

# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **ACCLAIMED DOCUMENTARY *DEATH IS BUT A DREAM* RECEIVES NATIONWIDE DISTRIBUTION**

*Scheduled on April 15 and 16, film will be distributed by WORLD Channel, available to more than 70 percent of all U.S. television households*

*Film explores the dying experience through the perspective of patients, with research led by Dr. Christopher Kerr, MD, PhD – physician, author and CEO at Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo*

Buffalo, NY, April 12, 2021 – This week, acclaimed documentary *Death Is But a Dream* will take nationwide viewers on a journey that examines the process of dying through the perspective of patients. Distributed by WORLD Channel, originally PBS World, the one-hour program features the work of [Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo](#) chief executive officer Dr. Christopher Kerr, MD, PhD and his research team, who have spent nearly a decade applying a scientific approach to better understand the dying experience which includes non-physical, inner processes such as end of life dreams and visions.

[WORLD Channel](#) is a multicast 24/7 channel that explores the issues and personal stories that shape our world, with a focus on the best of public media in news, documentaries and programming. It is carried by 176 member stations in markets representing more than 70 percent of U.S. television households. The documentary has also been distributed through the National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA) to more than 30 additional stations nationwide.

This documentary film, by J.J. Sicotte and Monica De La Torre, features compelling firsthand accounts from dying patients, who, at the end of life, often recall the best parts of having lived and mattered – through conversations or dreams. Their words do not deny the reality of death, but instead affirm life through stories of love and meaning. These testimonials connect to the research of Dr. Kerr's team, whose work is informed by seven published studies and more than 1,400 unique conversations, many of which have been filmed.

The WORLD Channel premiere follows the documentary's successful February 2021 debut in Western New York and Southern Ontario. Publicity behind *Death Is But a Dream* has also gained steady momentum. The documentary is based on a book by the same name, coauthored by Dr. Kerr and released in February 2020 and now distributed in 10 countries and languages. His team's work has also received a national spotlight through his guest lecture at the [End Well](#) "Take 10" conference (December 2020), and a feature in Episode 5 of Netflix's docuseries, [Surviving Death](#) – which launched in January 2021. Dr. Kerr's [TEDxBuffalo talk](#) on this subject has received more than 3.4 million YouTube views.

"We are honored that WORLD Channel selected *Death Is But a Dream*, so that viewers across the country can hear the remarkable stories of these patients and their families who share their personal insights at life's end in ways that are rich in comfort, love and meaning," said Dr. Kerr. "The widespread response to our research suggests that end of life needs to be acknowledged as more than medical failure. Rather, it is the closing of a life and ultimately a human, rather than a medical, experience. Through the *Death Is But a Dream* documentary, we hope that the words of the dying continue to be heard and that they matter."

A native of Southern Ontario, Dr. Kerr, alongside Dr. Pei Grant, leads the interdisciplinary research team at Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo in a wide range of research endeavors in an effort to improve the quality of care for seriously ill patients and their loved ones.

**WORLD Channel will premiere *Death Is But a Dream* on Thursday, April 15 at 9 p.m. ET and re-air it on Friday, April 16 at 2 a.m. ET and 10 a.m. ET.** Participating markets are located in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

For complete information on local listings across the country, and to see whether it is available in your area, visit [WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org) or check the program schedule of your local public television affiliate.

For more information about *Death Is But a Dream* and the research, or how to connect and share a personal experience, visit [drchristopherkerr.com](http://drchristopherkerr.com).

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#### **About Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo**

Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo (HPCB) cares for individuals suffering from serious illness, as well as their families and caregivers. HPCB provides an integrative, holistic (physical, emotional, social, and spiritual) approach to care that focuses on the whole person, rather than on individual symptoms, to enhance quality-of-life. HPCB's knowledgeable, compassionate staff helps patients make choices about their care, supports caregivers and loved ones, and embraces those who face overwhelming grief and loss. HPCB is a nonprofit organization serving over 1,000 patients and families in Erie County every day.

#### **About WORLD Channel**

WORLD shares the best of public media in news, documentaries and programming. WORLD's original series examine the issues and amplify the voices of those often ignored by mainstream media. The multicast 24/7 channel helps audiences understand conflicts, movements and cultures from around the globe. Its original work has won a Peabody Award, an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, a National News and Documentary Emmy Award and many others honoring diversity of content and makers. WORLD is carried by 176 member stations in markets representing over 70% of US TV households. Funding for WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts and Artworks. WORLD is produced by GBH in partnership with WNET and is distributed by American Public Television (APT). Find out more at [WORLDChannel.org](http://WORLDChannel.org).