

PHASE 2 Gold Care Africa Sept 2026

INFORMATION SHEET

A training programme for frontline staff, supported by the Andrew Rodger Trust

Prof Keri Thomas OBE in association with APCA.

<https://www.gsfinternational.org.uk/goldcareafrika>

Invitation to Apply

Applications are invited from a limited number of hospitals across Africa to participate in the **Gold Care Africa Phase 2 Pilot Programme**, commencing in **March 2027**.

Building on more than 25 years of experience with the Gold Standards Framework (GSF) in the UK, and on the learning gained from the Gold Care Africa Phase 1 pilot sites, this programme focuses on enabling, upskilling and empowering frontline generalist teams caring for people in the final year of life.

Working in partnership with APCA, Gold Care Africa supports healthcare teams to develop practical palliative and end-of-life care skills, improve patient outcomes, and strengthen coordinated care across their organisations.

TIMESCALE 2006-7

Expression of interest Autumn 2026, Zoom discussions, Application Dec 20th, final with signatures Jan 15th, shortlisting by end Jan, interviews Feb 27, programme starts March 27.

About Gold Care Africa

Gold Care Africa provides a structured, supported, step-by-step approach to developing the palliative and end-of-life care skills of the frontline generalist workforce, working in partnership with specialist teams, adapting to local needs and contexts.

Gold Care Africa is a practical Quality Improvement programme. Through QI training, resources, sharing of learning, and tailored metrics, the programme improve the practical skills, confidence and day-to-day work of the frontline workforce. This complements the work of palliative care specialists, to impact the care of a larger numbers of patients nearing the end of life.

It is a very practical programme, measuring 'what you do' rather 'what you know'- i.e. impact and outcomes. The key aims are more **proactive, person-centred coordinated care** for people with any condition in the last year of life, given by the frontline generalist teams i.e.

- **More proactive care** by earlier identification of patients in the final year of life
- **More person-centred care** by advance care planning discussions and holistic assessment
- **Better coordinated care** with more support for people to live well and die well, more support for their family, greater spiritual support, after death and bereavement care.

The programme includes all you need to implement radical change on the ground, and is offered **FREE OF CHARGE** to successful candidates, through the charity The Andrew Rodger Trust and contributions from volunteer mentors.

For more information on Phase 1 findings, feedback, impact, articles and films please visit the [Gold Care webpage](#)

Context

Most people approaching the end of life are cared for by frontline generalist healthcare teams. At the same time, many specialist palliative care services across Africa are overstretched and unable to reach everyone who could benefit from quality care at the end of their lives. The Gold Standards Framework has been successfully used by thousands of frontline healthcare teams across the UK in hospitals, primary care, social care and community settings. See [GSF Hospital in UK](#). Gold Care Africa adapts this proven approach for African healthcare contexts, along with learning from the Phase 1 pilot, with flexibility for local innovation and development.

The programme, which would normally cost many thousands of pounds to deliver, is provided free of charge to participating sites. In addition, successful sites will receive access to training resources, implementation support and a small seed-fund grant for backfill training of staff and expenses.

The aim is to focus on areas of unmet need, through the training of the generalist workforce in areas where palliative care can't usually reach. By empowering more frontline generalists at the bedside, through specific training in palliative and end of life for generalist providers, more people can receive high quality care at the end of life.

It is estimate that 30% of UK hospital patients are in the last year of life (Clarke 2014) yet many receive suboptimal care. Therefore, we seek to work initially in hospital general medical wards or other settings, working alongside the palliative care teams where available, focusing on upskilling the frontline care provider nearest the patient, providing care for people in their final year of life.

Programme Aims

The programme aims to:

- Address unmet need by strengthening palliative and end-of-life care skills within frontline generalist healthcare teams.
- Increase access to high-quality care for more people previously missed in their final year
- Support generalist teams working at the frontline with little specialist support.
- Promote partnership working and teamworking with healthcare providers, chaplains etc
- Develop practical skills and measurable changes in care delivery.
- Focus on outcomes and impact, measuring not only what staff know, but what they do differently in practice.
- The 5 stage process delivers more proactive, person-centred and coordinated care for more people in the final year of life, given by the frontline teams.

What We Offer

Successful participating sites will receive:

Training

- Free online training programme.
- Educational tools and implementation resources.

- Adapted quality improvement and evaluation metrics.

Implementation Support

- Ongoing support throughout the programme.
- Individual mentoring and coaching support where required.
- Access to expertise from GSF faculty, UK colleagues and invited guest experts.
- Shared experience from those who have previously undertaken this work in Africa

Evaluation and Research

- Participation in a comparative evaluation and research study.
- Opportunities to contribute to presentations and publications arising from the project.

Learning and Networking

- Opportunity to share learning, experience and innovations with participating sites.
- Sharing of best practice in areas of expertise of others eg community care , spiritual care
- Participation in a Gold Care Africa Symposium.

Sustainability and Innovation

- Embedding Gold Care for long term use and extension to other wards and communities
- Support to develop locally relevant innovations within an Africa context
- Ensure long term sustainability of this model of care.

Seed-Fund Grant

A one-off grant administered through APCA to support staff backfill and travel expenses related to the programme and Symposium.

Grant value: Up to **£4,000 (approximately USD \$5,000)** per participating site.

Applicant Requirements -criteria for application

What we ask of you. We are looking for hospital teams that:

- **Interest and excitement** Hospital teams interested in this pioneering pilot, with enthusiasm to innovate locally, keen to develop new approaches to quality end of life care in your hospital /community
- **Commitment** for the duration, to attend monthly webinars x 8 and Symposium , and your local Gold Care team meetings between workshops
- **Suitability** Two wards / hospital – preferably general medical wards (not only palliative/hospices) where impact of training generalists is maximised.

- **Evaluations** Willing to submit homework action plan tasks between workshops, baseline and follow up evaluations as part of research, with support from your senior team/board.
- **Gold Care Africa project lead**, deputy and 1-2 champions from each ward
- **Longterm vision** Work to self-sustaining, embedded, extended Gold Care in your area.
- **Support.** Confirmed support from the medical team involved, hospital Board and if possible local WHO /local government partnership body confirming support for pilot
- **Willingness to share your ideas, findings and results** with others and refine next stages.

Programme Timeline (2026-2027/8)

- September-November 2026: Expressions of Interest
- October-November 2026: Introductory Zoom discussions
- 20 December 2026: Application deadline
- 15 January 2027: Final applications with signatures and named Leads due
- End of January 2027: Shortlisting
- February 2027: Interviews
- March 2027: Programme commencement

Further Information

For more details of

- Gold Care Phase 2 - Flyer, films, presentations and learning from Phase 1 see Gold Care Africa [here](#)
- For information on the Andrew Rodger Trust charity and other work in Africa [see here](#)
- For other GSF international work see [GSF International](#) ,
- For GSF UK work [see here](#)

Any queries

- contact support admin@gsfinternational.org.uk, Keri Thomas Keri.thomas@gsfcentre.co.uk
- Or APCA Lead, Eve Namisango eve.namisango@africanpalliativecare.org or Dayo at oladayo.afolabi@africanpalliativecare.org or patricia.batanda@africanpalliativecare.org

We look forward to hearing from you

Keri, Megan and the Gold Care Team.