



**Making a generational impact and creating hope for the future**

**ICHAD 2020**  
**Annual Report**



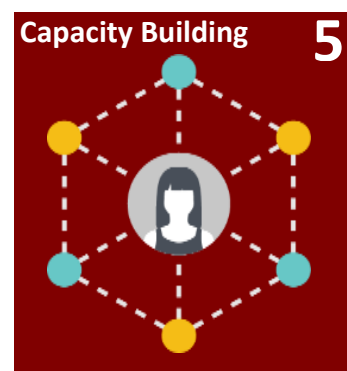
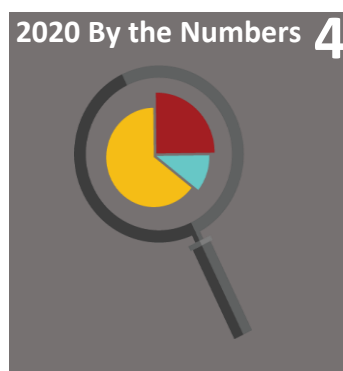
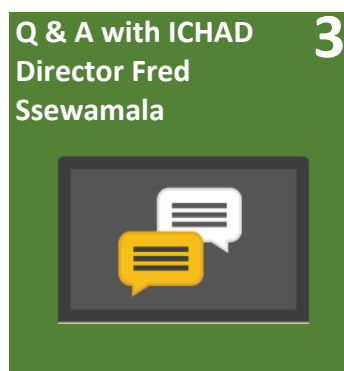
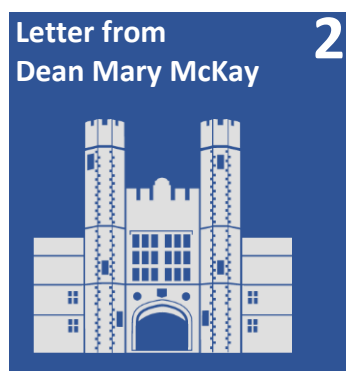
Washington University in St. Louis  
BROWN SCHOOL

## Our Mission

To contribute to the reduction of poverty and improvement of public health outcomes for children, adolescents and families in low-resource communities, particularly those in Sub-Saharan Africa and other developing nations, through:

- Innovative applied intervention research
- Capacity building opportunities for a new generation of scholars
- Raising public awareness and support for economic empowerment interventions
- Informing public policy and programming

## Table of Contents



## Letter from Dean Mary McKay

Dear Friends,

This past year has presented some extraordinary challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused us to rethink how we accomplish tasks, big and small. The International Center for Child Health and Development (ICHAD) has shown incredible resilience and adaptation in the face of the pandemic. By moving their NIH-funded pre- and post-doctoral training programs online and continuing to advance their research using strict safety protocols, ICHAD continues to fulfill its mission to reduce poverty and improve the health of children, adolescents and families in Sub-Saharan Africa and other developing nations.



I am particularly impressed by the exponential growth of ICHAD. Under the leadership of Dr. Fred Ssewamala, ICHAD Founding Director and William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, the institute has secured three new NIH grants in 2020: [Suubi+Adherence-R2](#), [Suubi4Stigma](#), [CHILD Global Research Fellowship \(CHILD-GRF\)](#), and one foundation-funded grant, [Suubi4STEM](#). Additionally, the ICHAD team has expanded in the United States, Uganda and Ghana.

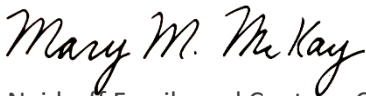
ICHAD's commitment to diversity has never been stronger. They have three training programs that were designed specifically for trainees from underrepresented backgrounds, and developed programming to help African graduate-level students find employment post-graduation.

I am deeply grateful to Drs. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, Proscovia Nabunya, and Lindsay Stark, ICHAD's co-directors whose dedication to applied research focused on children and family-based economic interventions and reducing high-risk health behaviors has resulted in so many effective evidence-based interventions that have been implemented around the world.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Dr. Fred Ssewamala on being appointed by Washington University Chancellor Andrew Martin and the McDonnell International Scholars Academy to serve as the University's Ambassador to Makerere University, his alma mater. It will serve as a wonderful opportunity to connect two universities on opposite sides of the globe, both of which Dr. Ssewamala calls home.

Sincerely,

Mary M. McKay, PhD



Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean  
Co-Director, SMART Africa Center  
Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis



## Q&A with ICHAD Director Fred Ssewamala

William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor  
Director, SMART Africa Center  
Director, ICHAD

### *2020: Creating Connections in an Unconnected Time*

#### **Q: 2020 was a year like no other. How did your team respond to this unprecedented situation?**

**A:** For someone used to traveling to various regions of the globe every other month to oversee our multiple ongoing field studies, 2020 was quite the adjustment. Yet, I am truly amazed at what our team accomplished this year. For example, in Uganda, where we have eight on-going studies with over 50 field employees, the team quickly drafted a COVID-19 risk management plan, got it approved by the local institutional review board and the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology, and transformed our office spaces to ensure they met safety protocols. Once we had safety protocols in place, we resumed study activities 2020 style. Via the telephone! To date, more than 2,000 phone interviews have been conducted. We were also able to continue with socially distanced financial literacy and HIV Risk Reduction sessions. And in the United States, our three NIH-funded training programs with a combined 25 trainees had to go through a quick curriculum delivery adjustment. Within six weeks, our team quickly pivoted from having our trainees travel to global sites for hands-on research training to a curriculum that used an entirely virtual platform, with daily seminars and mentored support on research projects.

#### **Q: Has anything about this unique year surprised you?**

**A:** Most of our study participants have expressed a strong appreciation of phone interviews. They have indicated that they are speaking more freely and are more comfortable discussing sensitive topics over the phone! Could you believe it? Overall, I am impressed by how swiftly our study participants and trainees have embraced technology, with most expressing a preference for the virtual experience, making them feel connected in these unconnected times.

