



Supporting Occupational Therapy in low & middle income countries

E-NEWSLETTER

OT Frontiers Position Statement

As a global-reaching organisation, OT Frontiers is committed to the principles of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion at our meetings, in our project activities, and within the communities where our members work and live.

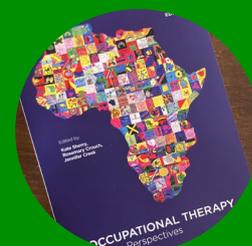
We aim to safely and positively engage with a diverse membership of OTs to learn from and enable all positions to receive equal influence within the organisation, and to act on the understanding gained from engagement with members to ensure these qualities are explicit in the work of OT Frontiers to promote positive change with disabled people, globally.

General Meeting: 17 January 2026

Our quarterly virtual all-members meeting included a welcome and introduction by our Chairs, small group networking opportunities, and a presentation by Michael Sy. We spent the time in smaller breakout groups discussing the impact of OT Frontiers thus far, and ideas for both sustaining and strengthening our impact as we continue to grow.

Presentation by Michael Sy: Michael, an occupational therapy educator and senior researcher from the Philippines with a doctorate from Japan and now based in Zurich, introduced *Occupational Therapy in the Philippines: Theory, Practice and Stories*. The book reclaims OT theory within the country’s colonial history, examines professional education and practice, and addresses research, ethics and policy. Written by Filipino contributors from multiple disciplines, it documents the profession’s history and research landscape, while amplifying the voices of patients, students and practitioners. It also proposes a new framework for practice, PEARL. The link to the recording and slides for this presentation are available on our website under Resources > Presentations.

Helen Cooper, paediatric occupational therapist, has recorded a presentation about her work with Kanyinga Child Development Centre, Uganda - this will be available to view on our website shortly. You can also read more about the centre at www.kyaningacdc.org

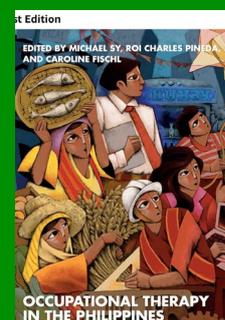


Occupational Therapy: African Perspectives – 2nd Edition out now!

SCAN FOR ORDER FORM



OR contact: kate.Sherny@gmail.com



Occupational Therapy in the Philippines: Theory Practice and Stories

To order visit: routledge.com

Link to Early Support Initiative, shared by OT Frontiers member Angelique Kester:

<https://www.lilianefonds.org/project/early-identification-and-intervention>

The RehApp



Free app for CBR workers in LMIC

We are now on **LinkedIn!**



Connect with us here: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ot-frontiers>



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Bahati Hassan, paediatric occupational therapist from Tanzania, presented at our quarterly General Meeting on October 11 2025 on 'Enhancing Youth Development & Community Wellbeing Through Football'. This presentation can now be viewed on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/23Jxx9Hdhbo>

We were delighted to be able to support the attendance of occupational therapists from LMIC at the recent WFOT Congress to share their valuable perspectives and contributions to our profession. We are confident their participation will result in meaningful dialogue, collaboration important developments.

Contact Info and Upcoming Events

Email: enquiries@otfrontiers.com

Website: www.otfrontiers.co.uk

Grants

OT Frontiers welcomes grant applications.

Small Project Grants support small-scale projects and CPD, promoting participation in local and national OT service development. The Fliss Akehurst Grant supports practice initiatives, individual CPD, and national education program development and research. Applications for grants are reviewed quarterly. The application forms, as well as more details about both grant types, can be found on our website under Resources > Grants.

Our next General Meeting will be held on **18 April 2026**. The agenda is circulated to our email distribution list prior to this. The meetings include networking opportunities, information sharing, and a presentation. **All are welcome**. Contact us if you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive the meeting link.

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Your grant sparked joy and hope.
- Small Grant recipient

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Our **working/special interest groups** include paediatrics, resources, research and education, and justice, equity, diversity, inclusion (JEDI). Read more about these on our website, and feel free to contact us if you would like to join a group, all contributions welcome.

A short video presentation marking 20 years of OT Frontiers - a network of occupational therapists dedicated to supporting practice and collaboration in low-and-middle-income countries (LMICs).

This visual timeline celebrates key milestones, partnerships, workshops, and events from 2005-2025, including projects with colleagues across Uganda, Malawi, Eswatini, Zambia, Tanzania, and beyond.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2UOAWQDwV4Q>

