

July 2020

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**SMART Africa  
Center**



**SECURING OUR  
CHILDREN'S  
FUTURE TODAY**

Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis

As data collection methods continue to evolve due to COVID-19, the ICHAD and SMART Africa teams are working diligently to ensure the integrity of our research data. In July, ICHAD Directors Fred Ssewamala, Proscovia Nabunya and Ozge Sensoy Bahar led numerous trainings on telephone interviews and qualitative data collection, and the ICHAD team conducted pretests to examine the feasibility of collecting study data over the phone. The pretest exercise was successful and data collection for several of our studies is underway or will be soon (see below).

ICHAD training programs are also in full swing. This month our 25 trainees enjoyed a packed agenda with daily presentations ranging from RRT Co-Director Dr. Sean Joe's powerful talk on the implications of racial policies on research methods, to a discussion on qualitative research methods and how transitioning to virtual focus groups might affect results, led by ICHAD Global Affiliate and CHILD-GRF mentor Dr. Janet Nakigudde. Much, much more was covered including a very competitive online "pictionary" challenge amongst trainees.

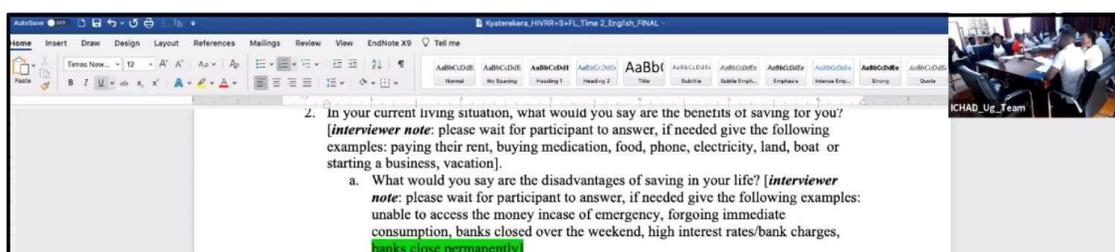
Publications continued to roll in with four new manuscripts authored by ICHAD and SMART Africa faculty, students, and affiliates. A paper exploring the impact of a family-based economic intervention on the mental health of HIV-infected adolescents in Uganda was accepted to the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. ICHAD Directors Fred Ssewamala and Lindsay Stark along with PhD student Flora Cohen and SMART Africa Global Fellow Timothy Opobo published a paper on [Intimate partner violence and mental health in Uganda](#). The ICHAD and SMART Africa team of Drs. Fred Ssewamala, Ozge Sensoy Bahar, and William Byansi contributed to a brief focused on COVID-19 and how the NIMH global mental health research community can address the impending mental health crisis. Finally, a review paper exploring access to cancer services and treatment among youth living with HIV is in press in *Frontiers Public Health*.

As always, please feel free to contact us with any news or updates that you would like us to include in our upcoming newsletter [here](#).

We wish you all continued health and happiness!

The ICHAD and SMART Africa Teams

# UPDATES FROM THE FIELD



*Kyaterekera Project Co-Investigators Proscovia Nabunya and Ozge Sensoy Bahar lead a Qualitative interview training over Zoom for the Uganda-based team*

## **Kyaterekera Project**

The Kyaterekera Project is focused on reducing new incidences of sexually transmitted infections and HIV among women engaged in sex work in Uganda, through a combination of economic empowerment, vocational skills training, and HIV risk reduction (HIVRR) sessions. During the month of July, the project PIs and Co-Is have led seven qualitative interview trainings, including sessions on equipping staff with knowledge and skills for completing an interview via telephone. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ICHAD is shifting from face-to-face to telephone interviews to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus between the research team and study participants. The team successfully pretested the instrument over the phone. After the successful pretests, on July 22, the study team resumed the six-month follow-up interviews. This month, 56 wave 2 interviews have been successfully conducted from three study sites, so altogether the team has interviewed 153 (80%) out of 191 participants recruited at 6 sites.



*The Suubi4Her Project is implemented in 47 secondary schools in the greater Masaka Region of Uganda*

## **Suubi4Her**

Suubi4Her seeks to examine the impact and costs associated with an innovative combination intervention that aims to prevent HIV risk behaviors in communities heavily impacted by HIV/AIDS. After all study activities were postponed in late March, the team is ramping up to begin collecting wave 3 data. As with the Kyaterekera Project, the team conducted a

successful pretesting exercise of the instrument over the phone. The team plans to resume collecting data via the phone in August.



*Research Assistants at the ICHAD Masaka field office pretesting telephone interviews*

### **Suubi4Cancer**

Suubi4Cancer seeks to identify confirmed and suspected cancer cases among a cohort of more than 3,000 youth (ages 10 to 24) living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda. In July, the team resumed collecting data on participants lost to follow-up, working with health care facilities. In addition, the team finalized and submitted the qualitative interview guides to the IRB which are designed to explore facilitators and barriers to HIV and cancer care and treatment among youth lost to follow-up. The team will begin conducting phone interviews with youth living with HIV, their caregivers, clinic-based health care workers, as well as local policymakers, once IRB approval is obtained.