#### **Q: What are you most proud of this year?**

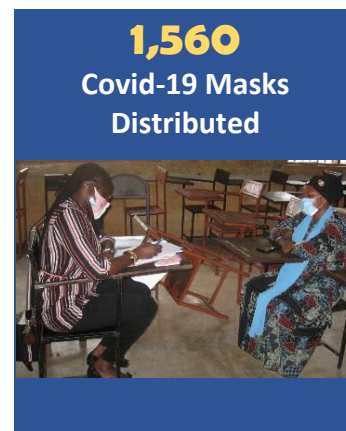
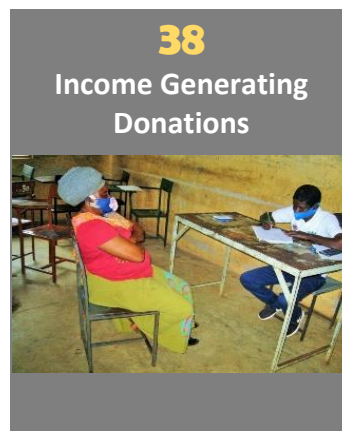
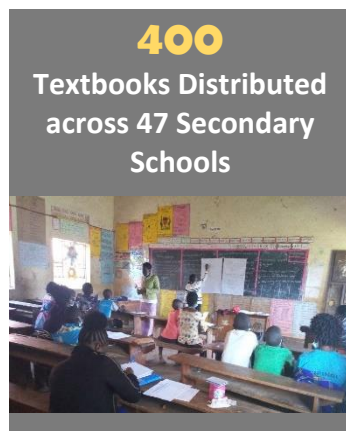
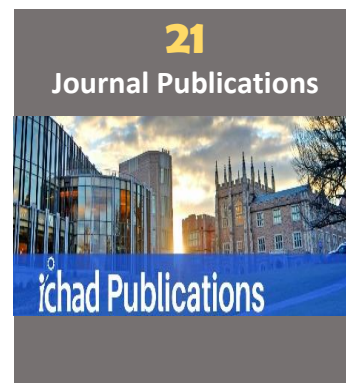
**A:** There is so much to be proud of! Just to mention a few, I am proud of how our teams, both in the United States and in Sub-Saharan Africa, have responded. I feel the teams have grown closer during this difficult period. That is the power of Zoom! We can now frequently combine staff meetings, birthday celebrations and life events! It is like we are in the same place, no longer separated by distance. Four of our Ugandan team members have begun graduate school at Washington University. Three are in Brown School, and one opted to go to the School of Engineering. They are taking their classes remotely until the U.S. Embassy in Kampala opens to issue student visas. We look forward to (hopefully) welcoming them all to the United States in 2021!

#### **Q: What are your plans for 2021?**

**A:** To focus on the present and ensure the continued quality of our work. We have an enormous amount of quality data. We plan to continue to work with students and our global partners to publish out of these data. It is our goal to widely disseminate our findings via different avenues so that we can collectively work to reduce poverty and improve health outcomes in low-resourced communities. Capacity building is also at the forefront of 2021. Both for our current and incoming cohort of trainees, as well as for our team members in Uganda. We can all learn from one another, and I would like to focus on bi-directional learning and supporting each other. Finally, I hope to grow and strengthen our U.S. and global collaborations.



## 2020 By the Numbers



## Acknowledgment

ICHAD would like to thank the entire team for their hard work and continued dedication to ICHAD's mission. Special thanks goes to our funders: The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute for Mental Health, the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, Fogarty International Center, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, and Barbara and Marc Arnold in Colorado (U.S.A.), MilliporeSigma, Merck and Washington University's Africa Initiative.

We would like to thank our collaborating partners on the ground, including Reach the Youth-Uganda, ChildFund International, Rakai Health Sciences Program, Uganda Cancer Institute, AfriChild Centre, Makerere University, MildMay Uganda, Centenary Bank, Stanbic Bank, Equity Bank, and Masaka Catholic Diocese, the district leaders across the seven geopolitical districts in the Greater Masaka region, along with the Uganda Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education and the Institute for School Partnership at Washington University.

We would also like to express our deepest appreciation to the experts who shared their work at our Speaker Series and Research Training events. They include Susannah Allison, Parul Bakhshi, Ellis Ballard, Clement Bayetti, Rick Berzon, Tim Bono, Jacob Borodovsky, Holly Campbell-Rosen, Charita Castro, Patricia Cavazos Rehg, Brett Drake, Elvin Geng, Shenyang Guo, Sean Joe, Nikole Lobb Dougherty, Mary McKay, Nancy Mueller, Noeline Nakasujja, Janet Nakigudde, Elijah Paintsil, Byron Powell, John Santelli, and Yesim Tozan.

Our work would not be possible without the support of the teaching and administrative staff at each of the participating schools in the greater Masaka region (47 for Suubi4Her and 30 in SMART Africa), health care workers and clinic staff at each of the collaborating 39 health centers and clinics, as well as community health workers and parent peers totaling over 120 in number. Finally, we extend our sincere gratitude to all participating children, adolescents, women and their families, who are the inspiration for the work we do.

## Capacity Building




### Research Training Programs

Capacity building is one of the primary focus areas for ICHAD as we continue to develop and implement contextually-relevant evidence-based interventions to support children, families, and communities in addressing the unique challenges they experience. ICHAD provides capacity building opportunities and fellowships to students, team members, and scholars across the globe. By leveraging our global research studies, university affiliations, and institutional partnerships, ICHAD promotes bi-directional learning between the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa, and beyond. In summer 2020, ICHAD added two new NIH-funded training programs to our existing [Researcher Resilience Training Program \(RRT\)](#): [The LEAD Global Training Program \(LEAD\)](#) and [CHILD-Global Research Fellowship \(CHILD-GRF\)](#).

