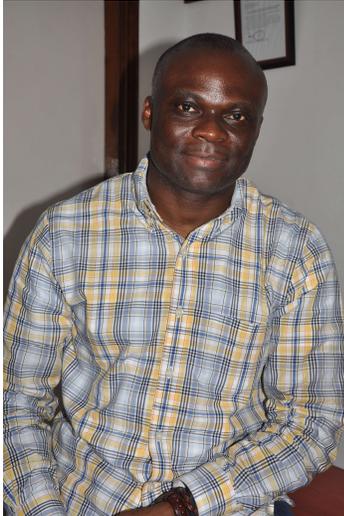


## Conference Hosts

### **Dr. Fred Ssewamala**

*Director, Columbia University International Center for Child Health and Asset Development;  
Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work, New York, NY, USA*



Dr. Ssewamala is the Founding Director of ICHAD. ICHAD's mission is to contribute to the reduction of poverty and improvement of public health outcomes for youth and families in low-resource communities, particularly those in Sub-Saharan Africa, with a strategic focus on utilizing and evaluating asset-led economic strengthening interventions. As Director of ICHAD, Dr. Ssewamala has received continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health for the past 10 years, as a Principal Investigator on several research grants including Suubi- Uganda (NIMH-funded R21), Suubi-Maka (NIMH-funded R34), Bridges to the Future (NICHD-funded R01), and Suubi+Adherence (NICHD-funded R01). These studies test the efficacy, acceptability, and impact of innovative economic strengthening and asset-development interventions for HIV/AIDS-affected, orphaned, and vulnerable children (OVC) and their caregiving families in Sub-Saharan Africa,

with a particular focus in the Greater Masaka region of Uganda. This research recognizes poverty as a key limiting factor for youth and adolescents, which often prevents full educational attainment, healthy development and actualization of future opportunities. The work at ICHAD highlights the behavioral, developmental, health, and psychosocial benefits of an economic empowerment intervention, emphasizing the importance of including anti-poverty measures in programs for youth. Specific results of Dr. Ssewamala's and ICHAD's work have been published widely and can be found in *Prevention Science, American Journal of Public Health, Social Science and Medicine, Journal of Adolescent Health, Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, Social Service Review, Children and Youth Services Review, and the International Journal of Social Welfare*. Dr. Ssewamala holds a PhD and MSW with a concentration in social and economic development policy from Washington University in St. Louis.

### **Dr. Mary M. McKay**

*Dean and Professor, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis; McSilver Faculty Fellow, New York University Silver School of Social Work*



Dr. McKay joined the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis as dean on July 1, 2016 and is continuing the School's legacy of creating vital knowledge, initiating social change, and preparing leaders to address social and health challenges both locally and globally. Prior to joining the Brown School, she was McSilver Professor of Social Work and the inaugural director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University Silver School of Social Work. Under Dr. McKay's leadership, the McSilver Institute grew to more than 50 full-time

employees and over \$30 million in funded projects benefitting poverty-impacted families and communities around the world. Prior to her time at NYU Silver, Dr. McKay served as the head of the Division of Mental Health Services Research at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

Dr. McKay has received substantial federal funding for research focused on meeting the mental health and health prevention needs of youth and families impacted by poverty. Working with colleagues in the field, she has developed a substantial body of research findings around engagement practices to improve involvement in family-based HIV prevention programs and mental health services for children, youth and families in high-poverty urban areas. She has significant expertise in services and implementation research methods, as well as over 15 years of experience conducting HIV prevention and care-oriented studies, supported by continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health. In addition, she has collaborated with the National Institute of Mental Health, the New York State Office of Mental Health, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to create evidence-based engagement interventions and to test models of dissemination and training for mental health professionals in engagement best practices.

Her career in HIV science began with CHAMP (Collaborative HIV Prevention and Adolescent Mental Health Project), a collaborative effort between university and community members to test HIV prevention and mental health promotion approaches in urban, low-income communities. This study began in Chicago and has been replicated in New York City, South Africa, Argentina, Trinidad, and now Thailand and Indonesia.

Dr. McKay received her bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from Loyola University of Chicago and her PhD from University of Illinois at Chicago's Jane Addams College of Social Work.