*Suubi4Stigma MPs Fred Ssewamala and Proscovia Nabunya work with the study team in Uganda to design data collection instruments*

### **Suubi4Stigma**

Suubi4Stigma will examine the feasibility, acceptability and preliminary impact of two evidence-based interventions, Group Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (C-CBT) and Multiple Family Group (MFG), to address HIV/AIDS associated stigma among adolescents living with HIV in Uganda. Awarded on July 1, the Suubi4Stigma team has been meeting regularly to develop and adapt study data collection tools and intervention manuals to submit them to IRB

for approval. Good luck to the team as they prepare to officially launch this study in the coming months!



*ANZANSI introductory presentation with Headteachers, Teachers and Stakeholders from selected schools*

### **ANZANSI**

The ANZANSI Family Program seeks to pilot test the feasibility of an innovative combination intervention - Family economic empowerment and Multiple Family Group (MFG) - amongst adolescent girls at risk of dropping out of school in Northern Ghana. In July, the team held a group meeting with all schools interested in participating in the study to give additional details about ANZANSI. Our implementation partner BasicNeeds, in collaboration with school administrators, invited eligible families from the 10 selected schools to an introductory meeting. Fifty families have already consented to participate in the study. It is worth noting that the research team at BasicNeeds strictly adhered to the health protocols to protect families from COVID-19 transmission. During meetings, masks were worn by all families, and the team also provided water, soap and paper towels for hand washing. To adhere to the Ghana government's regulation on limiting public gatherings to no more than 100 people, and also to ensure social distancing, 10 families per school, that is 20 individuals (1 female adolescent and 1 caregiver per family), met at a time in a large classroom. Individuals were seated far apart from each other to ensure social distancing.

Textbooks on core subjects (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) that will be provided to both the control and treatment groups as bolstered care, have been purchased. Our implementation partner BIBIR Ghana identified and trained facilitators who will conduct financial literacy training (FLT) and income generating activities (IGA). BasicNeeds is in the process of identifying and recruiting facilitators to deliver MFG sessions.



## **Food and Dietary Acculturation and Diabetes-Associated Risk Factors Among Immigrants and Refugees**

This study aims to explore the multi-level facilitators and barriers associated with food and dietary acculturation patterns. It also aims to explore diabetes-related knowledge, beliefs and prevention attitudes amongst East African immigrants and refugee populations living in St. Louis. The team, led by ICHAD Co-Director Proscovia Nabunya, received IRB approval to conduct interviews via telephone, conducted data training for research assistants, and will start participant recruitment next month.



*Multiple Family Group participants showing appreciation following a session (Pre-COVID-19); Study participants have indicated that they are eager to resume sessions*

## **SMART Africa**

The SMART Africa studies examine the impact and implementation of an evidence-based multiple family group (MFG) intervention for children experiencing behavioral problems and their families in Uganda, Kenya and Ghana. Due to COVID-19, all three programs have been temporarily suspended but are preparing to resume study activities. In Uganda, the team is finalizing additional COVID-related questions to ask study participants and will submit to the Ugandan IRB for approval. The Kenya team has renewed their IRB approval request in order to transition to phone interviews. The Ghana team is getting ready to resume their MFG sessions. All three research teams (and study participants) are eager to resume study implementation.

# UPDATES FROM ICHAD AND SMART AFRICA

## NEW TEAM MEMBERS



**RAYMOND  
ATWEBEMBERE**



**IMELDA  
OLIVE  
NAMUYABA**



**FRANCIS  
SSENABULYA  
SSEMUJJU**



**EMMANUEL  
AMOAKO**

Please join us in welcoming ICHAD's latest members including: Raymond Atwebembere, Study Coordinator; Namuyaba Olive Imelda, Assistant Study Coordinator; Francis Ssenabulya Ssemujju, Assistant Training Coordinator; and Emmanuel Amoako, Research Assistant.

Raymond Atwebembere is a pre-graduate of the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery program at the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU). Prior to joining medical school, Raymond served as a Research Assistant at ICHAD working on the Suubi+Adherence study. In his new role, he will serve as the Study Coordinator for the newly-funded Suubi4Stigma which will examine the feasibility, acceptability and preliminary impact of two evidence-based interventions. The inventions include Group Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Multiple Family Group to address HIV/AIDS associated stigma among adolescents living with HIV in Uganda.

Imelda Namuyaba joins the team as an Assistant Study Coordinator on the Suubi4Stigma study. Imelda graduated from Makerere University in January 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry degree. She has worked as a laboratory technologist intern at Rakai Health Sciences Program and as a volunteer laboratory technologist at Makerere University's Walter Reed Project. She is interested in child mental health research.