*I have always been intimidated by quantitative analysis. The research training sessions helped to demystify quantitative analysis and explained the process clearly and coherently using examples. I found it useful that the instructor is willing to provide more information after the session.*

– Summer 2020 CHILD-GRF Fellow

Although these programs are centered around a unique hands-on summer training component and mentorship, our 25 trainees and fellows were unable to travel due to COVID-19 restrictions. In order to provide a high-quality training experience in a virtual format, our team quickly streamlined the three distinct summer curricula and leveraged our substantial resources by combining all three training programs, which resulted in additional networking opportunities, peer feedback and support from a larger cohort of trainees and faculty mentors, and a greater variety in training topics and skills gained. The combined curriculum featured over 30 webinars, panel discussions, trainings, and networking and professional development opportunities, all on the virtual meeting platform Zoom. We hosted experts from within Washington University and partner institutions across the United States and the globe on a wide range of topics. In addition, each trainee worked with a mentor from Washington University in St. Louis, Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, or from a partner institution to develop a research project, analyze data, draft a manuscript or apply for their own research funding. For more information, read the [2020 ICHAD Capacity Building Report](#).

Programs At-A-Glance	 <a href="https://sites.wustl.edu/rrtraining">https://sites.wustl.edu/rrtraining</a>	 <a href="https://sites.wustl.edu/lead">https://sites.wustl.edu/lead</a>	 <a href="https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf">https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf</a>
Directors	Mary McKay, Fred Ssewamala, Sean Joe	Fred Ssewamala, Patricia Cavazos	Fred Ssewamala, Mary McKay, Noeline Nakasujja
Research Focus	Child and adolescent mental health in low-resource settings	Global health disparities with a focus on mental health	Child and adolescent HIV and mental health
Research Region	U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	Uganda
Number of Fellows	9 fellows per year	7-9 short term fellows per year; 1-2 postdocs per year	7 fellows (year 1); 12 fellows (year 2); 18 fellows (year 3)
Career Level	PhD, MD, or other doctoral students through early career faculty (must have received advanced degree within 5 years of program start date)		Advanced graduate level student through early career faculty (advanced degree completed within 5 years of program start)
Eligibility Requirements	No citizenship requirement, but must be affiliated with a U.S.-based institution; priority given to those of African descent	U.S. citizen; Under-represented minority	Ugandan national
Duration	1-year appointment (April-March)	10-week appointment (June-August)	3-year appointment (Begins each June)
Timeline	1 week in person; on-going research/mentorship for 1 or 2 years	4 weeks U.S.; 6 weeks SSA research site	6 weeks summer training in U.S. over a three-year period; on-going research/mentorship
Funded by	National Institute of Mental Health: R25MH118935 (2018-2023)	National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities: T37MD014218 (2019-2023)	Fogarty International Center and National Institute for Child Health and Development: D43TW011541 (2020-2024)



## Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Training



Good Clinical Practice (GCP) is the international ethical, scientific and practical standard with which all clinical research should be conducted. Compliance with GCP provides public assurance that the rights, safety and wellbeing of research participants are protected, and that research data are reliable. Recognizing the importance of these principals, 27 ICHAD research assistants and newly recruited interviewers received GCP training at Rakai Health Sciences Program, a partner organization in Uganda, at the beginning of 2020. The ICHAD Uganda team was trained by Mrs. Grace Kigozi on informed consent process and data collection techniques, including how to collect good quality data using the Suubi4Her questionnaire as a case example.

*"ICHAD is 'a university' where you learn new things that you would never learn from lecture rooms."*

*– Dr. Abel Mwebembezi, Executive Director, Reach the Youth Uganda;  
In-Country Investigator, ICHAD Studies*



In fall 2020, more than 30 ICHAD team members and affiliates received additional GCP training on Human Subject Research via Zoom through a four part series led by Andrea Morris, Manager of Human Research Quality Assurance Program at [Washington University Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research](#). In addition to laying the foundation for good clinical practice, the sessions covered preparing thorough regulatory binders, conducting self-audit, and discussing compliance using multiple case examples.

## HIV Risk Reduction Sessions

In January 2020, ICHAD Uganda team members were trained by ICHAD affiliates Drs. Susan Witte and Marion Riedel on how to deliver HIV Risk Reduction (HIVRR) Sessions. Delivered as part of the Kyaterekera Project interventions, the HIVRR sessions cover topics such as harm reduction, social supports, HIV/STI symptoms and treatment, safer sex negotiations, and communication skills.





## COVID-19 New Safety Measures and Preparedness Training

*Uganda Team members meet outside during a COVID preparedness training*



Due to the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, several ICHAD studies and activities were temporarily suspended in 2020. The ICHAD Uganda team quickly adjusted and developed a COVID-19 risk management plan that was approved by the local institutional review board (IRB). The team also received COVID-19 safety measures and preparedness training from a District Surveillance Officer. The training included sessions on proper use of thermometer guns to avoid spreading COVID-19, as well as safety protocols developed by the [Ugandan Ministry of Health](#), in line with the guidance provided from the World Health Organization. ICHAD Uganda offices and operations were also reconfigured to allow social distancing and other precautions that limit the spread of COVID-19.

*Team members learn proper use of thermometer guns*



## Adapting to Technology

Throughout 2020, training was provided to equip staff with the necessary communication and technical skills to enable the team to effectively collect quality data using telephone interviews. At the beginning of the year, Robert Kasumba, the Suubi4STEM Study Coordinator and a software engineer, also provided weekly computer training for the ICHAD Uganda team as part of capacity building programs to help the staff improve their computer skills.

