

# Focus on. Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

## Reflections on World Hospice and Palliative Care Day – Compassionate Communities

On October 14, 2023, hospice and palliative care organizations around the world celebrated World Hospice and Palliative Care Day. This year's theme, "compassionate communities" was chosen to raise awareness of the important ways communities provide care for one another to relieve suffering. Our partners in Malawi, Uganda, Nigeria, South Africa and Kenya exhibited this theme in a variety of ways.

Our Lady's Hospice Thigio hosted a walk to raise awareness of palliative care services and the importance of early cancer screening. Participants walked 15 km around the Ndeiya community in Limuru, Kenya. Before and after the walk, participants were encouraged to be screened for cancer by a local partner of Our Lady's Hospice Thigio.



Our Lady's Hospice Thigio hosted a walk to raise awareness of palliative care.

[Read more about World Hospice and Palliative Care Day events](#)

## Hospice Ethiopia Celebrates 20th Anniversary

During the most recent World Hospice and Palliative Care Day, Hospice Ethiopia commemorated its 20-year anniversary through a celebratory webinar. During this event, partners, collaborators and friends of Hospice Ethiopia shared their reflections on all that Hospice Ethiopia has accomplished since its inception.

Hospice Ethiopia began in 2003 with one health care worker, Sr. Tsigerada Yisfawessen. What began with providing home-based care to one patient quickly grew to 10 in the first year. Services have greatly expanded since then with the addition of a vehicle which helps to provide home-based care and partnership with nine hospitals across the region and in Addis Ababa. The service area for Hospice Ethiopia has increased to ten sub-cities in Addis Ababa.



Hospice Ethiopia's commitment to compassionate and holistic care has only grown in the past 20 years. The organization has made education and advocacy top priorities. Many health care workers have been trained to provide palliative care services, and Hospice Ethiopia has partnered with many different institutions to create national guidelines and training manuals for palliative care services. Working with the Ministry of Health, Hospice Ethiopia is working to create strategic guidance on how palliative care services can be scaled up across the country.

Hospice Ethiopia has had tremendous successes over the past 20 years. We look forward to continued engagement with them and their US partner, Snowline Hospice, to see what they will accomplish over the next 20 years!

### The UN Declares October 29th First "International Day of Care and Support"

Caregivers provide selfless care to palliative care patients. Oftentimes, they are unpaid members of a patient's family or community. If they are professional caregivers, they are often underpaid and lack appropriate benefits. The UN declaration of October 29th as the International Day of Care and Support is the first step in increasing awareness of the need for well-supported caregivers. Check out this article by Dr. Katherine Pettus, senior advocacy and partnerships director at the IAHPC, on the many disparities facing caregivers worldwide: [UN declares October 29 the First International Day of Care and Support](#).

### Current GPIC Partner Town Halls

GPIC partners – please join us for the next round of group calls to share experiences and learn from one another. We hope you can join us one of the following dates: November 28, December 1 or December 6. Please contact [Lacey](#) or [Cyndy](#) with any questions!

### Training Opportunity in Photography with APCA

Join APCA's exclusive Zoom webinar series featuring seasoned photographer and renowned trainer, Carolina Kroon.

Empower yourself with basic training in photography's best practices for impactful storytelling and data protection.

Don't miss this opportunity to refine your photography skills and gain insights from a seasoned professional.



**Help us spread the word!  
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networks.**



## Support Collaborative Engagement

The intentional, individualized support GPIC provides our partners is an investment of commitment, time and trust. This helps us to exchange knowledge and learn from one another, while building the foundation for impactful relationships. 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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