

# Focus on. Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

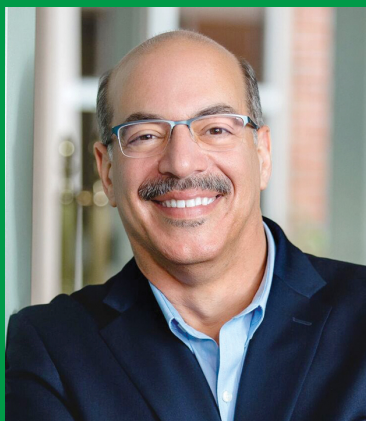
## A Message from our CEO

As you know, Global Partners in Care has operated within the structure and leadership of Center for Hospice Care/Hospice Foundation in Mishawaka, Indiana since 2017. I am so honored to take on the role of CEO for these incredible organizations and to work with the amazing staff who are the heart of all we do.

You have all worked closely with Cyndy Searfoss and Lacey Ahern over the past several years and know their commitment to our mission. Given Cyndy's outstanding skills and leadership, I have asked her to take on a new role as director of marketing, communications and education for Center for Hospice Care. She will no longer serve as GPIC director of partnerships, but rather she will continue to support GPIC in a different capacity.

Lacey will be taking on an expanded role with GPIC. We are grateful for her dedicated and skillful leadership, and she will now serve as the director of GPIC. Lacey will be your primary point of contact for GPIC moving forward. Please do not hesitate to reach out to her or me with any questions or needs. As we make these transitions and think strategically about GPIC's growth for the future, I am very excited to work with all of you.

Please join us in thanking Cyndy for sharing her time and talent with GPIC over the past 6+ years. The success of Center for Hospice Care is vital to the success of GPIC, so while we may not have Cyndy's deep engagement with GPIC, we are so pleased that the larger organization will benefit from her talents. Please join me in also thanking Lacey for her continued leadership and in celebrating her new leadership role.



Thank you!

**John Mastrojohn, III**  
President/CEO  
Global Partners in Care

## A Love Letter to the Palliative Care Community

Like many other countries, those of us in the United States celebrate Valentine's Day on the 14th of February. It's a lovely time to share messages of care and love with our friends, our loved ones and our colleagues. And although this day of love has passed, I want to express my love and care for all our partners, stakeholders, collaborators and friends in the palliative care sphere.

During the seven years I've been part of Global Partners in Care, I have come to know many of you as we've met at conferences, during visits to your organization and over Zoom calls. You have been gracious in sharing your knowledge, helping me to understand more about the care you provide and, perhaps most importantly, the cultural setting in which you provide it. I have been honored to be a part of your care visits and to meet some of your patients. Your dedication to providing compassionate, skilled care for people in need is nothing short of awe-inspiring.

I've been asked (more than once) if it's difficult to travel by myself to places where I know only a few people and don't speak the language. "Of course," I reply. There are always challenges. Jet lag and illness rank at the top (and I've experienced both on every trip I've made). But those pale in comparison to the relationships I've made on each of those trips. The palliative care community is filled with people whose hearts are as large as the African sky.



2022 APCA conference



With Tanzanian partners in 2019



With palliative care nurses in Uganda



With Elizabeth Gikuhi at an APCA Conference



At the Palliative Care Association of Malawi

So please know that even though I am not involved in the day-to-day activities of Global Partners in Care any longer, I will carry with me the examples you have set through your hard work, your compassion, your dedication and most of all, your care. You will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. You have made me a kinder, more thoughtful person and I thank you.



**Cyndy Searfoss**

Global Partners in Care / Center for Hospice Care

## Hospice Ethiopia 2023 Annual Report

Hospice Ethiopia has released their 2023 annual report. Check out their activities and engagement during the last year. [Click here](#)



## PatchSA Course on Perinatal and Neonatal Palliative Care

Palliative Care for Children South Africa (PatchSA) has just released their new course in Perinatal and Neonatal Palliative Care. To find more information and register, please [click here](#).



## International Society of Pediatric Oncology – Africa Conference

The 2024 International Society of Pediatric Oncology—Africa Conference will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 4-8 June 2024. The conference includes support care and palliative care as one of its focus areas. To learn more and register, please visit <https://siopafrika.org>.



## Measuring Palliative Care Integration in Malawi

Results have recently been published from the Waterloo Coalition Initiative, a collaboration between the African Palliative Care Association, the Palliative Care Association of Malawi, and Umodzi Children's Palliative Care Unit to train and support new palliative care providers in Malawi. To see the results of this collaboration, please visit <https://rdcu.be/dyb5x>.

**Help us spread the word!  
Follow us on social media and  
share our story with your  
networks.**



## Supporting Access to Palliative Care Throughout the Circle of Life

Since 2017, we have been an affiliate of Center for Hospice Care (CHC), which was one of just two programs to be honored with the [American Hospital Association's 2023 Circle of Life Award](#). The award recognizes organizations that are developing innovative approaches in their delivery of palliative and end-of-life care. The award selection committee specifically cited Global Partners in Care's commitment to enhancing access to palliative care in low-resource settings as a highlight.

GPIC supports committed individuals and organizations working on the front lines in palliative care. By making grassroots connections, building relationships and collaborating with our colleagues in the broader global palliative care community, we advance innovative approaches to ensure continuity of care and support for the most vulnerable patients.

We are only able to further this work because of the generosity of donors like you. Please consider helping us support our partners and collaborators who provide palliative care throughout the circle of life. ***Thank you for being a part of this important work!***

**Support Global Partners in Care**

### Our Contact Information

\*{{(Organization Name)}}\*  
\*{{(Organization Address)}}\*  
\*{{(Organization Phone)}}\*  
\*{{(Organization Website)}}\*

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