*ICHAD Uganda team members receive computer trainings*



*Dividers are placed at ICHAD calling centers to ensure staff safety*





## Research Projects

### Combination Interventions

As ICHAD continues to grow, our team has increasingly adopted “combination interventions,” realizing that no single intervention can address our mission of reducing poverty and improving health outcomes on its own. With a package of economic empowerment initiatives at the center of our work, we layer on additional proven interventions to address mental health (MFG) and education (STEM) recognizing that education, mental health resources and savings are keys to lifting families out of poverty.



- **Youth Savings Accounts (YSAs)**, or matched savings accounts, are a sustainable economic empowerment strategy for children in families living in poverty. In ICHAD’s YSA interventions, children and adolescents enroll in a matched savings program at a financial institution. Savings can be accessed by participants at any time for educational purposes or microenterprise development. These YSAs also create a safety net for emergencies such as sickness and unexpected financial burden. In the long term, YSAs impart a culture of saving which helps participants to realize future goals. YSAs have been associated with improved educational outcomes, family functioning, youth mental health and psychosocial wellbeing, future orientation and reduced risk-taking behaviors.
- **Vocational Skills Training and Microenterprise Workshops** provide study participants, children and their parent/guardian(s) with training and information on income generating activities (IGA). IGA participants appreciate how this program has helped them meet their basic needs, including access to education, acquiring income, obtaining project management skills and increased access to health education.
- **Multiple Family Group (MFG)** is an intervention for families of children with disruptive behaviors, common in low-resource settings with poor mental health infrastructure. Children and their families attend 16 MFG sessions facilitated by either parent peers or community health workers. Central to this approach is providing a support system for families, including opportunities for parents and children to communicate in a safe setting with other families with shared experiences.
- **HIV Risk Reduction Sessions** cover topics such as harm reduction, social supports, HIV/STI symptoms and treatment, safer sex negotiations, and communication skills. As necessary, participants also receive linkages to health services including PrEP and ART medication.
- **Financial Literacy Training** addresses the importance of savings, banking services, budgeting and debt management. These sessions are delivered in collaboration with our partner organizations, Reach the Youth – Uganda and the financial institutions.
- A strong **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Curriculum** in schools can lead to increased job creation, labor productivity, tax revenue, economic growth and development. Working with our partner the Institute for School Partnerships at Washington University, our team met with teachers from 15 primary schools in Uganda to explore a more hands-on, experimental approach to learning and delivery of STEM education in primary schools.



# Suubi4Her (2017-2022)

Left: An ICHAD staff member prepares Suubi4Her participants for a new telephone interview format  
Right: A Suubi4Her participant answers Wave 3 follow-up interview questions via phone




## Suubi4Her At-a-Glance

**1,260** participants across 47 schools

**\$15,476** saved by participants

**1,081** telephone interviews

**1** publication in 2020

 Nabunya, P., Damulira, C., Byansi, W., Muwanga, J., Sensoy Bahar, O., Namuwonge, F., Ighofose, E., Brathwaite, R., Tumwesige, W., & Ssewamala, F. M. (2020). Prevalence and correlates of depressive symptoms among high school adolescent girls in southern Uganda. *BMC Public Health*, 20.

The Suubi4Her study 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. By promoting financial stability and addressing mental health through family strengthening, Suubi4Her seeks to reduce the risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) for this critical demographic. In 2020, the study team completed delivery of financial literacy training in 31 schools, as well as the first phase of income generating activities in these schools. 16 family strengthening MFG sessions were also delivered in 12 schools. In addition, the team completed 12- and 24-months follow-up assessments, as well as qualitative interviews to assess participants' intervention experiences. For a detailed 2020 report of the study, visit <https://ichad.wustl.edu/suubi4her>.

*"The new method of interviewing makes me feel proud and different. We hold expensive phones that we have never held before. They make the interview process interesting and I can freely respond to personal questions with a lot of confidence given that no one is seeing me."*

**– Participant from Kijjabwemi S.S.**

*"I appreciate Prof. Fred for setting up savings accounts and a matching program. Because of the program, I have been able to secure a golden future for my daughter. Sometimes I withdrew money to pay for my daughter's school fees, which ICHAD could match immediately. I have even started a pig farm as an income generating activity as encouraged during the IGA sessions."*

**– Guardian from Nativity of Our Lady Bisanje S.S.**

**Funder:** National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

**Principal Investigator:** Fred M. Ssewamala, PhD

**Project Team Members:** Mary McKay, PhD; Claude Mellins, PhD; Irwin Garfinkel, PhD; Proscovia Nabunya, PhD; Torsten Neilands, PhD; Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD; Yesim Tozan, PhD

**Field Coordinator:** Flavia Namuwonge

**Research Collaborators:** Abel Mwebembezi, PhD (Reach the Youth-Uganda); Rev. Fr. Kato Bakulu (Masaka Diocese); Gertrude Nakigozi (Rakai Health Sciences Program)



## Suubi+Adherence-R2 (2020-2025)

Stakeholders welcome the Mayor of Masaka City, Lord Mayor Godfrey Kayemba Afaayo, and four District Health Officers from the Masaka, Lwengo, Lyantonde and Rakai Districts who voiced their support for the continued work of Suubi+Adherence-R2



The Suubi+Adherence-R2 study seeks to examine the long-term impact of the Suubi+Adherence intervention on HIV viral suppression by tracking the original cohort of Suubi+Adherence participants. Specifically, the study explores the long-term impact of the intervention on key HIV treatment adherence outcomes for youth living with HIV, including their ability to access and refill prescribed medication, adherence to prescribed daily medication routines, and their engagement in HIV care such as keeping medical appointments. Awarded in September 2020, the MPIs (Drs. Fred Ssewamala, Ozge Sensoy Bahar, and Proscovia Nabunya) quickly got the study off the ground with a stakeholders' meeting with the in-charges and designated contact persons of 39 health clinics in the greater Masaka region, from where participants were recruited. Stakeholders were informed about the continuation of the study for an additional five years, and learned about the purpose of the study and how they will be involved. The team is currently waiting for local IRB approvals in Uganda and the Washington University IRB to start field activities.

