

Notes from the Health Sciences Library - February 21, 2022

1 message

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Spotlight on Inspirational Vision

This week's note focuses on sad news I just encountered: that **Dr. Paul Farmer**, founder of **Partners In Health**, unexpectedly passed away today, in his sleep, while in Rwanda.





Paul Farmer, M.D., Ph.D., was Kolokotrones University Professor and chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School, chief of the Division of Global Health Equity at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, and co-founder and chief strategist of Partners In Health. Dr. Farmer and his colleagues pioneered novel, community-based treatment strategies that demonstrate the delivery of high-quality health care in resource-poor settings. He wrote extensively on health, human rights, and the consequences of social inequality.

Partners In Health is a health and social justice organization that responds to the moral imperative to provide highquality health care globally to those who need it most.

You can learn about this organization and the vision and passion of the work of Dr. Farmer and his colleagues by watching **Bending the Arc.**

I highly recommend this eye-opening and inspirational documentary. The film is available on Netflix, if you subscribe, but also to anyone in the Clarkson community on the **AVON film platform**.



The Clarkson Libraries offer a number of Dr. Farmer's books:

- Partner to the Poor: a Paul Farmer Reader
- To Repair the World: Paul Farmer Speaks to the Next Generation
- Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights, and the New War on the Poor
- Reimagining Global Health: An Introduction
- Infections and Inequalities: the Modern Plagues

"Paul taught all those around him the power of accompaniment, love for one another, and solidarity"

"To accompany someone is to go somewhere with him or her, to break bread together, to be present on a journey with a beginning and an end. There's an element of mystery, of openness, of trust, in accompaniment. The companion, the accompagnateur, says: "I'll go with you and support you on your journey wherever it leads. I'll share your fate for a while." (Paul Farmer, "Accompaniment as Policy" in To Repair the World: Paul Farmer Speaks to the Next Generation)

I think we can all draw some inspiration from this.

Have ideas for topics or events you would like to see highlighted in Weekly Notes? Please let me know!

Read Weekly Notes from previous dates.

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My work schedule is Monday - Thursday 8am-4:30pm. Please contact me to arrange meeting or class times outside these hours.

Want to meet with me? Check my calendar to set up a Zoom meeting.