Francis Ssemujju holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management from Bugema University in Uganda with an additional certificate in Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning. He previously worked with ICHAD as a Research Assistant and a Field Supervisor. He has interest in data collection, management, analyzing and system development modification. Francis will be stationed at ICHAD's newly opened Kampala office as an Assistant Training Coordinator.

Emmanuel Owusu Amoako is an MSW student at the Brown School, with a concentration in International Social and Economic Development. He recently joined the ICHAD team as a

Research Assistant. Originally from Ghana, Emmanuel received his Bachelor's in Social Work and Sociology from the University of Ghana, Legon. Following his graduation, Emmanuel served as a Teaching Assistant within the Department of Social Work at the University of Ghana where he taught Quantitative Methods. His research interests are community development and gender-based poverty in Africa.



**NEW TEAM  
ROLE**



**REBECCA  
WALUGEMBE**

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Rebecca Walugembe has transitioned from the role of HR Manager to the role of Training Coordinator. In this new position, she will manage the ICHAD-Kampala office and provide on the ground support and coordination to ICHAD's fast growing training program portfolio which currently includes: LEAD Global Training Program, Researcher Resilience Training, and CHILD-Global Research Fellowship. Ms. Walugembe has more than forty years of work experience in HR management, working with banks, research institutions, and non governmental organizations (NGOs), including the AIDS Support Organization (TASO) -- the oldest NGO in Africa, working in Kenya, UK, South Africa and Uganda. She joined the ICHAD team in November 2018.

### **A Word from (some of) our Ugandan Team Members**

I am fortunate to have worked with ICHAD for over 7 years and have grown professionally, being promoted from an interviewer to my current role as a Senior Data Manager. In this journey, I have learned how to design data collection tools and databases, maintain data quality, and how to conduct data analysis with the highest statistical rigor. I have participated in writing peer-reviewed manuscripts, including in 2019 serving as a lead author, under the guidance of Dr. Ssewamala, on a paper titled "Examining the relationship of social support and family cohesion on ART adherence among HIV-positive adolescents in southern Uganda: baseline findings" published in *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*. In addition, I have co-authored 16 papers, 10 of which are already in print, and 6 are currently under review. With this learning experience, I decided to apply to the MPH program at Washington University, and am very excited that I will be joining the Brown School this fall. I am looking forward to continuing to work with ICHAD as a Research Fellow.



*Christopher Damulira, Senior Data Manager  
Bachelor of Science in Economics and Statistics, Kyambogo University*

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I learned about ICHAD in 2013 when it was still known as “Suubi” and had a branch in Kalisizo. During my S6 vacation I received an opportunity of a lifetime to work with a team of professionals based at Columbia University (where at the time, Dr. Ssewamala was a Professor). I was invited to apply for a job as an interviewer and luckily, I was shortlisted and called for a good clinical practice training with Ms. Kigozi. I was fortunate to be nominated as the best active interviewer during the training. I did not stop there, and due to my work conducting baseline interviews for Bridges for the Future study, I was selected to enter the baseline data into SPSS and serve as a mentor to female participants. This was a great experience where I learned new skills that gave me the courage to join the University. With that in mind, I prayed that I would be asked back to join the “Suubi” team following my studies. In September 2017, Dr. Fred invited me to return to the ICHAD family, which I happily accepted. I was given a chance to write an article on my experience using Qualtrics as compared to paper questionnaires and this article appeared in ICHAD’s 2017 annual report. I am so privileged that since then I have been growing, receiving promotions, and was nominated as the best employee of the quarter July-September 2019. I am now a field Supervisor for ICHAD projects and ready to take on new challenges. I thank the ICHAD family for being a hospitable and nurturing environment. Many thanks to Professor Fred who gives everyone a chance to display their abilities.



*Florence Namuli, Field Supervisor  
Bachelor of Arts in Education, Makerere University*

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Since joining the ICHAD family in 2019, I have learned how to conduct research ethically, write excellent professional reports and meeting minutes, transcribe and translate qualitative interviews as well as work professionally with my colleagues. I am grateful for the training. The multiple family group (MFG) interventions have improved my social life too. Long live ICHAD family!



*Sharon Jauharah Namyalo, Research Assistant  
Bachelor of Computer Science and IT, Kampala University*

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Without much prior experience, I joined the ICHAD family in 2014 as an interviewer. I received various training sessions from which I acquired interviewing skills and knowledge about research ethical standards. I further learned how to fill formal documents like requisition and accountability forms which helped me to develop a greater understanding of the importance of being accountable for every decision I make. In addition, the income generation activity interventions prompted me to start a small project from my available savings and has become an inspiration to some other youth who have a desire to own sustainable and profitable agricultural ventures.