### Suubi+Adherence-R2 At-a-Glance

**671** expected number of participants from the original study

**39** health clinics

**7** publications in 2020

 See publications on page 19



MPIs at WashU meet with stakeholders in Uganda via Zoom

*"We believe that providing a financial support system for youth has the potential to lead to long-term systemic, positive life choices. To my knowledge, the long-term effects on this population has never been measured, which is why this continued funding is so essential."*

**– MPI Dr. Proscovia Nabunya, ICHAD Co-Director**

#### **Funder:**

#### **Principal Investigators:**

#### **Project Team Members:**

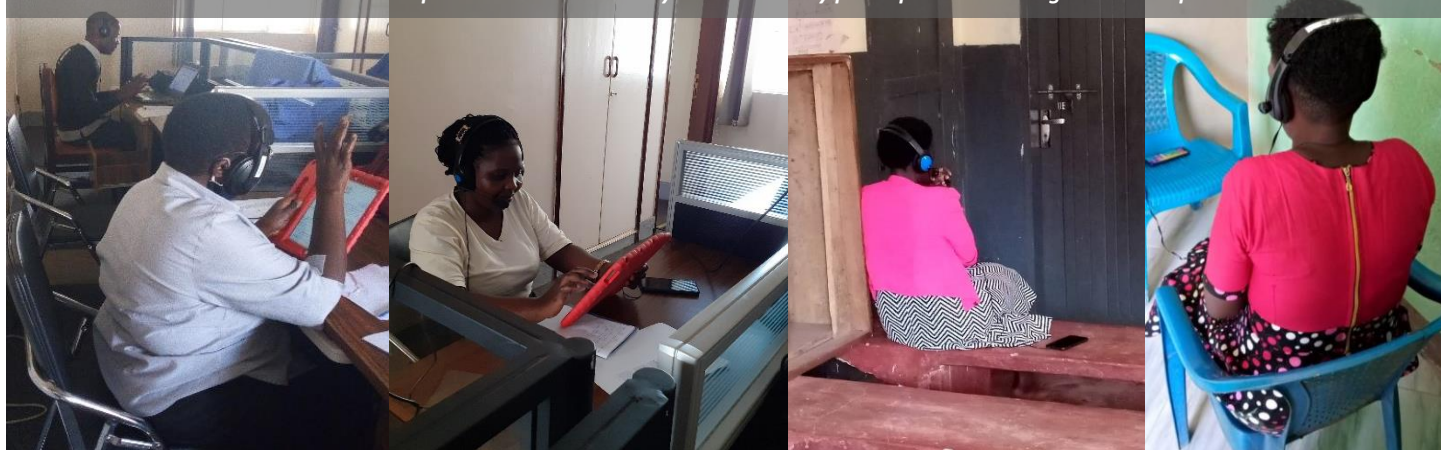
#### **Field Coordinators:**

#### **Research Collaborators:**

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institutes of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD)  
Fred M. Ssewamala, PhD; Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD; Proscovia Nabunya, PhD  
Rachel Brathwaite, PhD; Derek Brown, PhD; Shenyang Guo, PhD; Claude Mellins, PhD; Barbara Mukasa, MBChB; Torsten Neilands, PhD; John Santelli, PhD; April Denise Thames, PhD Joshua Kiyangi, MSTAT; Phionah Namatovu; Raymond Atwebembere, MBChB  
Abel Mwebembezi, PhD (Reach the Youth-Uganda); Barbara Mukasa, MBChB (Mildmay-Uganda)

# Kyaterekera Project (2018-2023)

ICHAD Research Assistants conduct telephone interviews with Kyaterekera study participants discussing sensitive topics



## Kyaterekera Project At-a-Glance

**542** participants recruited at 19 sites

**468** phone interviews conducted with participants

**5,935** boxes/cartons of condoms distributed

**264** face masks distributed

**\$12,200** saved by participants (from Sept. 2019 to Sept. 2020)

**62** additional saving accounts were opened in 2020 (241 accounts in total)

Through a combination of economic empowerment, vocational skills training, and HIV Risk Reduction (HIVRR) sessions, the Kyaterekera (*saving for the future*) Project is focused on reducing new incidences of sexually transmitted infections and HIV among women engaged in sex work in Uganda. In 2020, the team delivered four HIVRR sessions in all the 19 sites, and six Financial Literacy Training sessions at eight sites. Due to COVID-19-related restrictions, the team shifted to conducting 6- and 12-months follow-up interviews via phone. Although telephone interviews take longer than in-person interviews due to network challenges, this change has been well received by participants who feel more comfortable sharing their experiences with interviewers on sensitive issues. The team also held meetings with the Community Collaborative Board (CCB) and the Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) to discuss study progress, the impact of COVID-19 on study implementation and study participants, and the adoption of new implementation strategies amidst the COVID-19 epidemic.

