

PCAU PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

Road to Hope Camp Reinforces Theme of "I Can Do It!"

Roberta Spencer, who has been engaged with the partnership since its inception, recently visited Uganda to once again help with the Road to Hope Camp. The text in italics and green are excerpts from her update emails.

The Road to Hope (RTH) program is an important aspect of PCAU's work. It supports their outreach and empowerment within communities, which is part of the strategic plan. The annual camp and empowerment retreat is a special occasion for the children to gather together and interact with the PCAU team. This year, they were also joined by Denis Kidde and Roberta Spencer, both of whom represented Center for Hospice Care.



The children arrived for camp throughout the day today (February 1). It was so good to see them, and oh, how they have grown and matured. Some are always shy at first, but that does not last long. What a wonderful group!

The theme for this year's camp and retreat was "*I can do it!*" – aimed at inspiring and challenging the children to believe they can succeed in life despite the hardships that surround their lives. The camp, held in collaboration with GEN Uganda, had two objectives: a) equipping the children with self-esteem and decision-making skills and b) exploring approaches on how best to support the young adults after completing vocational school.



Children were organized into three groups: primary school, secondary school and vocational school. Each had targeted training sessions and special facilitators. Mark Mwesiga, PCAU executive director, welcomed the campers at Lweza Training and Conference Center (LTCC). He encouraged the children to utilize the opportunity and learn from their interactions with the camp facilitators.

[Read more about the Road to Hope Children's Camp](#)

More from Roberta's Visit

Text in italics and green are excerpts from emails from Roberta Spencer

Roberta extended her trip by a week from her original plan – there was just too much to do in a short time! She was able to visit some other partners of PCAU in western Uganda and represented CHC/HF on a visit to Mulago School of Nursing and Midwifery, where we work with PCAU to support training the next generation of palliative care nurses in Uganda. Roberta also led a retreat for the PCAU staff which was much appreciated by the team.

Whenever I travel over all these years, I greatly appreciate the drivers for PCAU. How they manage the roads and traffic is amazing. I feel safe! There are so many picture opportunities from the car window as we move along but I feel too much like a tourist taking pictures. I sit back and marvel at the activity and all I see and thank God for this opportunity.



We visited western Uganda – Mbarara, an area I am somewhat familiar with from past travels to Uganda – for training programs, conferences, workshops, etc. We stopped by some land that Mark wanted me to see that was donated to PCAU by someone from the local Rotary Club. It's in a lovely location and looks toward a very green, hilly area. It seemed peaceful. Mark has some ideas for the development of the land, but in the future. Mark is thinking to build hostels for children and their families to stay while getting treatments at nearby health facilities. It would bring some services for children into a much-needed area. Hopes and dreams are so much a part of life in Uganda.



[Read more about Roberta's visit](#)



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!

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT to help us reach the last mile in Uganda!

Thanks to your generous support, we have so far raised 79% of our goal (\$85,000) to help PCAU buy a new vehicle. This cause is very important to PCAU in advancing its mission – crisscrossing Uganda to support hospices, transport Road to Hope children to school and attending government meetings.. all of these are central to PCAU's work.

PCAU's current 2010 Toyota Landcruiser (a donation from USAID in 2010) has now traveled over 270,000 km and is on its last leg. PCAU is in critical need of a new vehicle that will allow them to continue traveling across the country to bring access to palliative care to all in Uganda.

A gift of any amount will help us reach 100% of our goal. To donate, click on below and please know all donations to this fund go directly toward the purchase of a new vehicle for PCAU.



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