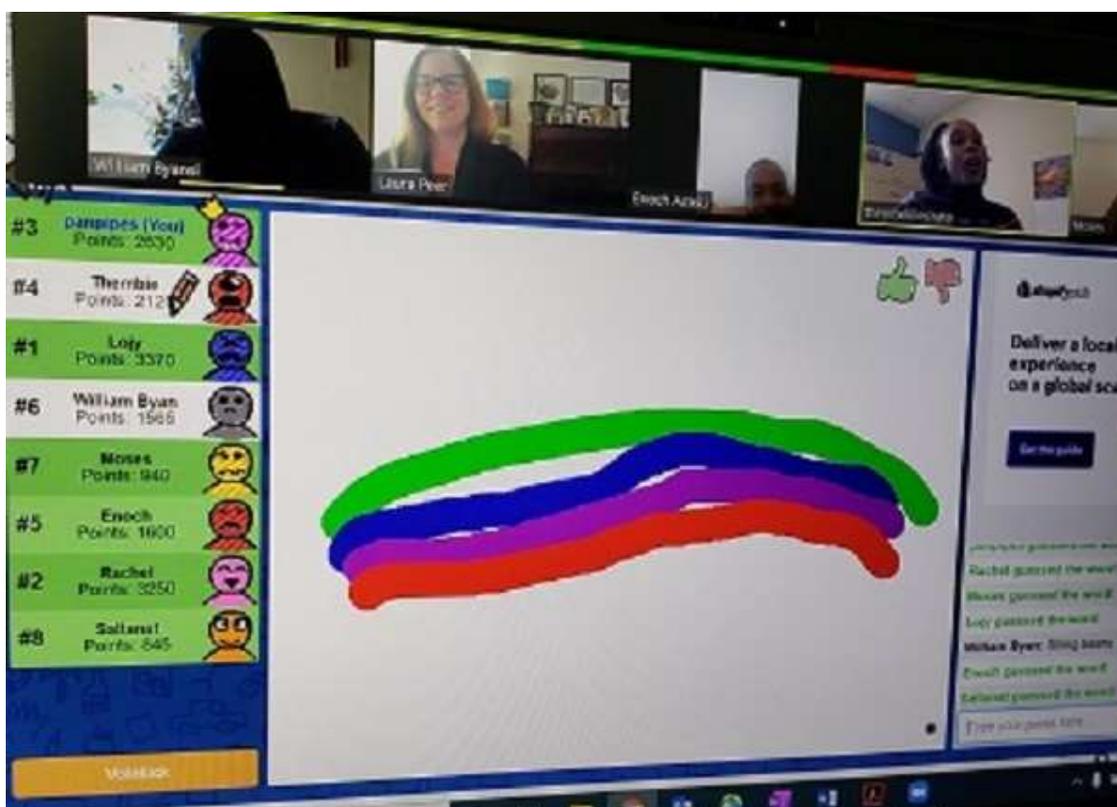
*Francis Matovu, Research Assistant*

My experience as a research assistant with ICHAD has been a great opportunity to get involved in different areas of research projects: data collection, mentorship and conducting cognitive interviews. I have learned a lot from field visits including using electronics for data collection. The data supervision team has provided training on how to enter data into SPSS and data collection via Qualtrics that has contributed to my professional growth as a research assistant. During the mentorship program that was part of the Bridges Study, I gained a better understanding that even though children are young, they know their rights and can address their issues -- if given a chance.



Milly Nabulime Kawemba, Research Assistant  
Certificate in Accountancy, Datamine Institute

## CAPACITY BUILDING



Trainees took some time off from their busy training schedule to gather for a game-themed social hour

### ICHAD Training Programs

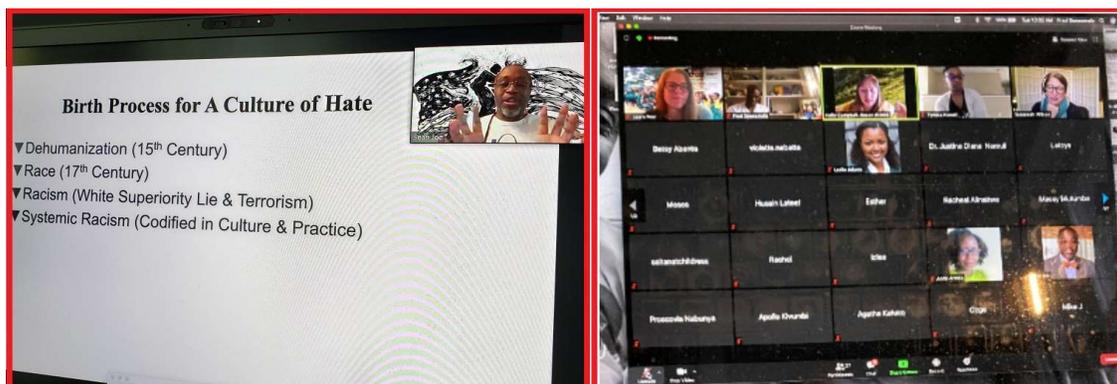
The ICHAD/SMART Africa training programs consist of three NIH-funded training grants--LEAD Global Training Program (Co-Directors: Dr. Fred Ssewamala and Dr. Patricia Cavazos-Rehg), Researcher Resilience Training (Co-Directors: Dr. Fred Ssewamala, Dean Mary McKay, and Dr.