*“Using the knowledge I got from HIVRR, I reflected on leaving sex work for other businesses so I left sex work for selling sweet bananas.”*

– Study participant from Kasensero Site

*“I always thought that since I am HIV positive, there is no need to use condoms, but after learning about the dangers of contracting other sexually transmitted diseases, I now stick to using condoms.”*

– Study participant from Kimaanya Site

*“After attending the Financial Literacy Training sessions and following the long-term financial goal, I have been able to complete my rental house project using my savings and the match from the study.”*

– Study participant from Kimaanya Site

### Funder:

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

### Principal Investigators:

Fred M. Ssewamala, PhD; Susan Witte, PhD

### Project Team Members:

Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD; Larissa Jennings Mayo-Wilson, PhD; Joseph Kagaayi, PhD; Proscovia Nabunya, PhD; Yesim Tozan, PhD

### Field Coordinators:

Josephine Nabayinda, MSC

### Research Collaborators:

Abel Mwebembezi, PhD (Reach the Youth-Uganda)



# SMART Africa-Uganda (2016-2021)



SMART Africa-Uganda is part of the SMART (Strengthening Mental health and Research Training) Africa Center, a five-year multi-country longitudinal study focused on reducing child mental health service and research gaps in Ghana, Kenya, South Africa and Uganda. SMART Africa-Uganda is the scale-up study that examines the impact and implementation of an evidence-based Multiple Family Group (MFG) intervention for children experiencing behavioral problems and their families in Uganda.

Before the COVID-19 lockdown in Uganda, the team had completed delivery of 16 MFG sessions in eight treatment schools and had delivered up to session 13 in another eight treatment schools, with a participation rate of 79.3%. The SMART Africa team also conducted 537 telephone interviews for the 6-months follow up of the study.

*"We are a living example for our people in the community. Using respectful communication skills I learned through MFG sessions, I talked to my husband about drinking a lot of alcohol and he was able to change. For the first time since I was married, I have had peace in my marriage. Everyone asks me what I did for my husband to stop drinking alcohol. I only have one response: the sessions we received from ICHAD brought an everlasting change in my family. My husband and I are now community change agents."*

**– Caregiver Participant in SMART Africa Amaka Amasanyufu Program**

## Funder:

## Principal Investigators:

## Project Team Members:

## Field Coordinators:

## Research Collaborators:

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Mary McKay, PhD; Fred Ssewamala, PhD; Kimberly Hoagwood, PhD

Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD; Apollo Kivumbi, MBChB, MPH

Joshua Kiyangi, MSTAT; Josephine Nabayinda, MSC; Phionah Namatovu

Abel Mwebembezi, PhD (Reach the Youth-Uganda); Rev. Fr. Kato Bakulu (Masaka Diocese)

## SMART Africa-Uganda At-a-Glance

**2,079** dyads (children ages 8 to 13 and their guardian) served

**26** primary schools in the Greater Masaka region of Uganda

**537** phone interviews conducted

**1,296** face masks distributed

**2** publications in 2020

📖 McKay, M. M., Sensoy Bahar, O., & Ssewamala, F. M. (2020).

Implementation science in global health settings: Collaborating with governmental & community partners in Uganda. *Psychiatry Research*, 283, 112585.

📖 Sensoy Bahar, O., Byansi, W., Kivumbi, A., Namatovu, P., Kiyangi, J., Ssewamala, F. M., McKay, M., Nyoni, T. (2020) From "4Rs and 2Ss" to "Amaka Amasanyufu" (Happy Families): Adapting a U.S.-based Evidence-Based Intervention to the Uganda Context. *Family Process*.

## Suubi4Stigma (2020-2022)

Suubi4Stigma study examines the feasibility, acceptability and preliminary impact of two evidence-based interventions, Group Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (G-CBT) and Multiple Family Group (MFG), to address HIV/AIDS associated stigma among adolescents (aged 10-14 years) living with HIV in Uganda. Awarded in July 2020, the study received local IRB approvals from the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) and the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST), as well as Washington University's IRB to conduct the study. The team finalized all recruitment and data collection tools and protocols, as well as the MFG Facilitators' Manual and Family Handbook. Working with six collaborating health clinics that provide treatment services to adolescents living with HIV in the study region, the team began participant recruitment and to date, 21 child-caregiver dyads meeting the inclusion criteria have been recruited into the study. The interventions will be delivered following the completion of baseline assessments.



**Funder:** National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)  
**Principal Investigators:** Proscovia Nabunya, PhD; Fred M. Ssewamala, PhD  
**Project Team Members:** James Mugisha, PhD; Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD; Jean-Francois Trani, PhD  
**Field Coordinator:** Raymond Atwebembere, MBChB  
**Research Collaborators:** Abel Mwebembezi, PhD (Reach the Youth-Uganda)

## Kayayei Project (2018-2021)

Kayayei (*load carriers*) Project: Family Processes and Rural-urban Migration among Adolescents is a two-year study funded by the National Institute of Child & Human Development, that seeks to provide insights into child labor in Ghana, particularly around factors associated with unaccompanied female migration to cities. Led by ICHAD Co-Director and PI Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD, the study examined caregivers' perspectives on 1) ethnotheories on childhood/adolescence, the child's role in the family, child independent migration and labor, gender, cultural context and parents' own lived experiences; and 2) family processes and multi-level factors that influence female children's decisions to migrate for work. Qualitative data for 90 participants was collected through semi-structured interviews in 2019-2020. Data analysis is ongoing.



