

## New Partnerships in Public Health in Bhutan!



This month, we are excited to share that the [University of California San Francisco](#) (UCSF) is our newest partner in Bhutan! The [Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan](#) (KGUMSB), Bhutan's only medical university, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with UCSF to work together to build public health capacity in Bhutan. Through this new partnership, we carried out two health workshops in Bhutan.

**Palliative Care Workshop for Nurses**--The palliative care workshop, organized by the KGUMSB faculty of Nursing and Public Health, addressed medical care of patients living with life-threatening and chronic illnesses. Dr. Anuradha Banerjee, a pediatric neuro-oncologist and UCSF faculty member, led the workshop to share knowledge and skills related to palliative care. Twenty-eight Bhutanese nurses and health-care providers participated in the training, which involved interactive sessions, discussions, and case scenario and role play of clinical cases using diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for commonly encountered problems. For most Bhutanese nurses, this was an introduction to palliative care.

**Bhutan Health Journal Trainings**--The *Bhutan Health Journal* (BHJ), Bhutan's first scientific medical journal, organized a three-day scientific-manuscript-writing workshop. UCSF faculty member Dr. William McFarland and professors from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences facilitated the three-day workshop in Thimphu, Bhutan. Forty-five Bhutanese health providers learned how to organize and develop a scientific journal article and were encouraged to submit their papers to medical journals.

Dr. Karma Tenzin, Deputy Executive Editor of the *Bhutan Health Journal* and lecturer at KGUMSB, said that the series of trainings conducted by the journal have resulted in a pool of professional health researchers, authors, and expert reviewers in Bhutan. He also said that the *Bhutan Health Journal* recruits young graduates as assistant editors, thereby grooming the future generation who will take care of the scientific process of the journal in Bhutan. Dr. Karma added that the *Bhutan Health Journal* would not have achieved this level of success without the generous support of the Bhutan Foundation and international partners.

**Video Interview with Dr. McFarland**--For Dr. William McFarland, Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCSF, this was his fourth trip facilitating trainings in Bhutan. Dr. McFarland is also on the editorial board of the *Bhutan Health Journal*. Here is a video interview with Dr. McFarland during his April 2017 trip to Bhutan:



**Addressing Public Health Needs in Bhutan--**One of Bhutan's biggest challenges is how it will be able to sustain free health care and develop health policies that are supported by research. The Bhutan Foundation works in partnership with the Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences (KGUMSB) to build capacity of health workers and create a platform for health research. In particular, the Bhutan Foundation supported the establishment of the *Bhutan Health Journal* and continues to support public health research trainings in areas such as methodology, research ethics, and scientific manuscript writing. The Foundation also supports pilot studies to launch young investigators in new lines of research in Bhutan. Currently, there are 12 ongoing public health research studies funded by the Bhutan Foundation.

## Here's a brief overview of our support to address public health needs in Bhutan.

### THE TRAINING



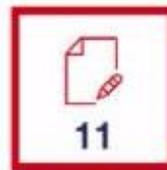
**6**  
BHUTANESE FACULTY  
TRAINED AT YALE  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH



**100+**  
HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS  
TRAINED IN  
SCIENTIFIC-PAPER  
WRITING



**50+**  
HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS  
TRAINED TO REVIEW  
MANUSCRIPTS



**11**  
HEALTH PROVIDERS  
TRAINED AS EDITORS  
FOR THE BHUTAN  
HEALTH JOURNAL

### THE RESEARCH



**15**

ARTICLES PUBLISHED

**5**

CASE REPORTS  
PUBLISHED

**3**

VIEWPOINTS  
PUBLISHED

**Please help us support public health research in Bhutan!**

## SUPPORT NEEDED



**\$100**

SUPPORTS  
PRINTING OF 1  
HEALTH  
JOURNAL



**\$250**

SUPPORTS 1  
PERSON TO  
ATTEND  
RESEARCH  
TRAINING



**\$500**

PROMOTES  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
DISCOURSE



**\$1000**

FUNDS 1  
HEALTH  
RESEARCH  
GRANT

**TAKE ACTION, DONATE TODAY!**

CONNECT  
WITH US:



SEND TO A COLLEAGUE:



**Bhutan Foundation (Washington, DC)**

3121 South Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20007  
+1 (202) 609 7363

[info@bhutanfound.org](mailto:info@bhutanfound.org)

**Bhutan Foundation (Thimphu)**

Nazhoen Pelri, Post Box 1918  
Thimphu, Bhutan  
+975 (2) 322751

[phuntscho.namgay@bhutanfound.org](mailto:phuntscho.namgay@bhutanfound.org)