

PCAU PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

PCAU Annual General Meeting

PCAU is holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) for members on May 26th at Fairway Hotel in Kampala. Agenda items for attendees, including PCAU staff, board of directors and members include an update on PCAU's 2022 performance report as well as a progress report about palliative care development in Uganda. Stay tuned for a detailed update in the next newsletter!

PCAU's Advocacy Work and the ADPCN Scholarship

The [Advance Diploma in Palliative Care Nursing \(ADPCN\)](#) program is key to building health worker capacity in palliative care and increasing the number of personnel trained in the service in Uganda. The program has helped raise awareness and advance conversations on the importance of palliative care.

Uganda's Ministry of Health recently included positions for palliative care providers in the [newly approved structures](#) at national specialized tertiary health care institutions including the national and all regional referral hospitals, Uganda Cancer Institute and Uganda Heart Institute. Perhaps most significant is the inclusion of these positions at Health Center Level IIIs (HC-IIIs) and Health Center Level IVs (HC-IVs) as well. Uganda has at least 1,569 government HC-IIIs and 222 HC-IVs which will now have specific palliative care positions.



Volunteer Roberta Spencer and PCAU Executive Director Mark Mwesiga with the current cohort of ADPCN students

The government creation of these key positions points to the significance of the ADPCN program. There will now be a demand for qualified palliative care personnel to fill those positions, for which PCAU has advocated for a long time. By approving palliative care positions at lower-level HC-IIIs, which serve sub-counties, palliative care will reach even deeper into communities. This shows that the Ugandan government supports the idea that palliative care needs to be widely available. HC-IIIs supervise community health workers and have jurisdiction over HC-IIs which means they can reach all levels of patients in need – something championed by PCAU for many years.

[Continue reading this story.](#)

Road to Hope Milestones Stephen and Tonny Graduate

Two young adults on the Road to Hope (RTH) program, Stephen and Tonny, recently graduated from university – Stephen with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and Tonny with a Bachelor of Development Studies. These two young men have worked hard; they started out from difficult situations where they were forced to mature beyond their years to care for their sick parents; they have overcome those circumstances and many other challenges to become university graduates!



Stephen, Tonny and Mark Mwesiga



Tonny and Stephen

The [RTH program](#) helps orphaned and/or deprived child caregivers in Uganda receive the education they need to become productive young adults. We have seen this transformation with Stephen and Tonny. Reaching the milestone of a university degree is worth celebrating and is a wonderful example of the success children on the program can achieve. PCAU recently featured a brief update about Stephen's and Tonny's successes in their [newsletter](#).

[Read more about Stephen and Tony](#)

PCAU in *The Guardian*

The daily British newspaper, *The Guardian*, recently featured Uganda's efforts over the last 30 years to enhance the availability of palliative care and increase access to morphine for those in need. Working in collaboration with [Hospice Africa Uganda](#) and other partners, the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU) has been involved in this undertaking for 24 years.

The Guardian article highlights the fact that the life-limiting health conditions that organizations like PCAU (and its stakeholders) deal with are incurable, and that people diagnosed with these conditions greatly benefit from palliation. Unfortunately, there is a lack of morphine – with only an estimated 11% of the 500,000 Ugandans needing palliative care able to access it. Even with this lack of access to morphine, Uganda is a model in terms of palliative care delivery in Africa. The entire article is available [here](#).



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!

Anyone Can be a Road to Hope Sponsor!

The Road to Hope program currently has 20 unsponsored children. Your support can help an orphaned or vulnerable child caregiver in Uganda receive an education and other life skills necessary for them to become flourishing young adults. General donations to the program can be made at the link below. If you are interested in sponsoring a child or want to learn more about the program, contact international programs coordinator [Denis Kidde](#).



Support the Road to Hope Fund



Our Contact Information
 {{Organization Name}}
 {{Organization Address}}
 {{Organization Phone}}
 {{Organization Website}}



{{Unsubscribe}}