**Funder:** National Institutes of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD)  
**Principal Investigator:** Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD  
**Project Team Members:** Alice Boateng, PhD; Abdallah Ibrahim, DrPH; Mavis Dako-Gyeke, PhD  
**Field Coordinator:** Anas Sulemana, MBA  
**Research Collaborators:** Joseph Osei, Director (BIBIR Ghana)



## Suubi4Cancer (2018-2021)



Suubi4Cancer is a three-year study that has the following aims: 1) identify confirmed and suspected cancer cases in a cohort of more than 3,000 youth living with HIV/AIDS in five districts heavily affected by HIV/AIDS in Southern Uganda; 2) understand adolescents' experiences with HIV and cancer services; and 3) implement a combined intervention that includes an Economic Empowerment (EE) intervention that utilizes Child Development Accounts (CDA), which incorporates matched savings, and a series of educational trainings with an emphasis on cancer education, specifically addressing cultural misconceptions regarding cancer tumors. The Suubi EE intervention promotes family income-generating activities (IGAs) for adolescents living with HIV and their families to meet financial needs associated with accessing health services and staying in treatment. Topics covered in the EE intervention include saving and asset building, self-esteem and negotiation skills. In 2020, the team extracted data from 3,962 participants' medical records across 35 health facilities and identified potential adolescents and caregivers to participate in qualitative interviews. The team held over 40 meetings to give field updates and share study progress. The study also received continued review approval from Uganda Virus Research Institute and extended activities to May 2021.

*"Through ICHAD's Suubi4Cancer study, I have had a chance to learn how to use REDCap software and do data extraction from medical records at the health clinics."*


**Herbert Migadde, Suubi4Cancer Deputy Study Coordinator**

### Suubi4Cancer At-a-Glance

**3,962** medical records reviewed

**35** participating health facilities

**1** publication in 2020

 Katumba, R., Sensoy Bahar, O., Johnson, K. J., & Ssewamala, F. M. (2020). 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. *Frontiers Public Health*, 8, 409.



ICHAD staff reviews medical records

#### Funder:

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

#### Principal Investigator:

Fred Ssewamala, PhD; Kimberly Johnson, PhD; Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD

#### Project Team Members:

Apollo Kivumbi, MBChB; MPH; Nixon Niyonzima, MBChB /PhD

#### Field Coordinator:

Jennifer Nattabi, MSW; Herbert Migadde

#### Research Collaborators:

Uganda Cancer Institute; Abel Mwebembezi, PhD (Reach the Youth-Uganda)

# Anzansi Study (2019-2021)

An ICHAD interviewer conducts Anzansi Baseline Assessments in Tamale, Northern Ghana



Teachers attend an introductory meeting to learn about the Anzansi study



The Anzansi (*resilience*) Family Program is a two-year study that tests the feasibility of an innovative combination intervention program amongst adolescent girls at risk of dropping out of school in Northern Ghana. By promoting financial stability and strengthening family relations, this study seeks to address the increasing numbers of unaccompanied minors migrating from rural to urban areas searching for better economic opportunities. The study evaluates child development outcomes including: school attendance, intention to independently migrate, family financial stability, psychosocial and mental health functioning and family cohesion. In 2020, implementation partner BasicNeeds recruited 100 families and completed baseline assessments for the study. BasicNeeds also supported families in putting together all bank required information to open CDA with the Agricultural Development Bank in Ghana. Textbooks on core subjects (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) were provided to both the control and treatment groups as bolstered care. Implementation partner BIBIR Ghana identified and trained facilitators who are currently conducting financial literacy training and income generating activities.

*"I started working at ICHAD as a foundation practicum student supporting the Anzansi family program. It has been a rich learning experience to be part of everything from stakeholders' engagement and participant recruitment to baseline assessment, gaining valuable skills to facilitate diverse groups, lead and manage a team in times of crisis, and harness different competencies to achieve a shared goal."*

**Portia Nartey, MSW Student, Anzansi Student Coordinator**

<b>Funder:</b>	National Institutes of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD)
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD
<b>Project Team Members:</b>	Alice Boateng, PhD, Abdallah Ibrahim, DrPH, Emmanuel Asampong, PhD, Mary McKay, PhD, Proscovia Nabunya, PhD, Fred Ssewamala, PhD
<b>Field Coordinator:</b>	Kingsley Kumbelim, Portia Nartey
<b>Research Collaborators:</b>	Joseph Osei, Director (BIBIR Ghana) and Peter Yaro, Executive Director (BasicNeeds)

## Anzansi Study At-a-Glance


**100** adolescent girls (ages 11-14) from 10 schools and their caregivers served

**50** families receive MFG sessions and Family Economic Empowerment training sessions

**400** textbooks distributed

**41** child development accounts opened

**1** publication in 2020

 Sensoy Bahar O, Ssewamala FM, Ibrahim A, Boateng A, Nabunya P, Neilands TB, Asampong E, McKay MM. Anzansi family program: a study protocol for a combination intervention addressing developmental and health outcomes for adolescent girls at risk of unaccompanied migration. *Pilot and Feasibility Studies*. 2020 Dec;6(1):1-2.



The Food and Dietary Acculturation and Diabetes-Associated Risk Factors among Immigrants and Refugees study aims to explore the multi-level facilitators and barriers associated with food and dietary acculturation patterns. It also seeks to explore diabetes-related knowledge, beliefs and prevention attitudes amongst East African immigrants and refugee populations living in St. Louis. Over the summer, the team, led by ICHAD Co-Director Dr. Proscovia Nabunya, obtained IRB approval and conducted data training for research assistants. In response to COVID-19 guidelines, the team received approval to conduct recruitment and data collection via telephone. To date, six participants have been interviewed. Participant recruitment and data collection processes are still ongoing.

ICHAD Co-Directors Drs. Ozge Sensoy Bahar and Proscovia Nabunya, and ICHAD affiliate Penina Acayo Laker were awarded a pilot grant titled “Say no to stigma: Making mental health visible among school-going children in rural Uganda” from the Washington University’s Africa Initiative Pilot Grant Program. Through a set of focus groups with children, school administrators and teachers from a primary school in the Masaka region of Uganda and subsequent extensive creative workshops, the study aims to develop a set of new, age-appropriate, culturally relevant signage and messaging around mental health and stigma to be used in Uganda’s primary schools. In 2020, the team finalized and pre-tested all focus group interview guides and is planning to recruit 30 students in grades 3-7 to participate in focus groups that will explore their understanding of/experiences with mental health and mental health related stigma. Knowledge from this study will inform the development of a larger study to test the impact of messaging in school environments and children’s perceptions of mental illness and mental health stigma.