**Joyce Wanican**

*Executive Director, AfriChild Centre, Makerere University  
Kampala, Uganda*

Joyce Wanican manages child and youth-focused nationally representative studies and mobilizes stakeholders for knowledge uptake to inform policy and practice with the AfriChild Centre. Ms. Wanican is a Senior Education, Youth, Orphans and Vulnerable Children expert with 19 years of progressive experience in education program management, child and youth protection and development, psychosocial programming, workforce development and capacity building. Previously, Ms.

Wanican worked for USAID/Uganda Mission and the International Rescue Committee.

## Speakers from Uganda



### **Dr. Edward Kirumira**

*Professor of Sociology & Principal, College of Humanities & Social Sciences at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda*

Dr. Kirumira has conducted extensive research work in HIV/AIDS, emergent diseases and international health issues. Other research interests include program development, and monitoring and impact evaluation. He is a Fellow and member of the Executive Council of the Uganda National Academy of Sciences a member of the Population Association of Uganda, and the Founding President of the Sociology and Anthropology Association of Uganda. He has provided administrative and organizational support in 11 African countries, Mexico, Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States, and taken up technical advisory roles for organizations including, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, Sida, and Danida.



### **Patrick Onyango Mangen**

*Country Director, Transcultural Psychosocial Organisation (TPO) Uganda  
Kampala, Uganda*

Patrick Onyango Mangen has over 18 years of demonstrable experience in the design, implementation and monitoring of highly syndicated social development projects targeting children, women and communities living in difficult contexts. He has spent 12 of these years in senior level management, focusing on growth strategy, networking and resource mobilization, effective NGO management and practice-oriented research. Mr. Onyango has extensive experience designing child protection and psychosocial support projects in humanitarian emergencies and has designed and implemented projects in Uganda, Somalia, DRC, South Sudan and Liberia. Under Mr. Onyango's leadership, TPO has become an influential local and global actor in the sectors of child protection, mental health, care for OVC, livelihoods and food security, and disaster risk reduction.



### **Dr. Gertrude Nakigozi**

*Head of Clinical Services  
Rakai Health Sciences Program (RHSP), Uganda*

Dr. Gertrude Nakigozi is a medical doctor and public health researcher at RHSP where she oversees provision of HIV care and treatment to over 20,000 HIV positive persons in Rakai. Dr. Nakigozi has extensive experience conducting research with HIV positive clients enrolled in care and her research interests include health-seeking behaviors of HIV positive persons, and interventions that can ensure optimal utilization of HIV services. Dr. Nakigozi provides technical support to the Suubi+Adherence study, an NIH funded study investigating the role of economic strengthening on adherence to HIV treatment among adolescents in Uganda. She will also co-lead the scale-up study in Uganda for the

NIMH-funded U19 grant, "African Center for Collaborative Child Mental Health Implementation Research."



**Dr. Godfrey Kigozi**

*Head of Research Studies, RHSP  
Kalisizo, Uganda*

Dr. Kigozi has extensive experience implementing and evaluating rigorous research studies in resource-poor communities of Uganda. He has worked with RHSP in various capacities for over 18 years, including coordinating randomized trials of STD control for HIV prevention and medical mail circumcision, post-trial surveillance, SMC program scale up, studies of new medical male circumcision devices, and combination HIV prevention/ intervention/ evaluation. Through his Fogarty supported training at Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Kigozi has acquired expertise in epidemiology, biostatistics, public health and program management/evaluation, and is currently completing a sandwich PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Makerere University's School of Public Health and Johns Hopkins University.



**James Kabogozza**

*Assistant Commissioner for Children Affairs  
Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Kampala,  
Uganda*

Mr. James Ssembatya Kabogozza has worked with children since 1981 and has vast experience in child protection programming, social sector planning and management, child rights training, social policy analysis and OVC programming. Mr. Kabogozza has been key in developing the Alternative Care framework for Uganda, and led law reform for inter country adoptions in Uganda. Mr Kabogozza has also taken part in child protection, OVC and disabled population research projects, including an assessment of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Children in Uganda. He is currently part of the government committee charged with developing a national plan of action for children with disabilities. Mr. Kabogozza is a board member at AfriChild Center as well.



