

Social capital and community participation

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We need more palliative care, says Vatican

[Ary Waldir Ramos Diaz](#) | Feb 28, 2018

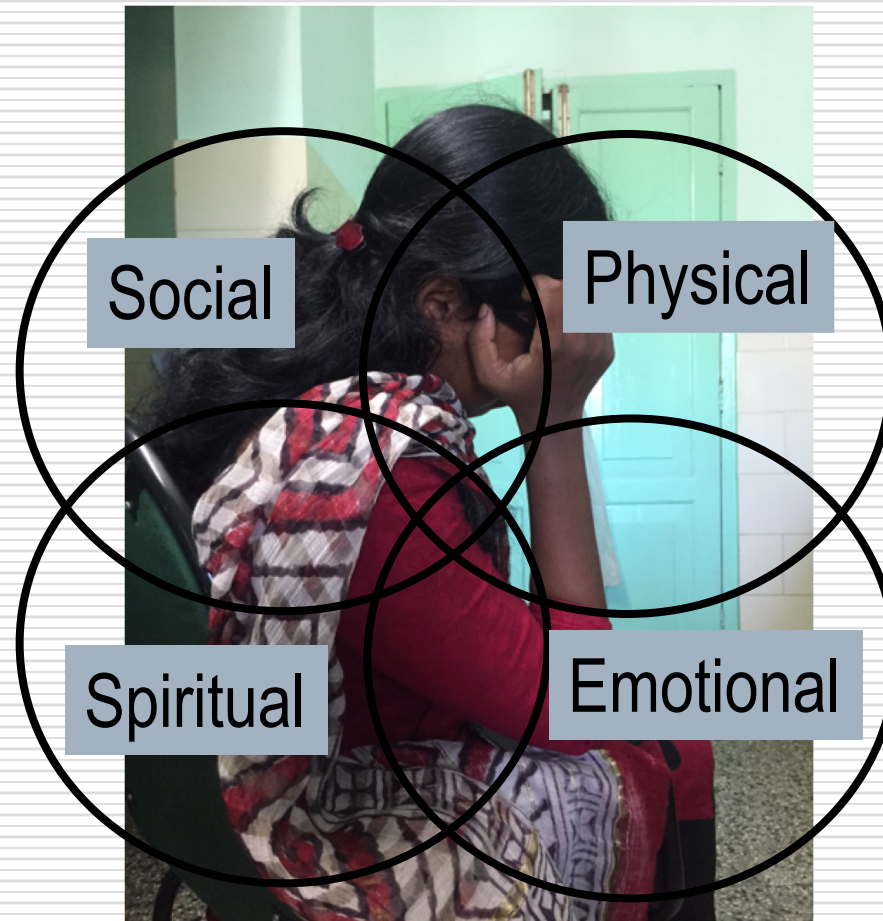
Papal message appeals that we "not abandon the sick" and accompany them "in the difficult trial that presents itself at the end of life."



Elements of health-related suffering



Elements of health-related suffering



The relevance of social capital



Micro



Macro

The relevance of social capital



Micro



Meso



Macro

The elements of the social capital - volunteers



Care: A right. A responsibility.



Facilitation of community involvement - the process

- ❑ Awareness program.
- ❑ Meeting of the interested.
- ❑ Volunteers' training program.
- ❑ Formation of an organization.
- ❑ Registration of the organization.
- ❑ Periodic review (with umbrella organization, if there is one).



More than 300 community-based organizations in Kerala



Care reaches her in her home including free medicines



Support for children's education: Kids' Collective



The essential collaboration

- ❑ “Meso” element of the social capital
- ❑ Public –NGO partnership
- ❑ Integration of palliative care in tertiary centers –referral hospitals, Medical Colleges etcetera.

The negatives

- ❑ Palliative care is seen as only a community activity; most hospitals are yet to embrace it.
- ❑ Potential threat: vested interests in the community.

It is all about enabling that smile!



Photo: Tom Price

It all this relevant only to low income countries?



Photo: Tom Price