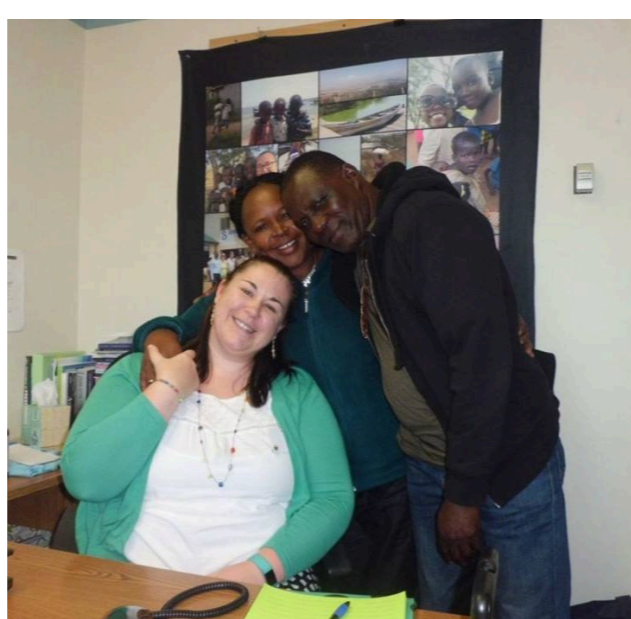


Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

What Makes a Meaningful Partnership?

May 21st is the world day for [Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development](#). This day, coordinated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), celebrates the richness of the world's culture and recognizes the importance of intercultural dialogue in establishing peace and sustainable development. UNESCO reports that the cultural and creative sector is one of the greatest drivers of development worldwide, representing 3.1% of the global GDP and more than 48 million jobs. Unlike international policies and engagement which sometimes minimize the importance of intercultural exchanges, Global Partners in Care (GPIC) values and promotes the learning and exchanges that make our partnerships so meaningful.



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognize the importance of intercultural dialogue in reaching sustainable development globally. GPIC partners have witnessed this in the successful completion of projects in the US and in Africa that benefit their communities. From expanding access to palliative care services, to advancing global palliative care research, to educating US communities on the needs of communities abroad, GPIC partnerships show how this dialogue can foster sustainable impact.



The power of GPIC partnerships extends far beyond these projects. They also build a sense of solidarity that goes borders. In our most recent partner survey, many responses from both the US and abroad reported one of the most valuable aspects of their partnership was the relationship itself. The chance to learn and grow together through partnership offers the chance for lifelong friendships to form. With the many challenges that we face working in palliative care, relationships developed through our partnerships provide invaluable support that can help us face these challenges together.

“The most meaningful thing about our partnership is the awareness that there are caring, compassionate people on the other side of the globe who are as fully invested and passionate about palliative care as we are, no matter the differences in languages, living standards, income, etc.”

[Continue reading this story](#)

APCA Launches 20th Anniversary at 2024 IHPBA Congress in Cape Town



Group photo of the in-person attendees at the APCA celebration dinner on May 17, 2024



Joan Marston, founder and director of Sunflower Children's Hospice and advocacy executive at PallCHASE, presents on palliative care in humanitarian settings

The African Palliative Care Association (APCA) launched their 20th anniversary celebrations by hosting a parallel session on palliative care and a commemorative dinner at the 2024 International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Congress in Cape Town, South Africa. The two days of sessions brought together experts from around the world to discuss palliative care development in Africa. Global Partners in Care student intern, Ethan Harned, participated in the celebration. Ethan is in South Africa for two months working with Sunflower Children's Hospice for his university research.



GPIC intern, Ethan Harned and Dr. Emmanuel Luyirika, Executive Director of APCA



Eddie Mwebesa, clinical doctor at Hospice Africa Uganda (HAU), presents on HAU training programs



Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Sibongiseni Dhlomo delivers the keynote address at the APCA celebration dinner

The commemorative dinner was a hybrid event that allowed conference attendees and others around the world to celebrate for launch of APCA's 20-year anniversary. The keynote speaker of the evening was Dr. Sibongiseni Dhlomo, the deputy minister of health in South Africa.



APCA Advisory Council Member Andre Wagner presents on the role of NGOs in African palliative care development



Ethan with APCA's Andre Wagner, Thobe Finger and Patricia Banda

APCA will host celebrations across the continent over the next year. These will reach a finale at the **8th International African Palliative Care Conference** in September, 2025 in Gaborone, Botswana.

GPIC Welcomes New Student Interns

Chloe Wang is an undergraduate majoring in neuroscience and applied math at the University of Notre Dame. She grew up in Taiwan and Los Angeles before attending university. On campus, Chloe has primarily been involved in Notre Dame's Student International Business Council, working on STEM and social impact consulting projects with Microsoft and BCG. This summer, Chloe will be interning with GPIC virtually from Taiwan. Chloe is eager to learn more about hospice and palliative care through GPIC's work.

Monique Caraman is a second-year undergraduate student at Asbury University majoring in media communications with a focus in production design and minoring in history. During her time at Asbury University, she has assisted with student films and worked on many theater productions. Monique's interests lie in the arts, international travel and world history. She is excited to intern and support the mission of GPIC.

Hospice Week in South Africa

May 5th -11th are Hospice Week in South Africa – a week dedicated to advocating for the role of palliative care in healthcare. The 2024 focus was on raising awareness for the standards of practice member organizations of the [Association for Palliative Care Centres \(APCC\)](#) adhere to. To read more about this week of advocacy and how the APCC is fostering mentorship and collaboration among its members in South Africa, please [read this article on eHospice](#).

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



HPCAN Annual General Meeting and Conference

The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of Nigeria is hosting their 16th annual general meeting and conference from July 2-4, 2024. The theme of this year's conference is "Innovations in Palliative Care: Navigating Challenges and Expanding Horizons." [Register here.](#)



Webinar on Nursing Education and Practice Opportunities Across Continents

The African Palliative Care Association and World Universities Network are hosting a webinar on May 24, 2024 from 3-4:30 PM CAT. The webinar will explore foreign educational and practice opportunities for nurses from Africa. [Register here.](#)



Support GPIC Partnership Program

The GPIC Partnership Program facilitates and supports meaningful global engagement, recognizes cultural diversity and promotes intercultural exchange and learning – all of which make our world richer.

Your support helps us build these relationships and grow these partnerships for impact!



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