**Abel Mwebembezi**

*Executive Director, Reach the Youth-Uganda; In-Country  
Implementation Partner, ICHAD Uganda, Kampala,  
Uganda*

Abel Mwebembezi has managed a UNFPA grant supporting more than 12 NGOs implementing reproductive health and HIV/AIDS projects, coordinated the Advocacy Project for reproductive health and HIV/AIDS under the African Youth Alliance program, and has managed multiple child sponsorship education

programs. Mr. Mwebembezi was also a Planning Officer with the UN Peace Keeping Mission at the UN African Union Mission in Darfur. He earned his MA in Population Research from Exeter University in the UK. Mr. Mwebembezi will serve as the Scale-Up co-lead in the U19 study for RTY-Uganda.



**Dr. Janet Nakigudde**

*Faculty of Psychiatry; Clinical Psychologist  
Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda*

Dr. Nakigudde is a researcher with strong expertise in providing intervention and evaluation services for children and young adults with diverse mental health problems in Uganda. For 12 years, she has been involved in several research projects that investigate mental health problems among children and adolescents with HIV/AIDS and substance use problems. She has also conducted and evaluated a RCT for a psychoeducational intervention for postpartum mothers. In addition to research, Dr. Nakigudde provides clinical services and consultation for Ugandan primary schools and various organizations, and trains community health workers to carry out basic mental health services. Currently, she is a Co-PI on an NIMH funded study to apply a task-shifting strategy to implement a school-based mental health program in Ugandan schools.

**Speakers from Ghana**



**Dr. Emmanuel Asampong**

*Assistant Professor, University of Ghana School of Public Health  
Accra, Ghana*

Dr. Asampong's areas of research interest include mental health issues among adolescents, impacts of psychosocial factors on human health, family health and social support systems in both rural and urban cities in developing countries, family initiatives on psychological well-being and school achievement in urban slums and/or deprived urban communities. Dr. Asampong has worked on a variety of mental health focused programs and research, including a Unilever sponsored program, which addressed adolescent mental health challenges via a Ghanaian radio station. Dr. Asampong will Co-Lead the Small-Scale Implementation Study in Ghana for the U19 study.



**Dr. Alice Boateng**

*Senior Lecturer*

*University of Ghana Department of Social Work  
Accra, Ghana*

Dr. Boateng's research focuses on the well-being of marginalized populations, including children and youth. She is also a field internship facilitator for the University of Ghana in Accra Department of Social Work, where she oversees field placement of students in agencies such as Positive Action for Porter Girls that serve Kayayei. This work helps facilitate partnerships between academic researchers and NGOs in Ghana. Dr. Boateng serves as a Board member on the

African Policy Research Board of the U19 study.



**Dr. Abdallah Ibrahim**

*Lecturer (Assistant Professor)*

*University of Ghana School of Public Health, Accra, Ghana*

Dr. Ibrahim teaches and supervises students on health systems and health policy issues. In his teaching role, Dr. Ibrahim references best practices from the United States health system, in an effort to expose students and future researchers to perspectives that will influence research and enhance solutions to the myriad of national and international issues that affect people's health and social wellbeing. His research interests include the access to health care by under-privileged and/or under-represented populations, including women,

children and people with mental health issues. Among Dr. Ibrahim's research projects was a study in the Northern Region, the poorest region of Ghana, which looked at birth outcomes of disadvantaged women who gave birth during the country's health user fee period, compared to births during the national health insurance program with an exemption for maternal delivery fee. More recently, he also led explored mental health among people who were incarcerated in Ghana. Dr. Ibrahim is the Co-I for the small implementation study in Ghana for the U19 study.



**Dr. Mavis Dako-Gyeke**

*Senior Lecturer and Head of Department*

*University of Ghana Department of Social Work, Accra, Ghana*

Dr. Dako-Gyeke is currently the Co-I of a grant that studies the extent to which NGOs provide protection that meet the needs of vulnerable groups in the Central Region of Ghana. Dr. Dako-Gyeke is social worker by training, with a background in child development, education, and human resources management. She has over ten years research experience, which focuses on childhood development and family welfare, migration, gender issues, mental health, and HIV/AIDS. Dr. Dako-Gyeke is a Board member on the U19 study.



