

PCAU PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER



Celebrating 25 years
of extending compassion, holistic care, pain relief, hope, and justice to individuals and families in Uganda.

25 Years of Compassion Celebrating PCAU's Legacy and Planning for the Future of Palliative Care in Uganda

This year, the Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU) celebrates 25 years of compassionate, holistic, and accessible palliative care to patients and families across Uganda. Established in 1999, PCAU has played an essential role in building and expanding hospice and palliative care countrywide. The Silver Jubilee theme, "Celebrating 25 Years of Extending Compassion, Holistic Care, Pain Relief, Hope, and Justice to Individuals and Families in Uganda," reflects PCAU's commitment to enhancing quality of life for people with serious illness.

In commemoration of this anniversary, PCAU has planned several events throughout 2024, including webinars, charity activities and a gathering of PCAU Life Members. Celebrations will culminate at a [Gala Dinner](#) on December 6, 2024. These events celebrate PCAU's achievements, strengthen partnerships, build public awareness and mobilize resources. Proceeds from the dinner will support the expansion of specialist palliative care services in 39 underserved districts, where many communities currently lack access to palliative care.



Following morning devotion with chaplain Rev. Emmanuel Kalevala (center), the PCAU staff takes a publicity photo for the 25-year celebration.

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PCAU Presents at the Public Health Palliative Care International Conference in Bern, Switzerland

From October 22-25, 2024, PCAU participated at the [8th Public Health Palliative Care International \(PHPCI\) conference](#) in Bern, Switzerland. This event gathered experts, researchers, and advocates to explore the theme, "Building Bridges Between Science and the People." The conference underscored the importance of community involvement in delivering compassionate care and addressed global challenges related to serious illness, end-of-life care and grief. It emphasized that achieving dignity and compassion in palliative care requires active community support alongside professional medical services.

PCAU made significant contributions through two oral presentations:

- "Strengthening Palliative Care Data Integration in National Health Management Information System (HMIS): The Mobile Health Surveillance Story of Data Driven by Compassion in Uganda" and
- "Improving Access to Palliative Care Services in Uganda through a Health-Promoting Palliative Care Approach: A Case of Mobile Hospice Mbarara"



PCAU's Cynthia Kabagambe presents at the Public Health Palliative Care International conference

Through these presentations, PCAU showcased its impactful work and shared valuable insights into community-based palliative care in Uganda, fostering awareness and collaborative potential among international delegates.

The conference reinforced that involving communities in care enhances support for patients and families. Global partnerships emerged as vital for addressing shared challenges, and integrating palliative care into public health policies can lead to better patient outcomes. PCAU and CHC are linked into the larger [Global Partners in Care \(GPIC\)](#) network, and PCAU is sharing lessons learned from this conference with GPIC. PCAU's participation enabled networking with other institutions for potential collaborations. These relationships will play a crucial role in PCAU's continued efforts to enhance palliative care for all in Uganda and promoting shared learning across borders.

PCAU Launches a New Podcast Series: Amplifying Pain Management in Uganda

In celebration of PCAU's 25th anniversary, the organization has launched an inspiring podcast series, [Amplifying Pain Management in Uganda](#), dedicated to advancing awareness and knowledge about pain management and palliative care. This engaging series provides healthcare professionals, patients and caregivers with firsthand insights from palliative care champions across Uganda and beyond.

Among the recent episodes are interviews with two pioneers in Ugandan palliative care, Rose Kiwanuka, retired founder and former PCAU country director, and retired nurse Martha Rwaboni. In their conversation, Rose and Martha share reflections on the evolution of palliative care in Uganda, the unique challenges of pain management and the profound impact of compassionate care on patients and families. Their insights highlight the journey of palliative care development and emphasize access to pain relief as a fundamental human right.

To hear Rose and Martha's perspectives [click here to watch or listen](#).



Interested in learning more about the important work of PCAU? Visit their [website](#) to discover how they are making a difference in palliative care across Uganda. While you're there, be sure to sign up for their newsletter to stay updated on their latest initiatives and news!

Support the Training of Nurses to Transform Palliative Care in Uganda!

In Uganda, where a majority of people in rural areas rarely meet a doctor, nurses are the backbone of healthcare. By supporting palliative care training for a nurse through the [Advanced Diploma in Palliative Care Nursing \(ADPCN\)](#), you help bring life-changing care closer to those in need.



This specialized one-year course equips nurses to become champions of palliative care, enabling them to establish palliative care units in remote health care facilities. With only 11% of palliative care need being met in Uganda, your support will help close this gap and bring comfort to the lives of many.



Join us in making palliative care accessible to all. Your gift will transform the healthcare landscape, one nurse and one community at a time!

[Support Palliative Care Nurse Training](#)



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