

Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

Rising to the Challenge

Reflections on Role of Palliative Care in the Climate Change Crisis
by Ethan Harned

Across the globe, Monday, April 22nd is recognized as [Earth Day](#). This day brings together advocates worldwide on the importance of protecting the environment and designing solutions to combat the harmful effects of climate change. Communities often need immediate help in the face of climate disasters, and palliative care teams are frequently on the frontlines to help meet this need. Over the last few years, several of our GPIC partners have faced climate disasters and stepped up to support the most vulnerable in their communities. Palliative care patients are often forgotten in an emergency response, but the support provided by palliative care organizations ensures these patients and their families continue to receive the care they need.



Road and home damage in Malawi due to flooding. Reuters, March 2023



South Coast Hospice installs water tanks to ensure potable water for patients, 2022

Damage in infrastructure leads to food shortages, mass displacement and an increase in the mortality rate; palliative care can play a vital role in helping communities faced with these issues. From providing nutritional services to offering care such as bereavement services or management for chronic conditions, palliative care organizations have provided instrumental support that helps communities rebuild after climate disasters.

During South Africa's 2022 winter season, [floods devastated](#) the KwaZulu-Natal province leading to billions of dollars in damaged infrastructure and displacing many. Despite sustaining damage to their facilities, South Coast Hospice and Khanya Hospice maintained their commitment to care for patients. Last year, [Cyclone Freddy](#) caused widespread destruction in southern Malawi. Springing into action, Palliative Care Support Trust (PCST) and St. Luke's Hospital began assessing the needs of the patients in their community.

[Read more of this story.](#)

PallCHASE Resources on Integrating Palliative Care in Emergency Responses

[Palliative Care in Humanitarian Aid Situations and Emergencies \(PallCHASE\)](#) works to ensure that those affected by humanitarian situations or emergencies and who are experiencing serious health-related suffering have access to palliative care. Visit their website to learn more about their work, access valuable resources and to join GPIC as a part of their global network.

Please join the upcoming PallCHASE webinar, **Integrating Palliative Care in Emergency Responses**. Two identical sessions will be offered – Wednesday, 24 April at 3 PM London time and Thursday, 25 April at 8 AM London time.

[Register for the webinar.](#)



Introduction to Palliative Care Certificate Course in French

Inscrivez-vous à notre prochain cours d'introduction aux soins palliatifs – cours de certificat pour nos collègues travaillant dans les pays francophones en réponse aux crises humanitaires.

Le cours commence le mercredi 24 avril à 1200 - 1330 GMT via iECHO.

[Inscrivez-vous ici.](#)



ehospice Palliative care news, views and inspiration from around the world

[ehospice](#) is a globally run resource of hospice and palliative care "news, views, and inspirations" from all over the globe. Sign up at [ehospice.com/register](#).

Register Today for the World Cancer Congress

The annual World Cancer Congress will be in Geneva, Switzerland 17-19 September 2024. To learn more, [click here](#).



APCA library of webinars

The African Palliative Care Association has a rich library of educational webinars. They are now available on the APCA website. [Click here](#) to access these valuable resources.

How is World Health Day linked to children's palliative care?

The International Children's Palliative Care Network (ICPCN) recently published an article on to how utilize the global health response from World Health Day in advancing children's palliative care. [Click here](#) to read more.

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GPIC Disaster Response Fund

The need for palliative care does not stop when a disaster strikes. Through your donations, we are able to support our partners' ability to provide compassionate palliative care in the immediate aftermath of natural disasters, pandemics and humanitarian crises. Our partners are committed to ensuring necessary palliative care does not stop during a disaster and you can help them do so!



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