**Dr. Ama Kyerewaa Edwin**

*Professor and Clinical Psychologist  
Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra, Ghana*

Dr. Ama Edwin is a physician, clinical psychologist, and bioethicist who is well-versed in working with distressed children, especially, those with intellectual challenges, a history of abuse, dysfunctional families, and serious and life-limiting conditions. She is also an advocate for women and children. Dr. Edwin helps health professionals meet a standard of excellence in healthcare through policy development, consultation, education, training, and research. Her contribution to science are in five thematic areas: mental health; doctor-patient relationships; ethical dilemmas; end-of-life issues; and research ethics. She has several publications in peer-reviewed journals.

**Speakers from Kenya**



**Dr. Anne W. Mbwayo**

*Lecturer and Clinical Psychologist  
Department of Psychiatry, University of Nairobi, Kenya*

Dr. Anne W. Mbwayo has taught in public high schools in Kenya for over 20 years during which she served as head of the department of Guidance and Counseling for a number of years, giving her a chance to come face to face with mental health issues facing school going adolescents in school settings. Both her Master's and doctoral thesis studies were conducted in schools, and investigated bullying and students' mental health functioning as well as the impact of a school-based psycho-educational intervention program on students' academic and mental health functioning. Dr. Mbwayo is the PI of the scale-up study in Kenya.



**Dr. Manasi Kumar**

*Faculty Member University of Nairobi, Department of Psychiatry,  
University of Nairobi, Kenya*

Dr. Kumar is a Senior Lecturer and a Clinical Psychologist. She has been working on issues around psychological ramifications of poverty, trauma and disasters for the past eight years and has considerable experience on mental health issues in refugee child populations. She is interested in extending her research further into childhood adversity, poverty, and gender linkage in developing countries context using perspectives from critical psychology, attachment research and development studies. She is a research fellow in the Department of Psychology at University College London and University of Cape Town. Dr. Kumar is deeply committed to capacity building programs for young social workers and healthcare workers, and has trained young professionals in Kenya, UK and India to identify mental health disorders and on trauma-counseling skills. She was a Co-investigator on NIMH MEPI's Linked Mental Health grant (2012-2015) on research capacity building. As part of this collaboration, she co-led the Maternal and Child mental health group focusing on maternal

depression and its impact on child development outcomes. Dr. Kumar will contribute to the Kenya small scale-up study and is a Board Member for the U19 study.



**Dr. Anna Muthoni Mathai**

*Psychiatrist and Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, University of Nairobi, Kenya*

Dr. Muthoni Mathai has been involved in multiple community based mental health research projects as well as HIV/AIDS projects with a mental health component. She is currently the PI of the MEPI-Linked project: Research Capacity Building in Mental Health for Better Health Outcomes, funded by NIH/NIMH (Grant no. 5R25MH099132). The project is focused on building mental health research capacity among faculty and masters and PhD students at the College of Health Science (CHS) in three thematic areas: Substance Use Disorders and HIV/AIDS, Maternal depression and Child health outcomes, and Psychotrauma and Gender based violence. She also plays a key role as part of the PRIME-K award (R24 TW008889) at the University of Nairobi and work with Dr. Larissa Jennings as a local PI for our project entitled “MHealth-Enhanced Economic Empowerment Initiatives for HIV Prevention among Youth Living in the Urban Slums of Kenya.” Dr. Mathai will serve as Co-I for the scale up study in Kenya.



**Phiona Naserian Koyiet**

*National Office Technical Specialist: Gender, Disability and MHPSS, World Vision Kenya*

Ms. Koyiet is an APMG-Certified Programme Manager with over 15 years’ experience in development work and research including use of Interpersonal Psychotherapy Groups and World Vision International’s Child Friendly Spaces research. She has experience in programming models and interventions in Low and Middle Income Countries. She is also a WVI lead researcher for Problem Management Plus (PM+) with NSW, WHO, and Kenya MoH.

