

Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

Envisioning the Ideal Future for Global Palliative Care

Our work at Global Partners in Care, particularly our partnership program, has long focused on shared learning that transcends organizations, contexts and borders. We recognize the importance of fostering collaboration across a network of individuals and organizations toward a shared mission. In [collaboration with Elea Institute](#), we have launched a new effort to increase collaboration, alignment and identify shared opportunities in palliative care across regions.

In May, more than 30 palliative care leaders met for the *Collaborating for Global Impact Workshop*. We are grateful to the passionate, visionary participants who traveled from across the globe to contribute their voices, ideas and energy to this important conversation on the future of palliative care.

The goal was to harmonize efforts and collaborate to amplify the impact of our work. Over two days, we reflected on the current global palliative care landscape, identified gaps and opportunities and co-designed ideas for collective action. Guided by expert facilitators from Humaniteria, the workshop used human-centered design principles focused on actionable next steps toward shared palliative care goals.



Participants collected and mapped ongoing collaborations in global palliative care.



Small groups co-created potential projects to meet identified gaps in global palliative care.

The connections created at the workshop and the possibilities ahead are energizing. We are committed to continuing the momentum together in the coming months. It was an honor to gather with a wonderful group of leaders to share, learn and co-create. Thank you to all who participated! Your insights, honesty and participation made this gathering a success. We are more hopeful than ever for the future we are building together in global palliative care!

[Read more about the workshop in ehospice.](#)

Mr. Giam Cheong Leong, executive director of Asia Pacific Hospice Palliative Care Network, wrote about his experience at the workshop. [Read Giam's reflection.](#)

Remembering Dr. Anne Merriman

We are deeply saddened by the death of Dr. Anne Merriman, visionary palliative care leader and founder of Hospice Africa Uganda.

In 2023, we had the honor of recognizing Hospice Africa Uganda and Hinds Hospice with our Global Partnership Award. At the 4th Uganda Conference on Cancer and Palliative Care, Dr. Anne received special recognition for her pivotal role in that partnership and the enduring legacy of her leadership. Her vision, compassion and tireless advocacy transformed palliative care in Africa and left a lasting impact on our work at Global Partners in Care, especially in Uganda.



Dr. Anne receiving her award in Uganda with members of GPIC and HAU.

While we mourn her loss, we are also filled with profound gratitude for her life. Dr. Anne's unwavering commitment to compassion continues to inspire us. Her legacy lives on in the countless lives she touched and the ongoing work of so many across the globe whom she mentored and inspired.

Dr. Anne's decades of service to those in need of palliative care is remarkable. Our colleagues at the Palliative Care Association of Uganda published an article about her legacy of advancing palliative care in Uganda and beyond. [Read the PCAU article.](#)

May she rest in peace.

New GPIC Interns

We are excited to welcome five new interns to Global Partners in Care this summer. They will be working with our partners in Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe and South Africa.



Audrey Adon is a biology student at Lehman College. She will be working with the health department at Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) in Arusha, Tanzania.

Lauren Johns is a master of science in global health candidate at the University of Notre Dame. She will be working with the African Palliative Care Association in Kampala, Uganda.

Noah Lim is a pre-medical and theology student at the University of Notre Dame. He will be working with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda in Kampala, Uganda.

Anesu Matara is a pre-medical student at the University of Notre Dame. He will be working with Island Hospice and Health Care in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Lillie Stewart is an economics student at Wellesley College. She will be working with Sunflower Children's Hospice in Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Thank you, Ethan and Lena!

Over the last several years, many of you have come to know our two interns, Ethan Harned and Lena Dougherty. In May, both graduated from the University of Notre Dame. We are deeply grateful for their work to enhance our mission.

Ethan was an office intern for three years and spent two summers working with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU) and Sunflower Children's Hospice in South Africa. His projects focused on supporting the advancement of pediatric palliative care through education, advocacy and research. Ethan was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru Fellowship from the Fulbright Program to continue his research in pediatric palliative care and public health in India. He will continue to work with GPIC until August, when he departs for India.

