



28 March 2020

Dear APHN members

As the whole world becomes engulfed in this crisis caused by COVID-19, the APHN has been trying to work out how we can support our members.

Many of us have been in touch through the various WhatsApp groups linking participants of APHN projects, and we have been hearing some of the needs of our members.

We have also been keeping an eye on what international and regional palliative care organisations have put up as resources linked to the COVID-19 situation.

We do not want to duplicate those efforts provided by much better resourced organisations. Hence we will provide links to those resources.

But we have noticed gaps, and this is what we hope to bridge in the set of resources we are launching on the APHN website. We hope to provide a space for Asian voices: resources that will inform, encourage and maintain the solidarity of our community.

We will not try to be ambitious, as most of us have many fires to fight.

Trudy at the APHN secretariat [aphn@aphn.org](mailto:aphn@aphn.org) will be the link point for receiving any good resources you may have come across that you think would be helpful to others in APHN.

Dr Shirlynn Ho, chair of the APHN Communications Committee, and her group of helpers will help to vet the items, weed out fake news, sort out copyright issues, and they will be the general gatekeeper before anything is put up on the website.

We welcome news and updates of what is happening in your countries. So many of us share similar burdens and we have so much to learn from one another. I sometimes tell my patients, "A burden shared is a burden halved." So please send in your situation updates.

As we look ahead into the darkness, let us renew the bonds that keep us together. Let us allow our shared humanity to keep us on the path of faith, as we serve our patients whose needs are so much greater than ours.

May God protect and sustain us in our joint mission!

Dr Cynthia Goh

Chair, Asia Pacific Hospice Palliative Care Network