**Speakers from South Africa**



**Dr. Arvin Bhana**

*South African Medical Research Council; Honorary Associate Professor of Psychology University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa*

Dr. Arvin Bhana’s research focuses on understanding risk and resilience, adolescent risk-taking behavior (including HIV/AIDS), and substance abuse and mental health. He has been the PI or Co-I of a number of NIH-funded research projects in South Africa including CHAMPSA, (NIMH 5 R01 MH64872-02; PI Bell; South Africa co-I; Bhana), and CHAMP+SA (1 R21 NR010474-01) and VUKA Family Program: Supporting Perinatally HIV-infected Youth in South Africa

(1R01HD074052-01). His recent publications focus on the role of family protective factors in improving mental health and behavioral outcomes and reducing risk for STIs among children and youth, public health interventions for depression using task-sharing in developing country contexts, and brief interventions for alcohol use in public health facilities. Dr. Bhana will be working with Dr. Inge Petersen to provide leadership on the capacity building component of the U19 study.



**Dr. Inge Petersen**

*Professor, School of Applied Human Science, University Kwa-Zulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa*

Dr. Peteresen has been involved in the development of community-based models of mental healthcare since the early-1990s, having completed her PhD on the integration of mental health into primary health care in South Africa in 2000. Since then, she has been involved in the Mental Health and Poverty Project (2005-2010), a research consortium in four African countries, where she assisted with the integration of mental health into primary health care using implementation science. Currently she leads and collaborates on

several research projects on mental health in developing contexts including, as PI on the Programme for Integrating Mental Health Care (PRIME) in South Africa, EMERALD (Emerging Mental Health Systems in Low- and middle-income Countries), where she leads a work package that involves capacity building using implementation science to strengthen health systems for scaled up integrated mental health care, and as Co-PI on COBALT (Comorbid Affective Disorders, AIDS/HIV, and Long Term Health), which is investigating the health impact of integrated mental health care on patients on anti-retroviral treatment. Dr. Peteresen will work with Dr. Bhana on the capacity building component of the U19 study.

**Speakers from the United States**



**Dr. Theresa Betancourt**

*Associate Professor of Child Health and Human Rights  
Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, Cambridge, MA USA*

Dr. Betancourt has extensive experience conducting research among children and families in low-resource settings, particularly in the context of humanitarian emergencies. She has been involved in the adaptation of several mental health and family strengthening interventions for children and families facing adversity due to violence and chronic illness, particularly within Sub-Saharan Africa. Her projects have included: an

NIMH-funded project to develop and evaluate a parenting/Family Strengthening Intervention (FSI) for HIV-affected families in Rwanda and adaptation of the intervention for families raising young children (1-4 years) in the context of extreme poverty which is being tested as a part of an initiative by the World Bank and the Government of Rwanda under their Poverty Reduction Strategy; as PI of the Youth Readiness Intervention, which evaluates a mental health EBP for war affected youth delivered in education and employment programs in Sierra Leone; as PI of a community-based participatory research project to study conceptualizations of mental health and

healing among refugees in Boston; and as PI of a longitudinal study (begun in 2002) examining the inter-generational effects of war among youth in Sierra Leone- which comprises one of the few inter-generational studies of war ever conducted in sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Betancourt earned her ScD from the Harvard School of Public Health and an MA from the University of Louisville.



**Dr. Njeri Kagotho**

*Assistant Professor of Social Work, Ohio State University School of Social Work, Columbus, OH, USA*

Dr. Kagotho’s research is deeply influenced by her international practice, and explores the link between a family’s wealth holdings and the wellbeing of its members. Her research has focused on the impact of chronic illness on wealth creation and preservation, how wealth moderates health behaviors, and impacts of HIV and AIDS on the intergenerational transmission of human capital. Currently Dr. Kagotho is examining best practices in working with low-income HIV impacted households as they attempt to navigate socio-cultural and legal constraints to economic security. She earned her PhD in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis, MO.