Sean Joe), and CHILD-Global Research Fellows (Co-Directors: Dr. Fred Ssewamala, Dean Mary McKay, and Dr. Noeline Nakasujja). The programs support early career researchers in domestic and global mental health, health disparities, and HIV/AIDS in the US and Sub Saharan Africa to become independent researchers and leaders of multidisciplinary teams in resource-limited settings.

Throughout July, a multi-disciplinary lineup of experts from Washington University and several partner institutions presented a wide range of research and career topics to the ICHAD/SMART Africa trainees. Twenty-five trainees engaged via Zoom in learning and discussion on established and emerging themes for early research professionals, including:

- Global mental health with Dr. Parul Bakhshi, Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy and Dr. Clement Bayetti, Instructor, Brown School
- Psychology of mindset and resilience with Dr. Tim Bono, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
- Agent-based modeling with Dr. Ross Hammond, Associate Professor, Brown School
- Implementation strategies with Dr. Byron Powell, Assistant Professor, Brown School
- Categorical data methods and logistic regression with Dr. Jacob Borodovsky, Postdoc, Psychiatry
- Cost-effectiveness analysis with Dr. Yesim Tozan of NYU School of Global Public Health
- Propensity score analysis with Dr. Shenyang Guo, Professor, Brown School
- Utilization & dissemination of results with Nikole Lobb Dougherty, Associate Director, Evaluation Center, Brown School
- Evaluation planning with Nancy Mueller, Director, Evaluation Center at the Brown School
- Qualitative research methods, Dr. Janet Nakigudde, Behavioural Scientist and Lecturer, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University
- Administrative data management and analysis with Dr. Brett Drake, Professor, Brown School
- Community based system dynamics with Ellis Ballard, Director, Social System Design Lab, Brown School

Trainees also met regularly with their mentors to develop and refine their research projects. In addition, they engaged in weekly career discussions that examined themes including discrimination and resilience among people of color in research, and balancing early career with other facets of life. Following this month of robust discussion and training plus mentored research work, trainees will be wrapping up their intensive summer curriculum in early August with final presentations.



*Left: Dr. Sean Joe, Co-Director of Researcher Resilience Training, presents “More than Spoken Words: Race and Racism and the Implications for Scientific Methods and Researcher Resiliency”; Right: NIH*

Program Officers Holly Campbell-Rosen and Susannah Allison present on “HIV and Global Mental Health Priorities & Funding Opportunities & Guidance”

**2020 Trainees**

 <b>Racheal Alinaitwe, M. Med</b> Project Coordinator, Dept. of Psychiatry, Makerere University	 <b>Anita Arinda, M. Med</b> Psychiatrist, Adult HIV Clinic, Mildmay Uganda	 <b>Agatha Kafuko, MA</b> Assistant Lecturer, PhD Candidate, Makerere University		
 <b>Apollo Kivumbi, MBChB, MPH</b> Resident in psychiatry, School of Medicine, Makerere University	 <b>Violette Nabatte, M. Med.</b> Head, Paediatric and Adolescent Services, Mildmay Uganda	 <b>Justine Namuli, M. Med.</b> Lecturer/Psychiatrist, School of Medicine, Makerere University	 <b>Esther Nanfuka, MSW</b> Assistant Lecturer, PhD Candidate, Makerere University	
				

Please join us in welcoming our first cohort of CHILD-Global Research Fellows who started their three-year fellowship program last month. They were selected from a competitive pool of nearly 40 applicants interested in research involving the intersection of HIV and mental health amongst child and adolescent populations. We look forward to working with them over the next three years!

## FELLOWS CORNER

### **RRT Alum Robert Motley leads publications exploring safety of Black males**



*“Exposure to Community-Based Violence on Social Media among Black Male Emerging Adults Involved with the Criminal Justice System”*

Researcher Resilience Training Program alum, Robert Motley, is the lead author of the study “Exposure to Community-Based Violence on Social Media among Black Male Emerging Adults Involved with the Criminal Justice System” published in *Social Work Research*. The study presents findings from a survey of Black male youths incarcerated in the St. Louis city jail. It examines the youths’ reactions to social media videos of community violence, specifically police violence, to understand the impact of violence on this population. Robert is the manager of the Race and Opportunity Lab and a doctoral candidate in the Brown School. Robert is also the lead author on the Brief Report “Accountable Policing: Policies to Advance the Personal Safety of Black Boys and Young Men” issued in June by HomeGrownSTL of the Race Opportunity Lab. The report seeks “to provide local, state, and federal policymakers with concrete, evidence-based policy recommendations for building an equitable, transparent, and accountable public-

safety approach that will serve and protect all U.S. residents, not just a select few.”

Congratulations to Robert Motley and his colleagues, and to Dr. Sean Joe the Benjamin Youngdahl Professor of Social Development at the Brown School, Director of the Race and Opportunity Lab, and Researcher Resilience Training Co-Director!

