



Charter for Recipient's of funding for Palliative Care Services

WHO Definition of Palliative Care

Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual. Palliative care:

- provides relief from pain and other distressing symptoms;
- affirms life and regards dying as a normal process;
- intends neither to hasten or postpone death;
- integrates the psychological and spiritual aspects of patient care;
- offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death;
- offers a support system to help the family cope during the patients illness and in their own bereavement;
- uses a team approach to address the needs of patients and their families, including bereavement counselling, if indicated;
- will enhance quality of life, and may also positively influence the course of illness;
- is applicable early in the course of illness, in conjunction with other therapies that are intended to prolong life, such as chemotherapy or radiation therapy, and includes those investigations needed to better understand and manage distressing clinical complications.



Purpose

This charter is designed to clarify the relationship between donor and recipient. By ensuring both parties are aware of the other's priorities and objectives, we hope to increase the sustainability of funding and improve donor's successful meeting of objectives.

- Donors should be aware of the recipient's need to plan their finances and therefore keep to agreed time lines.
- Recipients should be aware of the donor's need to meet their objectives
- Recipients and donors should be clear in the description of the activities on which they focus, using recognised and standard definitions, for example the WHO definition of palliative care detailed above.
- The recipient must ensure that they have received and understood a clear outline of the donor's objectives before accepting funding, and be prepared to show the donor what they have 'bought', i.e. treatment of a particular group of patients, or the establishment of a community health programme in a certain geographic area.
- Recipients should encourage donors to visit their organisation before a funding decision is made. This will enable the donor to better appreciate the recipient's objectives, and give the recipient an opportunity to show a case for receiving more general funding, or funding in a slightly different area.
- Recipients should be happy to set conditions on who they will receive funding from and under what conditions. If a donor is setting impractical restrictions on what their funding can be used for, the recipient is advised to look carefully at how they could effectively meet the donor's objectives if they were to accept the funding, without allowing the donor to unduly influence their operations.
- Where it is appropriate, recipients should make it clear to donors that when funding is given for a particular area, e.g. provision of morphine for pain relief in HIV/AIDS patients, there may be some cross over into other areas such as pain relief for cancer sufferers. Donors should also realise that it is not always practical or possible to separate some areas exactly.
- Recipients should establish an evaluation process with their donor before funding is granted. This will enable both parties to measure and demonstrate the success of that funding in meeting their objectives to their respective stakeholders.
- Recipients must be prepared to demonstrate to donors how the purchase of goods from their local community can further benefit the donor's target recipients, rather than sending goods in from the donor's home market.
- Recipients must make donors aware of the scope of services they provide which need funding, perhaps being prepared to demonstrate how a particular area can be seen to benefit the donor's target recipient.
- Recipients should be able to demonstrate to all current and potential donors what funding they have previously received under what conditions, and where it was spent. This will prove their ability to meet their donors' objectives, making potential donors more likely to offer funding, and will also highlight areas of their service where funding is needed.
- Recipients and donors should be aware of the ethical use of images and case studies in promoting their work.