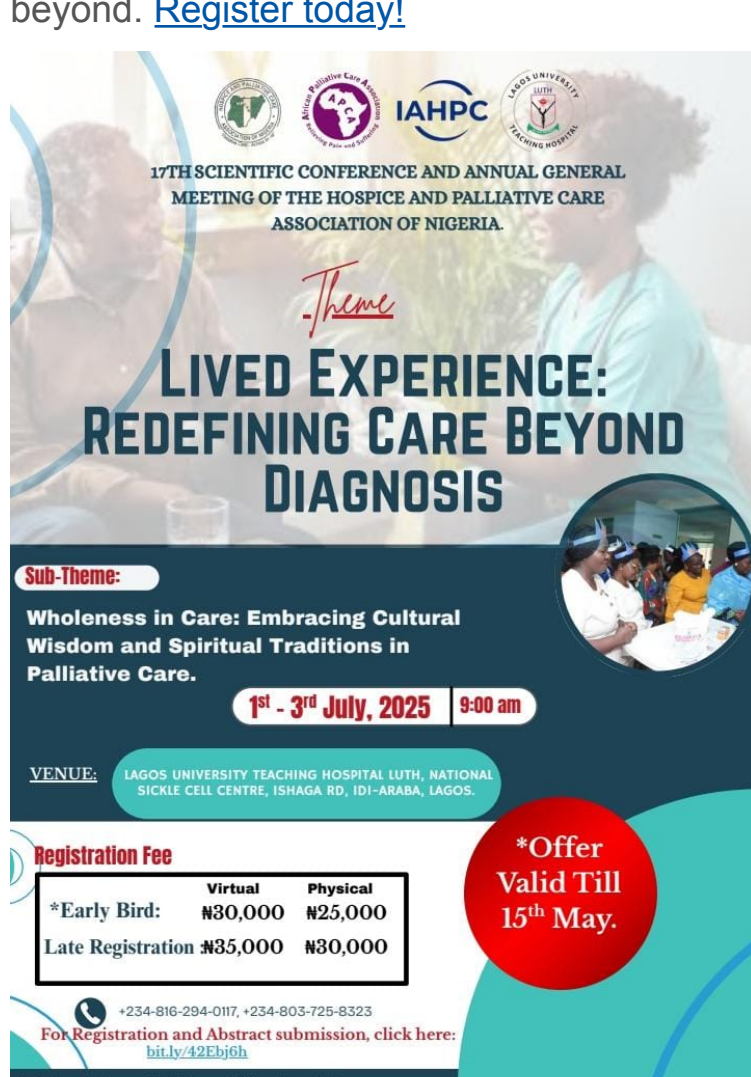


Lena (left) and Ethan (right) with Lacey Ahern, GPIC executive director.

Lena was an office intern for the past two years, supporting various aspects of GPIC's work. She spent much of her time supporting PCAU's work, particularly advancing palliative care for persons with disabilities in Uganda. Lena will now attend Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee to pursue a master of biomedical sciences.

17th HPCAN Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting

The Hospice and Palliative Care Association of Nigeria will host their annual conference and general meeting **1-3 July, 2025** in Lagos Nigeria. It will bring together a diverse group of stakeholders including clinicians, researchers, policymakers, advocates and community leaders to explore innovative approaches and collaborative strategies for advancing palliative care across Nigeria and beyond. [Register today!](#)



Read the New Regional Palliative Care Atlases

The Asia Pacific Hospice Palliative Care Network and European Association for Palliative Care recently launched new palliative care atlases. The atlases examine the state of palliative care policies and services across each continent. They also highlight priorities and opportunities to strengthen palliative care.

[Asia Pacific Hospice and Palliative Care Atlas](#)

[European Hospice and Palliative Care Atlas](#)

Helderberg Hospice Visits Hospice of the Western Reserve



Dianne Waddington, head of social services at Helderberg Hospice, recently visited her GPIC partner, Hospice of the Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio. This visit reflects the organizations' strong partnership, which is grounded in compassion and humanity. To read more about her visit, [click here](#).

Submit an Abstract to the 4th ICPN International Conference on Children's Palliative Care



The 4th ICPN International Conference on Children's Palliative Care takes place **12-15 November** in Manila, Philippines.

The abstract deadline is **11 July**. Don't miss your chance to participate in this great conference. [Submit your abstract.](#)

From Vision to Action: The Development of the ICPN

Joan Marston, GPIC advisory council member and founder of the ICPN, recently published a reflection on the conference that led to the formation of the ICPN. Her reflection highlights the often-forgotten pediatric patients in palliative care development. [Read her reflection here.](#)

GPIC 2024 Annual Report

Please read our 2024 annual report which highlights history and key milestones from the past 25 years. Since 1999, we have been dedicated to enhancing access to compassionate hospice and palliative care across the globe.

As we look toward the future, we are inspired by those who came before us and energized by those we work with today to continue on this mission. We are committed to creating opportunities that address today's unique challenges in shaping a compassionate and impactful future.

[Read GPIC 2024 annual report.](#)

IAHPC Photo Contest

The International Association for International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC) launched its biannual photo contest. Photos can depict activities in IAHPC's four thematic areas of work: advocacy, education, research and information dissemination. Photo submissions are due **31 October 2025**.

[Submission for images with adults](#)

[Submission for images with children](#)

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



Support Our Engagement with the Next Generation of Palliative Care Leaders

GPIC is committed to supporting learning opportunities for students at all levels. Our internship program raises awareness of palliative care among undergraduate students by offering educational internships. We match them with partners who also benefit from their skills and enthusiasm. By supporting GPIC, you can help us train the next generation of leaders in global palliative care!



Support our Internship Program

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