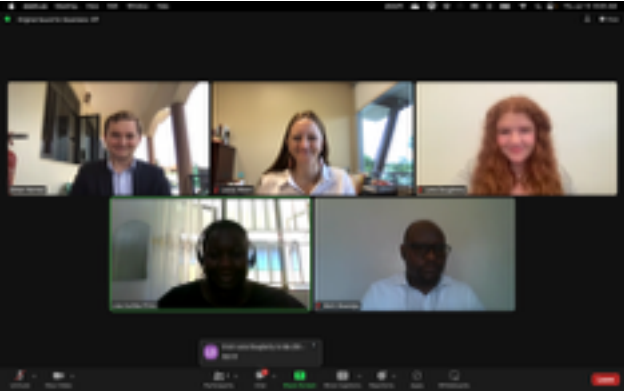
While in Mishawaka, Michael had the opportunity to meet with Lacey Ahern, his internship preceptor, as well as many of the GPIC and Hospice Foundation (HF) staff. With the opportunity to learn more about hospice and palliative care, both in the U.S. and internationally, Michael began to construct his projects for the summer around his GLOH and BSDP concentrations. His unique background and experience in marketing and communications also allowed him to contribute to our social media strategy.

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Student Intern Supports Disability Advocacy in Palliative Care

Notre Dame student Lena Dougherty has wrapped up her summer internship with GPIC. Lena will stay connected as she continues supporting the project on disability advocacy with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU).

I absolutely loved my time with GPIC this summer. This fall, I will enter my third year as a pre-medical student at the University of Notre Dame. These past six weeks have allowed me to broaden my skills and deepen my passion for disability advocacy. I learned so much about GPIC and its international partners while working on the partnership metrics project with the team. The data analysis I performed will undoubtedly help me in my future research projects. My favorite part of my time here has been spent in collaboration with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda to develop informational and educational material on disability awareness in palliative care settings. As a member of the deaf community myself, I felt especially connected to the deaf and hard-of-hearing awareness aspect of this project, and I am thrilled to continue working with PCAU on this.



I am very grateful to everyone who has made this work possible for me and for the many people whom I hope will benefit from it in the future. Thank you for having me, GPIC! This experience means so much to me personally and professionally. The mentorship and partnership opportunities here have taught me to be a better person and will undoubtedly mold me into a more compassionate and understanding physician someday.

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

We look forward to meeting partners in Uganda at this conference co-hosted by PCAU and the Uganda Cancer Institute to explore cancer and palliative care. It's not too late to register!
<https://conference.pcauganda.org/>



Plan Your Event for World Hospice and Palliative Care Day

Check out the [World Hospice and Palliative Care Day Toolkit 2023](#) to help you plan a wonderful event.



Children's Palliative Care in Humanitarian Settings

Check out this updated course from ICPCN and PallCHASE. All courses are free and can be accessed at elearnicpcn.org/.

Save the Date for HatsOn4CPC!

#HatsOn 4CPC, which falls on the second Friday in October (this year – 13th October), is a day for raising awareness of the need for children's palliative care (CPC) services worldwide. Now in its 10th year, the annual campaign is known as *Hats On for Children's Palliative Care*.



[Learn more](#)

Support Collaborative Engagement

The intentional and individualized support GPIC gives to our partners around the globe is an investment of commitment, time and trust. Along with our sincere desire to exchange knowledge and learn from one another, this builds the foundation for successful relationships and impact. We are only able to invest this time and commitment with your support! Please consider making a donation to help support this meaningful engagement.



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