



Cairdeas International Palliative Care Trust Strategic Vision

AMBITION AND PURPOSE

Our ambition is to build a world that cares, by enabling those with serious health-related suffering to make decisions about their care, have their holistic needs met, not be pushed into poverty nor have their rights violated, but be treated with dignity and respect regardless of where they live, their age or status.

Our purpose is to achieve the integration of high-quality palliative care within some of the world's most resource-constrained, marginalised or excluded communities; and to be a strong advocate to national and regional governments, non-government bodies, educational institutions and community organisations of the fundamental necessity, importance and sustainability of these services.

OUR HORIZON, FOCUS AND INVOLVEMENT

Our horizon is international and looks towards embedding professional skills, an expanding knowledge-base, clinical expertise, leadership and succession planning in the recognition, integration and sustainability of person-centred palliative care services and programmes.

Our focus is on communities in many of the world's most resource-constrained, marginalised or excluded populations, recognising and accepting the inherent risks involved in working in such areas.

Our involvement is in 3 priority domains: pioneering and supporting capacity building (domain 1); building a strong expertise resource bank and training curriculums (domain 2); engaging in research partnerships (domain 3).

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT AND COMMITMENT

- We work with partners to build local capacity to plan, initiate and develop palliative care services centred on the wishes and needs of individuals, families and caregivers.
- We work with partners to build networks of knowledge to foster and enable mutual learning and culturally sensitive local solutions.
- We support the provision of professional training to nurture the development of clinical expertise, leadership and succession planning.
- We create opportunities for partners to engage in research and contribute to the body of knowledge in palliative medicine, nationally and internationally.
- We stand with partners in advocating to national and regional governments, non-governmental organisations, educational institutions and community organisations of the necessity, importance and value of sustainable palliative care programmes and services.

OUR GUIDING BELIEFS

- We are inspired by our Christian faith to help and support our neighbours – whoever they are and wherever they live.
- We are motivated by compassion, faith, justice and the inherent worth of each person.
- We actively work to promote justice and fairness and to protect and safeguard the sick and the vulnerable.
- We commit to promoting the voices of the communities we work with and the people they seek to care for and serve.
- We seek to build relationships and foster partnerships to develop programmes and solutions fashioned around local circumstances.
- We work with others who similarly share and support such values.
- We do not seek to 'badge' or 'brand' our activities, but to celebrate the achievement of a shared vision and goals.

STRATEGIC ASSETS

Our strategic assets include

- our skills and knowledge-base
- our active and established presence internationally
- our commitment and enthusiasm
- our ability to respond quickly and flexibly
- our determination to achieve a successful outcome
- our successful track record
- our internationally acknowledged reputation
- our contribution to the knowledge-base of palliative care services
- our proven ability to utilise and maximise resources to achieve a lot with very little

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Our strategic partners include

- Mehac, India
- Pallium India
- Indian Association for Palliative Care
- Palliative care Education and Research Consortium, Kampala, Uganda
- Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda
- Peace Hospice Adjumani, Uganda
- Comboni College of Science and Technology and Radiation Isotope Cancer Khartoum
- Islamic University of Gaza, Palestine
- Cancer Hospital, Nouakshott, Mauritania
- Global Health Academy
- University of Edinburgh

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Africa

We are continuing our support of the work of the Palliative Care Education and Research Consortium (PcERC) and through them the Mulago and Makerere Palliative Care Unit (MMPCU) as well as Peace Hospice, Adjumani.

Supported by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office's (FCDO) small charities challenge grant, our 'Transform Obonyi and Adjumani' project has now finished but we were able to bring palliative care to refugee and host communities in these remote and difficult to reach districts. We have developed and delivered training for Healthcare Workers, Village Health Teams, Mentors and Family Caregivers. We are also pioneering novel ways to evaluate the impact and assess need. This includes the use of images using a Photovoice tool and a community household needs assessment. Cairdeas gave top up contributions to allow some extension work to complete this project.

Middle East

We continue to work with our partners the Islamic University of Gaza and the Turkish Palestine Friendship Hospital to develop and implement a strategic approach to the integration of palliative care within Gaza. We work with a wide stakeholder group led by the Gaza steering group for palliative care and regular consultation with WHO. Our achievements include continuing to offer a 5-day palliative care course for 130 undergraduate medical students and ongoing support for access to oral morphine with the ministry of pharmacy. We have launched the diploma in Palliative Care and pain management with 25 trainees from major hospitals in Gaza.

India

We have continued to support the work of our partners in Kerala to develop PalliCOVID, a free online training course, to support health care workers seeing patients with comorbidity and COVID19. This was delivered through an ECHO platform by Pallium India. Pallium India's vision is an India in which palliative care is integrated into all health care so that every person has access to effective pain relief and quality palliative care along with disease-specific treatment and across the continuum of care. Our Medical Director is one of the Faculty leads.

Aspects of our work – supporting an impact assessment – was accepted for presentation by the European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC)

We attended and presented at the Indian Association of Palliative Care's (IAPCON) international conference, held virtually from Patna in Bihar.

Our Medical Director is contributing to modules launched by The Indian Chest Society, to integrate palliative care within clinical competencies.

Small Scholarships fund

Each year, we award individuals and groups, mostly in Uganda, small grants of around £5000 to expand their knowledge and experience through relevant training. Another small grant, passed on from a Scottish Church, enabled health workers in Kampala to continue to visit their patients during the worst of the Covid lockdowns.

OPPORTUNITIES WE ARE HELPING TO CREATE

We are pioneering the introduction and development of the first specialist accredited Palliative Care Fellowship Programme in sub-Saharan Africa. This is a collaborative venture with the East, Central and Southern African College of Physicians, the Royal College of Physicians UK and other key UK partners. The programme will directly address the current gap within Uganda for medical professionals with advanced clinical knowledge and the leadership skills and professional competencies to respond to the growing needs of people with multi-morbidity and complex needs. The programme will also facilitate high-quality research in palliative care and strengthen the advocacy to policymakers of the need to integrate palliative care within local health facilities.

We are taking forward partnership commitments to develop

- training at undergraduate, postgraduate and community levels and support for a new cancer hospital palliative care programme, in Gaza
- a leadership programme, in Believer's Church Medical College Hospital India
- the integration of palliative care in humanitarian aid situations and emergencies, through the PallCHASE which is a global organisation to build a network for palliative care and humanitarian actors and is hosted by the Global Health Academy, University of Edinburgh.

Under the leadership of our Medical Director, we are planning to develop the capacity, diversity and skills-set of our Cairdeas Faculty to expand our reach and impact. This will enable us to draw in a wide range of individuals with the specific skills needed to support and develop specific projects and programmes, thereby increasing the number and range of initiatives we can help, encourage, support and sustain at any one time.

We have a range of proposals for which funding is required. We also remain alert for project-based initiatives, whether large or small, in any or all of our priority domains that will increase the availability, scope and sustainability of palliative care services.

We are prepared to work where the need is great, but the resource is small; the desire to care for others is strong, but services require support to grow; and where the worth of the individual is valued with dignity, respect and their right to life.

JANUARY 2023

North Star Strategy

This strategy has been developed using the model of the 'North Star Strategy'. This is based on the nautical concept that the North Star is a fixed point in the sky which, regardless of your place in the world, will unwaveringly be shining from the north.

This means that in moments of uncertainty, there is always something which you can reliably use to navigate, and calibrate the course of your direction. It serves as a constant guide, and a reminder of where you wish to be heading.