



**BUILDcare Africa:
call for African palliative care
research grant applications**

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BuildCARE Africa

This strategic programme aims to build palliative care research capacity in sub-Saharan Africa, by focusing on academic and project-based skills development in an international research partnership. BUILDcare Africa operates in tandem with GLOBALcare, a collaborative research training programme that develops leaders in Ireland, UK, USA and Vietnam.

BUILDcare Africa has achieved a number of objectives to date. In 2015 we successfully recruited the BUILDcare Africa PhD scholar, and the Sir Halley Stewart African MSc scholar. In 2016 we delivered a research methods seminar at the APCA Conference, attended by around 80 delegates, and taught by African researchers using a variety of methods illustrated by locally-led studies.

We are now launching the next stage of the programme- up to 4 research grants each to a maximum of £10,000. These must be conducted locally in sub-Saharan Africa, and you will receive mentorship from King's College London.

The successful winners of these competitive awards will then participate in the next phase of the programme, teaching research methods in research workshops in Africa alongside the BUILDcare Africa scholars.

The Cicely Saunders Institute

King's College London is listed as one of the top 25 universities in the world by the Times Higher Education Supplement with a distinguished reputation in research which supports and informs the highest level of teaching. It is also one of the largest providers of healthcare education in Europe. The Institute is the world's only purpose-built Institute dedicated to palliative care www.csi.kcl.ac.uk It has a reputation as a world-leading research institute with a broad ranging research output. The mission of the Institute established in her name is to pioneer the very best in palliative care and rehabilitation by integrating:

- *Cutting-edge research* - committed to building new knowledge and discovering new treatments through world-leading ethical and robust clinical, applied and health services research.
- *Skilled multi-professional care* - delivering top-quality evidence-based clinical care and support to patients and carers, for life and living, and death and dying.
- *Innovation in engagement and education* - to embed change in policy and practice nationally and internationally, engage with patients and public, and inspire tomorrow's leaders in the field from around the world.

This mission seeks to enable ethical and robust research to quickly feed into care and practice, improving palliative care and enabling people to live better, with dignity and the least possible suffering.

In recent years, through successful models partnership with colleagues in Africa (1) we have pioneered the emerging research field of Global Health Palliative Care (2). BUILDcare Africa will enable us to further build capacity and local expertise through peer-to-peer networks within Africa and between Africa/UK.

Call for research grant applications

This competitive scheme will enable 4 promising individuals from any sub-Saharan African country with the most original ideas to be funded to conduct original research in their own setting. They will be selected on individual excellence, importance of topic, and robustness of plan. They will be mentored by KCL and the African Palliative Care Research Network, and also networked with the BUILDcare Africa PhD fellow. The mentorship will be from development of protocol, through ethics, data collection, analysis and writing for publication.

How to apply

Eligibility: We welcome applications from individuals with any professional background. We can only consider applications with a research aim (we cannot fund other activities such as service delivery, course fees etc).

Project format: We welcome research ideas from any area that is relevant to improving palliative care in Africa. Studies should be completed within 18 months of starting.

Funding: Funds will be transferred in tranches on successful meeting of study milestones. Co-funding is welcome. The funding limit from this scheme is £10,000 per successful applications, and we can fund up to 4 applications. All budget costings should be in UK £ sterling. Costs can only be requested for direct research activities. We cannot pay any indirect costs.

Expectations: The candidate will be expected to work closely with BUILDcare Africa staff and fellows, including those at KCL and within Africa, and to deliver training within the BUILDcare Africa teaching programme. These teaching activities are separately funded and should not be costed within your research budget. The successful grantee will be expected to participate in regular communication with KCL. They will be mentored by KCL and the African Palliative Care Research Network, and also networked with the PhD fellow. The mentorship will be from development of protocol, through local ethical approval, data collection, analysis and writing for publication. All grantees should note that final publication in a peer-review journal is an expectation of the award.

Review of applications: The applications will be reviewed by a grant panel at KCL. Scoring will reflect our priorities of most promising individuals with demonstrated commitment to palliative care, original idea, strong research plan, and potential to impact locally through the research findings and ability to locally mentor after the study is complete. We will also seek to ensure that the grantees represent a diversity of country, gender and profession.

How to apply: Please complete all sections of the application form. We cannot return incomplete forms for further clarification. Please do not exceed the limit of 4 pages- we cannot accept any applications that go over this length. It is up to you how you allocated the available space (each box will expand) but please be mindful that we will need enough detail about your proposed research to make our funding decision. We advise that you use all 4 pages. Your application should be accompanied by a letter of support (where appropriate) that confirms your employer/facility will support your research (through time release, access to study participants, clinical records) if you are successful and subject to the required ethical approvals. Completed applications must be submitted to Charlotte Wood (BUILDcare Africa Administrator) by email to ea-richardharding@kcl.ac.uk by the closing date of Tuesday

January 31st 2017 5pm (UK time). We cannot accept any applications after this time. If you have any queries regarding this call or the application procedure, please contact Charlotte Wood ea-richardharding@kcl.ac.uk

Checklist (not for submission)

- Completed application maximum 4 sides
- Supporting letter
- Budget in £ sterling

1. Harding R, Namisango E, Radbruch L, Katabira ET. How to Establish Successful Research Partnerships in Global Health Palliative Care. *J Pain Symptom Manage*. 2016.
2. Harding R, Higginson IJ. Inclusion of end-of-life care in the global health agenda. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2014;2(7):e375-6.

BUILDcare Africa: Palliative care research grants scheme application form

Personal details			
Name	Address,	Email/website	Telephone
Brief education history:		Current employer/brief job history:	
Personal statement: <i>Please summarise your personal commitment to palliative care, research, and your future goals. (we want to know why you are applying for a research grant, to get an understanding of your personal commitment to palliative care, and what difference this support might make for you and the field of palliative care in your country).</i>			
Research Proposal			
Back ground to your proposal <i>Please summarise the background to the topic you want to address (we want to know why you have chosen this specific topic in palliative care, why it matters, why research is needed, what difference this might make, and to know what other research has been done in this area)</i>			
Your question <i>(what is it you want to find out)</i>			
Your aim <i>(we want to know what it is exactly that this study will do)</i>			
Your type of method you will use <i>(what type of study is it, and why have you chosen this method?)</i>			
The country and population of people you will study <i>(where will it be conducted, who will be your participants?)</i>			

What local ethical approval and/or Governance process will you have to secure to do this research?

Recruitment (where will you get your participants and how?)

Data collection (what will you collect, how often?)

Analysis (what will you do with the data?)

Dissemination (what will you do with your findings?)

Timetable (please show us the planned timelines for completing this study)

Has any preparatory work (like literature reviews, initial pilot studies, small scale investigations to inform this application, stakeholder meetings) already been done towards this proposed study?

Budget £ (specify every cost and the total you are asking for \$ sterling, please note costs in kind being provided)

References (if you are shortlisted, who could we approach for a reference?)