### **Thembekile Shato successfully defends dissertation**

On June 30, Thembekile Shato, second-year fellow in the Researcher Resilience Training Program, successfully defended her dissertation for her PhD in Public Health with a concentration in Behavioral Science and Health Education at St. Louis University College of Public Health and Social Justice. Her dissertation is entitled, "Examining the Utilization of and Preferences for Cervical Cancer Screening in Urban Zimbabwe: Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives." Her dissertation committee consisted of Dr. Anne Sebert Kuhlmann (Mentor and Committee Chair), Dr. Juliet Iwelunmor, and Dr. Qiang John Fu.



*"Examining the Utilization of and Preferences for Cervical Cancer Screening in Urban Zimbabwe: Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives"*

Congratulations Dr. Thembie!

## **SOCIAL CORNER**



### **Uganda - Farewell Celebration**

Earlier this month, the Uganda team bid farewell to four of its team members who will be attending Washington University in St. Louis for their graduate studies in Fall 2020.

Congratulations Jennifer Nattabi (incoming PhD student in Social Work), Joshua Kiyangi (incoming PhD student in Public Health), Christopher Damulira (incoming Masters student in Public Health), and Robert Kasumba (incoming Masters student in Computer Science). We are proud of you and your contributions to ICHAD. We wish you the very best and look forward to welcoming you to St. Louis!



### Welcome Baby Enoch!

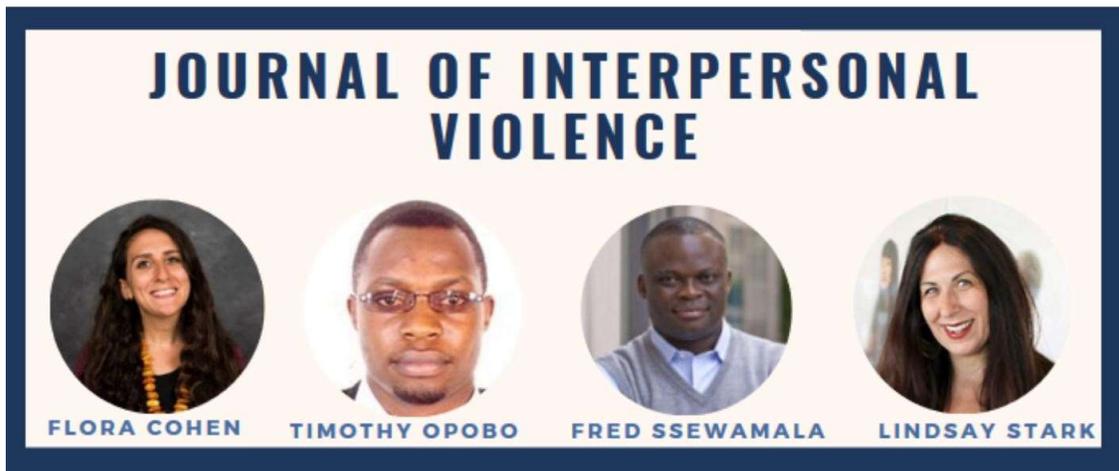
RRT fellow, Enoch Azasu, and his wife, Jemima, welcomed their baby boy, Enoch Azasu, Jr., on July 7, weighing 8.8 lbs. He is doing great and has already made his first Zoom appearance!