**Dr. Olugbenga Godwin Ogedegbe**

*Professor of Population Health and Medicine  
NYU College of Global Public Health, New York, NY  
USA*

Dr. Ogedegbe is Professor of Population Health and Medicine, Chief Division of Health & Behavior, and Director of the NYU Center for Healthful Behavior Change in the Department of Population Health and Vice Dean and Professor of Population Health for the NYU College of Global Public Health. He is a leading expert on health disparities research, and has expanded his work globally to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease in Sub-Saharan Africa. The programmatic focus of his research is the development, dissemination and translation into clinical practice of evidence-based behavioral interventions to reduce cardiovascular risk in minority and underserved populations. In addition to his current research, Dr. Ogedegbe’s mentorship activities have spanned over 13 years and to date, he has mentored over 30 junior faculty, fellows, doctoral students, and medical students in patient-oriented research. He is PI of two training grants—an R25 to mentor over 30 minority investigators in behavioral and sleep medicine research and a D43 to establish a network of investigators committed to careers in cardiovascular research in Ghana and Nigeria.



**Dr. Kimberly Hoagwood**

*Vice Chair for Research and Professor of Psychiatry Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, NYU Medical Center, New York, NY*

Dr. Hoagwood is Professor of Clinical Psychology and Psychiatry at Columbia University, specializing in children’s mental health

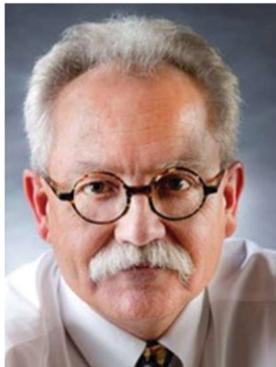
services research. She also works with the Division of Child and Family Services and the Office of Performance Measurement and Evaluation at the New York State Office of Mental Health. Previously, Dr. Hoagwood was Associate Director for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Research with NIMH, and oversaw the portfolio of research on child and adolescent mental health, from basic to applied studies. Dr. Hoagwood is Director and PI of a P30 Advanced Center on Implementation and Dissemination Science in States for Children and Families, and of the Clinic Technical Assistance Center of New York.



**Dr. Sarah Meyer**

*Assistant Professor, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health  
New York, NY USA*

Dr. Meyer has extensive experience managing and leading research projects focused on migration, child protection and mental health in humanitarian and low-income settings. She completed her PhD at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, focusing on migration and mental health on the Thailand-Burma border. She has led research training and data collection in Cambodia, Rwanda, Uganda, Ethiopia and Thailand. She is currently the co-investigator on a joint study between the CPC Learning Network and UNHCR, on measuring child protection in refugee settings. She has led evaluations of mental health and psychosocial support for UNHCR, UNICEF and the Interagency Standing Committee Reference Group on mental health and psychosocial support.



**Dr. John Santelli**

*Harriet and Robert H. Heilbrunn Professor of Population and Family Health and Pediatrics, Mailman School of Public Health and the School of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, New York, NY, USA*

Dr. Santelli is a pediatrician and adolescent medicine specialist. Dr. Santelli's research focuses on HIV/AIDS risk behaviors as well as programs to prevent STDs, HIV and unintended pregnancy among adolescents and women. He has worked with the Rakai Health Sciences Project on youth risk for HIV and linkages between HIV infection and reproductive health. Dr. Santelli is a leader in ensuring that adolescents are appropriately included in health research and an advocate for comprehensive sexuality educations. He serves as a senior consultant for the Guttmacher Institute and as a member of the editorial board for the Journal of Adolescent Health. Dr. Santelli is a past President of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine (SAHM). He earned his master's degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and his MD from the Buffalo School of Medicine.



**Dr. Keng-Yen Huang**

*Associate Professor, Department of Population Health, NYU School of Medicine, New York, NY*

Dr. Huang is a child mental health prevention and implementation research scientist, with expertise across several disciplines, including developmental psychopathology, prevention science, quantitative modeling, and immigrant and global public health. Her research focuses on investigating mechanisms of child health disparities, testing cost-

effective family and system approaches of preventive strategies to address child health disparities, and broadening evidence-based program implementation and dissemination in underserved child populations. She is PI and Co-I on numerous early childhood prevention and developmental research projects that focus on vulnerable children both in the US and in the international contexts, including a NIMH funded R21 which studies effective strategies to implement a school-based mental health prevention program in Uganda.