



Welcome back, Denis!

Please note that future newsletters will come from Denis so make sure you have his email address saved: kidded@cfhcare.org
Denis and I will continue to work closely together on all aspects of the PCAU/CHC Partnership. Please don't hesitate to contact either one of us! - Lacey



PCAU'S Communication Strides in 2020



PCAU staff practice taking quality photos with tips from Cyndy and Jim over Zoom.

Effectively communicating the nuances of a national palliative care association's multi-faceted work through a broad range of mediums to a varied audience requires a thorough understanding of the tools available – and practice in using them. As the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in Uganda, Hospice Foundation staff worked with Zaitun Nalukwago, PCAU's communications and fundraising officer, to support her efforts. Together, they brainstormed ways she could reach members, partners and stakeholders about the advocacy, awareness and education efforts PCAU was undertaking.

Their main goal was to make sure palliative care providers would be able to continue to care for their patients while the country was on lockdown. "Zaitun was at the heart of the work PCAU was doing to keep awareness of palliative care at the forefront of essential health service discussions," said Cyndy Searfoss, the Foundation's director of education and collaborative partnerships. "She was on top of the messaging that PCAU was sending out regularly. We served as a sounding board for her and a way to brainstorm new approaches to that messaging."

During a series of weekly Zoom calls, Cyndy and Jim Wiskotoni, the Foundation's web and print coordinator, shared tips and tricks as Zaitun expanded her skills in design, imaging and video production. "Most of our calls were really collaborative work sessions," Cyndy said. "Jim and I have been part of the PCAU partnership for eight and nine years, respectively. We understand their objectives and strategies, so we were able to provide a lot of feedback on Zaitun's work on their website, newsletter and blog posts. The whole process was beneficial for us, too, because it taught us some new ways to look at our own communications."

To keep up to date on all of the amazing work Zaitun and the PCAU staff are doing, like and follow PCAU's social media pages:



PCAU Staff Spotlight: Zaitun Nalukwago

Zaitun Nalukwago is the communications and fundraising officer at PCAU. She handles both internal and external communications as well as fundraising-related activities working hand-in-hand with the country director. Her responsibilities include social media management, membership, website, publication of information, education and communication (IEC) materials, coordination of fundraising events and other PCAU events as well as identifying potential local sponsors.



Before becoming communications and fundraising officer in February 2020, Zaitun was PCAU's administrative assistant - a position she held for six years - and was responsible for ensuring efficient office operations. She loves the fact that PCAU makes a positive change in Uganda through its vision and mission. There is a genuine spirit of collaboration and shared objectives all rotating around helping the direct beneficiaries through the different partners and member organizations who operate under the Association.

Zaitun holds a Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication from Islamic University in Uganda.

COVID-19 Update: Back to School for Road to Hope Children



Earlier this month, Uganda's Ministry of Education and Sports made the long-awaited announcement regarding the opening of schools to complete the 2020 academic year. Unable to support virtual learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, the past 11 months have been paused as far as children's advancement in school. The government and many other entities (including PCAU) have worked to get learning materials to children throughout the country to help keep their brains active and learning!

In Oct. 2020, candidate classes (P.7, S.4 and S.6) and college finalists returned to school. P.7 students will take their national exams on March 31 to complete their 2020 academic year, and S.4 and S.6 students will take exams on April 6.

Educational institutions will continue with a staggered reopening beginning in March. The goal is to minimize crowding in classrooms. Physical distancing, along with other government guidelines put in place, are intended to ensure the safety of both students and teachers during the pandemic.



Below is the staggered attendance plan to reduce crowding in schools:

- Pre-candidate classes (P.6, S.3, and S.5) will return from March 1 - May 21
- P.4 and P.5 will return from April 6 - June 4 (after the P.7 exams)
- P.1, P.2 and P.3 will return from June 7 - July 24
- S.1 will return from April 12 - July 3
- S.2 will return from May 31 - July 24 (after S.3 and S.5 classes break)

Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions, universities and other tertiary institutions will resume March 1st. Face-to-face sessions will be conducted in shifts with priority given to courses that require practical hands-on and laboratory work.

The 2020 academic year will officially end in July 2021. Student progression to the next class will be based on attendance and continuous assessment of class work and assignments. After the close of the 2020 academic year, and with continued consideration of the management of COVID-19, a comprehensive school calendar for the 2021 academic year, as well as a strategy for recovery of lost time, will be issued.

For the latest information on Uganda Ministry of Health COVID-19 updates [click here](#).

ROAD TO HOPE

Please help us support the education and well-being of the RTH children.

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For more information, please contact Denis Kidde, international program coordinator at KiddeD@cfhcare.org or 574.277.4860.



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