

Partner with **PCAU** to take palliative care to underserved districts in Uganda

Palliative care is the active holistic care of individuals across all ages with serious health-related suffering due to severe illness and especially of those near the end of life. It aims to improve the quality of life of patients, their families and their caregivers.

Palliative Care services were introduced in Uganda in 1993 with the establishment of Hospice Africa Uganda (HAU). The country faced a very high prevalence of pain and other health-related suffering due to the HIV/ AIDs scourge and cancer. By 1999, there were palliative care services in at least one health facility in 34 districts in Uganda. By the end of 2023, at least 107 out of 146 districts had one or more health facilities offering palliative care. Urban areas have a larger share of the at least 300 registered palliative units in the country. Upcountry districts are the most underserved.

By December 2023, there were at least 39 documented districts without a single health facility offering palliative care in Uganda. The districts are inhabited by an estimated 11 Million of the 45.9 million Ugandans. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that for every population 1% need palliative care. An estimated 110,000 people in need of palliative care live in districts without any palliative care unit.

The Palliative Care Association of Uganda (PCAU), which was founded in 1999 remains at the forefront of advocating for the integration of palliative care into the national health care system. During the Silver Jubilee commemorations in 2024, PCAU is seeking partnerships and contributions to support the extension of pain relief and other palliative care services to the most underserved communities.

To cover a large portion of the need, PCAU is appealing to individuals and institutions to contribute towards the target of UGX 250M. All contributions to PCAU will go towards funding activities that yield lasting impact and sustainability.



These are:

Priority Areas of Need

Qualified palliative care providers are a prerequisite for improved palliative care service.

Mentorship and continuous support supervision to improve the competence of service providers and the quality of services.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) enables palliative care providers to have up-to-date Knowledge, skills, and attitudes to offer the best possible care.

Credible palliative care data collection, storage, analysis, reporting, and utilization of the information is important to demonstrate the clinical benefits, to improve the quality of care, and for evidence-based decision-making.

Integrating palliative care services by the lower health facilities in the community improves access, for special categories of patients such as children, people living with disabilities, older people, and those in humanitarian situations.

How PCAU Will Utilize Your Contribution

By the end of 2023, PCAU had offered a total of 164 education scholarships for health workers to attain a Diploma in Clinical Palliative Care, an Advanced Diploma in Palliative Care, and a BSc in Palliative Care since 2008. With your support, PCAU can offer more scholarships to health workers from underserved districts to attain palliative care education.

PCAU works with experienced palliative care experts at national and regional levels to conduct mentorship and support supervision for palliative care teams across the country. Your support will enable PCAU to reach more health facilities.

On average PCAU conducts CME for 600 health care workers annually. PCAU hosts quarterly update meetings and holds focused training sessions on holistic care at health facilities across Uganda. With your support, PCAU will conduct and support more CME.

PCAU has supported efforts to integrate palliative care data into the National Health Management Information System (HMIS). With your support, PCAU will extend training on palliative care data collection to more health facilities. PCAU will also conduct and support more understanding of palliative care research.

PCAU supports palliative care provision and access at the grassroots. The initiatives supported by PCAU include cancer care navigation, the provision of essential medical sundries for the most vulnerable patients, and the promotion of compassionate communities. Your contribution will enable PCAU to support upcountry hospices and palliative care teams to provide services at community and home levels.

To give a financial contribution to PCAU, pay directly through

MTN Momo pay *165*3# Code 315849 (Palliative Care Association of Uganda)

Or deposit to the PCAU Bank Account

Account Number: 8708213487400
Account Name: Palliative Care Association of Uganda

Bank: STANDARD CHARTERED BANK UGANDA LIMITED Swift

Address/Code: SCBLUGKA

For more information on how to partner with PCAU. Contact:

The Executive Director
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To find out about the location of the nearest palliative care provider and health facility in your district, please scan the QR Code to download a copy of the Uganda Palliative Care Provider Directory https://pcauganda.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/PC-Services-Directory.df

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