



# THE 6TH KEHPCA NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE CONFERENCE

THEME: PALLIATIVE CARE THROUGH THE  
INCLUSIVITY LENS



## My Child Matters (MCM)- Kenya Children's Palliative Care

PRESENTED BY

Esther Muinga, KEHPCA



# Strengthening Children's Palliative Care (CPC) in Kenya for children with cancer and other PC needs

## The WAWA Project - Wana Watunzwe

*(Let the child be cared for)*

- Start Date July 2023
- End Date June 2026
- Working with the MOH, palliative care specialists, paediatric teams, patients & families, community teams

Within existing structures



**My child**  
*matters*

## **Overall Project Goal**

To improve access to sustainable Children's Palliative Care (CPC) services in Kenya for children with cancer and other PC needs.



# STRATEGY

- The project work will align with the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer, increasing access, advancing quality, saving lives (WHO Cure All Framework), national cancer strategic plan 2023-2028 and PC policy



# Objective 1

- Improved skills, knowledge and confidence in CPC through training and availability of resources on CPC for HCP.
- Establish a CPC Centre of Learning (CPCCL) - central repository and hub to support the development and improved access to CPC services across the country
- HCPs linked together over the three years and will continue to be engaged and supported through online training, mentorship and contextually appropriate resources to sustain their interest, growth and support of CPC



# Objective 2

- Policy gap analysis and roadmap developed in partnership with the MoH to create supportive policies and regulation of CPC.
  - Human rights approach evidence base
  - Influencing policy and national programming for CPC



# Objective 3

- New public conversation due to increased public health awareness of CPC through behavior change communication (BCC) interventions.
- addressing myths and misconception of paediatric oncology and CPC while encouraging early diagnosis and care
- IEC materials



# TARGET FACILITIES

- KNH, MTRH, KTRH, extended facilities attending to children experiencing serious health related suffering

## OUTPUTS

CPC training curricula

100 HCP trained + mentorship

CPC Center of learning

Policy gap analysis report

BCC materials

5000 patients and community members reached





# Milestones

- Jun 2024 Completion of self-paced **online** CPC course work by HCPs
- Sept 2024 Policy gap analysis completed in collaboration with MoH
- Dec 2024 BCC programming strategy completed
- Jun 2025 Completion of intensive one-year CPC training program along with mentorship structure & gap analysis report dissemination completed
- Dec 2025 Implementation framework for MoH engagement published & disseminated BCC programming



# YOUR FEEDBACK ON CHILDREN'S PALLIATIVE CARE

<https://rb.gy/r99nrf>

CHILDREN'S PALLIATIVE CARE



## AREAS FOR FURTHER LEARNING

Home based care transitioning for pediatric patients

The development of a better linkage in palliative care

Keeping the children pain free

Analgesic dosing in paediatrics (including opioid dosing).

Psychological support for patients

Why palliative care is appropriate at any stage of serious illness and its positive impacts on patients and caregivers

Breaking of bad news

Communication with children

Anticipatory bereavement counselling for child and care givers

Bereavement counselling

How to conduct memorial days

How to conduct red carpet and ringing of the bell ceremonies

Non- pharmacological intervention techniques

Child Life Support in PPC

Family centered care in PPC

The challenges of caregiver in palliative care

End of life care



# NEXT STEPS

2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Challenges and opportunities for CPC in Kenya / Perceptions of caregivers in CPC/ experience sharing by HCP (have key questions discussed in assigned groups and give feedback)	Dr. Michael McNeil/ Laura Dale-Harris & All facilitators
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<https://foundation-s-mychildmatters.opendatasoft.com/pages/kenya-project/>



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# THANK YOU!



**KEHPCA**  
Kenya Hospices and Palliative Care Association

partnering  
educating  
advocating  
palliative care  
for all