

# Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

## National Associations Unite the Global Palliative Care Community

This year's theme for World Hospice and Palliative Care Day was "Ten Years Since the Resolution: How are we doing?" This annual event, held on the second Saturday in October, calls on the global community to recognize the importance of palliative care. National palliative care associations work tirelessly to advance palliative care in their countries. This year, they found creative ways to unite communities in raising awareness for palliative care.



PCA Executive Director Mark Mwesiga calls attention to the growing need for palliative care in Uganda.

The Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU) planned a series of events with the Ugandan Ministry of Health and key stakeholders across the country focused on strengthening palliative care access.

First, they hosted a national webinar on the integration of palliative care into Ugandan hospitals. The webinar panelists represented Uganda Cancer Institute, Mulago National Referral Hospital and St. Francis Hospital Nsambya. Following this, PCAU hosted a storytelling event sharing about the impact of palliative care. Beneficiaries of palliative care, pioneers in the field and advocates told stories of how palliative care benefited them. As part of the event, Executive Director Mark Mwesiga shared the growing importance of palliative care due to Uganda's rising incidence of non-communicable diseases and aging population.

The Ghana Palliative Care Association used October to develop their national strategic plan for palliative care. Through a series of webinars and in-person meetings, experts in the field reflected on lessons learned, shared feedback and coordinated to complete this robust framework. The month will end with the submission of this strategic plan to the Ghanaian Ministry of Health.

In South Africa, Palliative Care for Children South Africa (PacthSA) hosted a competition between organizations supporting children facing life-limiting conditions in South Africa. Organizations showed their support for children's palliative care by wearing hats and sharing their celebrations on social media. At the end of the month, PacthSA will be hosting a fun 5km walk to raise awareness for the estimated one million children in need of palliative care in South Africa. The Association of Palliative Care Centres (APCC) called for communities to shop at their local palliative care charity shops. Recognizing the importance of charity shops in supporting palliative care across the country, the slogan for their campaign is "secondhand goods for first class care."



PacthSA Chairperson Dr. Samantha Govender raises awareness for children's palliative care alongside colleagues in Durban, South Africa.



KEHPCA staff walking hand in hand to advocate for the advancement of palliative care in Kenya.

Kenya Hospices and Palliative Care Association (KEHPCA) commemorated the occasion by hosting a palliative care week leading up to World Hospice and Palliative Care Day. Throughout the week they shared stories of palliative care developments from around the country. At the end of the week, KEHPCA joined a cancer awareness walk with partners in Nairobi. Following this, they hosted a national webinar on the state of palliative care in Kenya in collaboration with the national referral hospital. The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of Nigeria also hosted a celebratory webinar to reflect on the progress of the status of palliative care development in Nigeria. These webinars provided opportunities for country experts and the global community to reflect on progress made and lessons learned as they plan for the future.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) Health hosted a national advocacy event to raise awareness for palliative care and thank their supporters at Ocean Road Cancer Institute. They took the opportunity to reflect on how they have collaborated with partners to provide palliative care to over 50,000 people in Tanzania through 24 hospital teams and 26 palliative care units.



ELCT Health staff pose for a photo at their national advocacy event.

Since this year's theme asked the global community to reflect on palliative care development, national associations played a key role in leading this conversation. They brought together leading experts, governmental and non-governmental partners and those receiving palliative care to strategize on expanding access to palliative care in the years to come.

## GPIC and Partners Raise Awareness for Children's Palliative Care on Social Media

Friday, 11 October, marked the 11th annual #HatsOn4CPC campaign. Organizations from around the world came together to raise awareness for children needing palliative care. Our team joined many others from across the globe in wearing fun hats to represent the various 'hats' that children's palliative care providers wear to deliver high-quality care to children and their families!



The Island Hospice and Healthcare team wearing hats for children in need of palliative care in Zimbabwe.



Kawempe Home Care team is tipping their hats to their fellow children's palliative care providers.



Sunflower Children's Hospice staff and children raise awareness at National Hospital in Bloemfontein, South Africa.



Hospice Foundation/GPIC staff Katina Scarbrough and Lacey Ahern pose with Teddy, the Center for Hospice Care therapy dog.



GPIC intern Ethan Harned raises awareness for children's palliative care at the University of Notre Dame.



Hospice Foundation team showing their support for children's palliative care providers across the world.

### Join the Hospice Ethiopia World Hospice and Palliative Care Day Celebration

Hospice Ethiopia is hosting a webinar to celebrate World Hospice and Palliative Care Day on 24 October at 10 AM EST. The webinar will reflect on the challenges faced and progress made in advancing palliative care in Ethiopia. [Join here.](#)



### Save the Date: PallCHASE Webinar for World Hospice and Palliative Care Day

PallCHASE will be hosting two webinars on the status of palliative care in humanitarian settings and the future direction of the field. These will be held on 23 October at 10 AM EST and 24 October at 3 AM EST. RSVP at the links below.

[23 October](#)

[24 October](#)



### Applications Open for the Small Grants for Palliative Care Development in Africa Program

The True Colours Trust's Small Grants for Palliative Care Development in Africa Program is now accepting applications. The deadline to submit is 31 October. [Click here to learn more about guidelines and how to apply.](#)



### IAHPC and APCA Webinar on Informal Caregiving

Join the IAHPC and APCA on the International Day of Support and Caring, 29 October, for a webinar on informal caregiving. Experts in this area will share about both the research and the lived experiences of informal caregivers. [Register here.](#)



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



## Support Global Partners in Care with Workplace Giving

Many workplace giving campaigns have opened and employees can enroll until the end of the year. Global Partners in Care (GPIC) participates in federal, state and local workplace giving campaigns, including the Combined Federal Campaign. If someone you know is part of a workplace giving campaign, please encourage them to support GPIC!

**Our Combined Federal Campaign ID is 11018.**

[Learn more about workplace giving programs](#)



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