

PCAU PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Planning a PCAU visit to Indiana

We are in the initial stages of planning to host our PCAU friends in October/November of 2022. While they are visiting, we will hold ***Okuyamba Fest***. This event celebrates our partnership and features international food, drink and art. Please hold October 27 as a tentative date for the event. We'll share more details with you in future newsletters.

Who Cares for the Carers in Times of Crisis? Notre Dame Student Researches Mental Health Impacts of COVID-19 on Palliative Care Providers

Over the past 13 years, interns from the University of Notre Dame have worked closely with Center for Hospice Care/Hospice Foundation's partnership with the Palliative Care Association of Uganda. Past student interns have played a valuable role in research projects across many disciplines including global health, theology, business and science.



Ben & Mary Ann Wilson – 2011

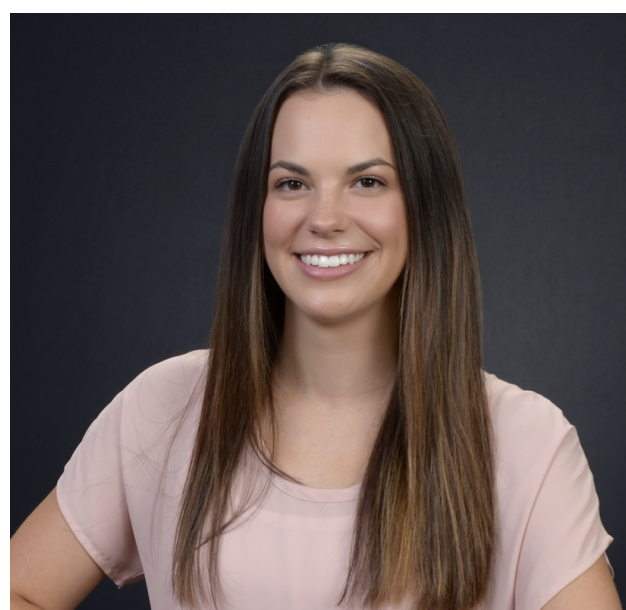


Gaby Austgen – 2013



Kat Kostolansky – 2019

In the last year, PCAU has worked closely with University of Notre Dame senior Mariah Horvath to research the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health and psychosocial well being of Ugandan palliative care providers. Mariah is a neuroscience and behavior major and international development studies minor who took an interest in global mental health as an intersection between her two fields of study. Conversations to design this project began last spring as Mariah planned her senior capstone project. Mariah's interests aligned well with PCAU's interest in supporting their members' mental health.



[Click here for the rest of the story.](#)

Palliative Care and Poverty Reduction

Mark Mwesiga and Lacey Ahern participated in a virtual panel discussion, "Palliative Care: A Social Justice Issue," at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) annual conference in March.



Healthy People,
Healthy Planet,
Social Justice

March 28–April 1, 2022

Virtual Satellite Sessions: March 21–25

Ahern is a longtime member of CUGH and part of a working group within CUGH raising awareness of the need for palliative care globally. The working group, chaired by Dr. Liz Grant from the University of Edinburgh, organized this panel discussion which brought together notable palliative care colleagues from across the globe. Mwesiga and Ahern were joined by: Dr. Katherine Pettus of the International Association for Hospice and palliative Care, Dr. Jim Cleary of Walther Global Palliative Care and Supportive Oncology at Indiana University, Dr. Farzana Khan of the Fasiuddin Khan Research Foundation, Dr. Adi Nadimpalli of MSF-USA, Dr. Eleanor Reid of Yale University and Dr. Marcia Glass of Tulane University.

The panel focused on explaining the importance of palliative care in enhancing patient, family and community wellbeing by alleviating serious health-related suffering and argued that equitable access to palliative care is essential for a just and healthy world (the theme of the conference). Dr. Pettus stated that inequity in access to palliative care is one of the world's most striking injustices and that palliative care should be part of the global and national health agenda. Populations are living longer, but more are living in crisis – in situations of conflict, humanitarian and environmental crises, and with increased inequity exposed and exacerbated by COVID-19. Panelists discussed how palliative care can be a driver of good health, prevent medical impoverishment and is crucial in emergency response and humanitarian situations.

Palliative Care Can Help Break the Cycle of Poverty



Mwesiga and Ahern discussed how palliative care contributes to improving education and employment, thus reducing poverty. Mwesiga described the model of palliative care in Uganda and presented a case study of the Road to Hope program and how palliative care can help break the cycle of poverty for individuals and families. Ahern further discussed the far-reaching impact of palliative care – that it is more than just medical care and when incorporated into the health system, has the ability to create large physical, emotional and social benefits with minimal financial costs.



Do you know someone who might enjoy reading about this partnership and palliative care in Uganda?

Help us spread the word and forward this email to your friends and colleagues! Thank you!

Support Palliative Care in Uganda

PCAU offers support and activities to palliative care providers across Uganda whether through training, consultation or advocacy that enhances their work and personal wellbeing. You can help PCAU provide this support by making a donation to PCAU today!



Donate to the Palliative Care Association of Uganda



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