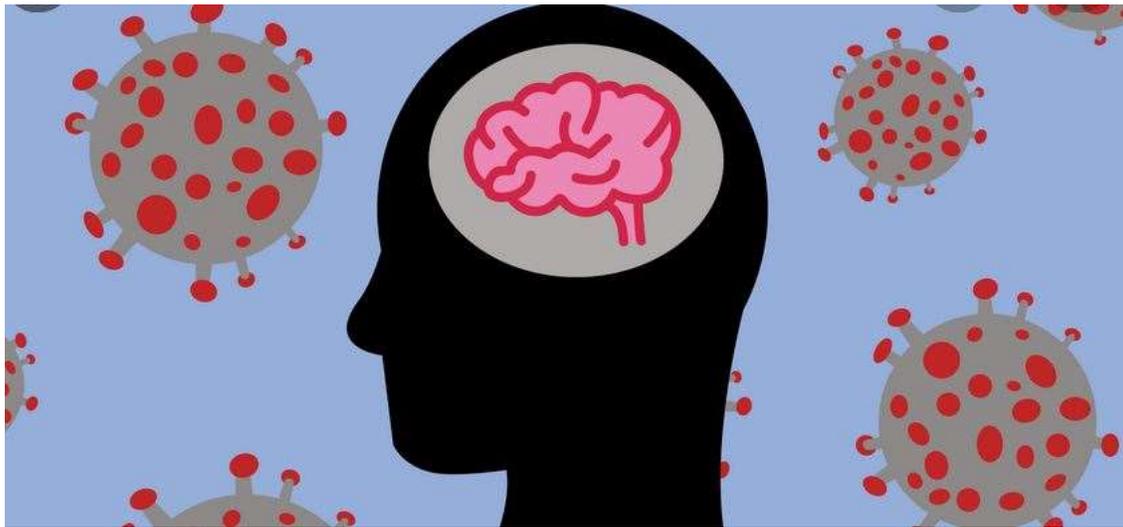
## PUBLICATIONS



An article titled “The impact of a family-based economic intervention on the mental health of HIV infected adolescents in Uganda: Results from Suubi+Adherence” which was co-authored by five members of the ICHAD and Smart Africa Centers has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. The co-authors included Dr. Fred Ssewamala, Dr. Proscovia Nabunya, Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, William Byansi a Brown School PhD candidate, and Christopher Damulira a Graduate Student Assistant. The study examines the extent to which three mental health measures: hopelessness, depression, and poor self-concept are improved through a family-based economic (FE) intervention implemented among adolescents living with HIV (ALHIV) in Uganda. The study utilized repeated-measures from Suubi+Adherence, a large scale longitudinal randomized controlled trial. Results indicate that FE interventions such as Suubi+Adherence can effectively improve the mental health of ALHIV who evidenced mental health challenges at baseline. Given the promising positive effects of these interventions, at least in the short-term, future studies should investigate strategies to promote the sustainability of these mental health benefits.



Congratulations to ICHAD and SMART Africa Center Director, Dr. Fred Ssewamala, ICHAD Co-Director Lindsay Stark, PhD Student Flora Cohen and SMART Africa Fellow Timothy Opo for their recent publication “Intimate partner violence and mental health: Sex-disaggregated associations among adolescents and young adults in Uganda” in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. The paper examined the association between Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) victimization, perpetration, and mental health outcomes for male and female adolescents and young adults in Uganda. Data analysis showed that males were more than twice as likely as females to perpetrate IPV. The findings among youth and adolescents demonstrated associated but different experiences for males and females. Findings indicate the importance of understanding the relationship between IPV victimization and perpetration, and addressing these correlates with a gender-sensitive perspective to inform policy and programming. More information about this paper can be found [here](#).



Recently a policy brief titled “COVID-19 and the impending mental health crisis: What can the NIMH global mental health research community offer?” was co-authored by three members of the ICHAD and SMART Africa Centers: Dr. Fred Ssewamala, Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, and William Byansi. Published in *Lancet Psychiatry*, the policy piece highlights the need for policy makers to consider the significant effects of COVID-19 on the mental health of people across the globe. In effect, the policy brief recommends the need to develop effective mental health services for the future acknowledging the importance of the use of technology to train health professionals. The policy brief also acknowledges that the research teams supported by NIMH funding allow new opportunities for academic partnerships across high- and low-resource countries, and establish new collaborations with low and middle-income countries’ governmental, non-governmental, and community-based stakeholders.



A paper co-authored by Dr. Fred Ssewamala, Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, ICHAD Affiliate Dr. Kimberly Johnson and former MPH student Ruth Katumba, titled “Cancer in youth living with HIV (YLWHIV): A narrative review of access to oncological services among YLWHIV and the role of economic strengthening in child health,” was recently accepted for publication in the *Frontiers Public Health Journal*. The paper highlights that youth living with HIV/AIDS have a higher risk of developing immunodeficiency related illnesses including certain cancers than their general population counterparts of the same age. Study findings suggest that both HIV-infected and uninfected children living in low and middle-income countries struggle with access and adherence to cancer treatment and care. Cost of treatment is a major barrier to access and adherence. Asset-building savings programs may increase financial security and subsequently result in better health outcomes although they have not been utilized to improve access to cancer treatment.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## SMART Africa Center

### Brown School

**Research Challenges and Opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa during COVID-19:  
Experiences of the SMART Africa Teams in Uganda, Ghana and Kenya  
August 6, 2020 - Virtual from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM**

This program is presented in partnership with ICHAD and the SMART Africa Center. It will be facilitated by Dean Mary McKay with panelists including Emmanuel Asampong, PhD, Joshua Kiyingi, MSTAT, Anne Mbwayo, PhD, and Muthoni Mathai, PhD.

We welcome your help inviting participants to view this conversation. Please direct guests to RSVP for the event at [https://wustl.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6ht63eH9tFpC7w9](https://wustl.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6ht63eH9tFpC7w9).

We will also livestream to YouTube. Feel free to share our YouTube channel address at <https://www.youtube.com/user/WUSTLBrownSchool>.



**COVID-19, MENTAL HEALTH,  
AND THE NEED FOR EQUITY  
SEPTEMBER 3-4, 2020**

**COVID-19, Mental Health, and the Need for Equity  
Mental Health America (MHA) Annual Conference  
September 3-4, 2020 - Virtual**

Each year, the Mental Health America (MHA) Annual Conference brings together MHA affiliates, community stakeholders, peers, caregivers, providers, government officials, media and more from across the country to discuss important and emerging mental health issues. MHA's 2020 Annual Conference will take place September 3-4, 2020 and is themed COVID-19, Mental Health, and the Need for Equity. Learn more [here](#).



# ISCC

IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE  
CONSORTIUM IN CANCER

**Implementation Science Consortium in Cancer  
September 22-23, 2020 - Virtual**

The virtual 2020 ISCC will be a working meeting that will focus on short-term and long-term cancer control priorities; challenges and opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic; synergies and gaps in the implementation science space across NCI-funded initiatives; and discussion on infrastructures for cross collaboration. The event will feature a variety of presentations and discussion sessions, as well as pre-work to encourage more engagement and discussion during each virtual session meeting. This meeting is free to attend, but registration is required for online participation. Learn more [here](#).



**Creating the Healthiest Nation: Preventing Violence  
APHA Annual Meeting and Expo  
October 24-28, 2020 - Online**

APHA's Annual Meeting and Expo is where public health professionals convene, learn, network and engage with peers. With the Annual Meeting, we strengthen the profession of public health, share the latest research and information, promote best practices and advocate for public health issues and policies grounded in research. Come experience APHA. This year's theme is "Creating the Healthiest Nation: Preventing Violence." Learn more [here](#).

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## OPPORTUNITIES

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### ICHAD OPPORTUNITIES



## **Postdoctoral Fellowship**

The T37 LEAD Global Training Program is accepting applications for a 1-2 year postdoctoral fellow. The LEAD Global Fellowship supports trainees from underrepresented groups committed to conducting health disparities research, with a specific focus on global mental health prevention, intervention, services, and implementation research within resource-constrained settings. Eligible candidates should be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or permanent resident, and be from a disadvantaged or underrepresented population in biomedical, behavioral, clinical & social science research as outlined by the NIH. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and can be completed on the T37 LEAD Global Fellowship website at <https://sites.wustl.edu/lead/apply/>. For more information, contact Laura Peer at [lpeer@wustl.edu](mailto:lpeer@wustl.edu).



## **Call for COVID-19 Related Manuscript Submissions**

SARS-CoV-2 is a new virus responsible for an outbreak of respiratory illness known as COVID-19, which has spread to several countries around the world causing immense challenges to the lives of people. In response to COVID-19 impact on individuals, families and their communities globally, the Global Social Welfare journal is inviting our global community to contribute research articles sharing stories and experiences (both positive and negative) with our readers who can use this information to inform the development and implementation of future programs. We encourage the submission of both original science and conceptual pieces—that would inform the practice and policy frameworks across the global community. The Global Social Welfare journal brings together research that informs the fields of global social work, social development, and social welfare policy and practice. It serves as an outlet for manuscripts and brief reports of interdisciplinary applied research that advance knowledge about global threats to the well-being of individuals, groups, families, and communities. Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed by experts in the field.

Rapid peer review and prompt editorial decisions will ensure that quality manuscripts are published in a timely manner and disseminated widely to inform additional research and policymaking on COVID-19-related issues. Read more about the Global Social Welfare journal or submit a manuscript now through the Manuscript Submission Portal.

Questions can be sent to [Fred M. Ssewamala PhD.](#)

## EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

[Capacity Building Manager \(Rwanda location\), Program on Children and Adversity, Boston College School of Social Work](#)

[Data Manager/Data Analyst, Program on Children and Adversity, Boston College School of Social Work](#)

[Postdoctoral Diversity Supplement Candidates, Expanding the Reach of Evidence-based Mental Health Interventions, Boston College School of Social Work](#)

[Program Manager \(Rwanda location\), Program on Children and Adversity, Boston College School of Social Work](#)

[Research Associate \(Rwanda location\), Program on Children and Adversity, Boston College School of Social Work](#)

[Research Associate \(Implementation Science\) at Boston College School of Social Work](#)

[Research Associate \(Gender\) at Boston College School of Social Work  
St. Louis County Government](#)

## COVID-19 RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

[NOSI regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus and the Behavioral and Social Sciences](#)

[NOSI regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Mental Health Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#)

[NOSI: Competitive and Administrative Supplements for the Impact of COVID-19 Outbreak on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#)

[NIH POCTRN: Fast-Track Program for COVID-19 Test Development and Distribution](#)

[NOSI: Emergency Competitive Revisions for Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications \(SEBI\) Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations](#)

[NOSI: Limited Competition for Emergency Competitive Revisions for Community-Engaged Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations](#)

[NOSI: Emergency Competitive Revisions for Community-Engaged Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations](#)

[Alcohol-HIV/AIDS Program Project Comorbidities, Coinfections, and Complications Research: Intervention and Cross-Cutting Foundational Research](#)

[Community Interventions to Address the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic among Health Disparity and Vulnerable Populations](#)

**SMART Africa Center**  
**International Center For Child Health and**  
**Development (ICHAD)**  
Brown School, Washington University in St.  
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