Funded by MilleporeSigma and Merck, Suubi4STEM is focused on advancing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education in Africa. The overall goal of this project is to increase the number of children who transition from primary school to secondary school, and increase the STEM-related knowledge and skills of all students who make this transition. The program will support poor school-going girls and boys with financial incentives to motivate them to stay in school and thus, engage with STEM learning opportunities, while at the same time integrating efforts towards the strengthening of the delivery of the STEM curriculum via science teachers training/mentorship. Led by Co-PIs Fred Ssewamala, PhD, and Mary McKay, PhD, along with Project Team Members Penina Acayo Laker, MFA, Proscovia Nabunya, PhD, Victoria May and Rachel Ruggirello, PhD, the study will target 600 primary school students at 20 schools. The team received IRB approvals and held consultative meetings with representative school teachers from the study region via Zoom.



### Formal Partnership between Washington University in St. Louis and Makerere University in Uganda



In summer 2020, Washington University in St. Louis, led by the [McDonnell International Scholars Academy](#), formalized its partnership with Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. This partnership will allow for additional collaborations between the two entities in four main areas: 1) Joint research activities, including specialized funding opportunities and a Bi-Annual Research Symposium; 2) Special educational and exchange opportunities between students from both institutions; 3) A scholars' program that provides leadership training for global scholars who want to study at Washington University; and 4) Global Ambassadors to help connect researchers and students.

Washington University Vice Chancellor of International Affairs and McDonnell Academy Director, Professor Kurt Dirks, said this agreement provides a “mutually beneficial relationship that will help address problems that cannot be solved by any one country or one university, such as COVID-19, climate change, or bigger societal problems.” ICHAD Director Dr. Fred Ssewamala played a key role in facilitating the establishment of this partnership and was appointed by the Washington University Chancellor Andrew Martin and the McDonnell International Scholars Academy to serve as the University’s Ambassador to Makerere University. Dr. Ssewamala’s role as Ambassador to Makerere University, his alma mater, is a natural extension of his ongoing efforts to provide capacity building opportunities and fellowships to students, team members, and scholars across the globe. His newly awarded CHILD-Global Research Fellowship brings early career researchers from Ugandan institutions to Washington University for state-of-the-art methods training, mentoring, and “hands-on” research experience.



### Capacity Building at Makerere University

In addition to the CHILD-GRF Training Program (see page 5), ICHAD, in collaboration with Makerere University, received an administrative supplement grant from the Fogarty International Center and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development focused on building capacity to develop awareness, training procedures, and policy for responding to allegations of sexual harassment at Makerere University. Specifically, this one-year project will assess the implementation of Makerere University’s current policy and regulations against sexual harassment, and facilitate the development of a policy evaluation and monitoring framework to guide ongoing and future policy implementation. The project, implemented in collaboration with the Makerere University’s Gender Mainstreaming Directorate, is led by Dr. Noeline Nakasujja (Makerere University), and Drs. Proscovia Nabunya and Rachel Brathwaite (ICHAD). For more information, read the [2020 ICHAD Capacity Building Report](#).



## Project Collaborations

### Sibling Support for Adolescent Girls in Emergencies (2019 – 2021)

Led by ICHAD Co-Director Dr. Lindsay Stark, and in partnership with the Women's Refugee Commission and Mercy Corps, Sibling Support for Adolescent Girls in Emergencies (SSAGE) is a two-year project funded by the Canadian Government that aims to develop innovative program design that targets family units using a gender-transformative curriculum and teaching methodology to address attitudes and norms that may contribute to violence at the household level in Borno State, Nigeria.

SSAGE female caregivers during an exercise in Bayan Kwatas



SSAGE male caregivers participate in a group exercise



### Study of Adolescent Lives after Migration to America (2017 – 2021)

The Study of Adolescent Lives after Migration to America (SALaMA) is conducted by Washington University in St. Louis and Qatar Foundation International (funder) in partnership with school districts and local refugee resettlement agencies around the United States. SALaMA seeks to assess the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of high school students who have been – or whose parents have been – resettled to the U.S. from the Middle East and North Africa region. Led by ICHAD Co-Director Lindsay Stark and Dr. Carine Allaf, Qatar Foundation International, the study aims to identify the sources of daily stress in these students' lives, as well as the corresponding support mechanisms available to them. More than 400 participants have been enrolled across three study sites in Austin, TX, Harrisonburg, VA, and Detroit, MI.

### COVID-19 and Women and Girls' Safety (C-WaGS) (2020)

Funded by UNICEF, the C-WaGS study aims to understand how the COVID-19 pandemic and its corresponding restrictions have impacted women and girls' gender-based violence (GBV) risks, affected women and girls' access to GBV information and services, and influenced the availability, quality, and effectiveness of GBV services in Italy, Zimbabwe, and Guatemala. Led by ICHAD Co-Director Dr. Lindsay Stark, the project seeks to bolster existing services and help inform the development of a structured plan for ensuring the safety and well-being of women and girls during the current and future pandemics.

### Structural & Social Transitions among Adolescents in Rakai (2017 – 2022)

The Structural and Social Transitions among Adolescents in Rakai (SSTAR Project) examines the influence of social structural determinants on transitions from adolescence to adulthood by continuing to track participants from Rakai Community Cohort Study established in 1994. Funded by the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD) and co-led by Dr. Fred Ssewamala, this innovative initiative brings together investigators from Makerere University, the Uganda Virus Research Institute, the Rakai Health Sciences Program (RHSP) in Uganda, Johns Hopkins University, and Washington University to work with PI Dr. John Santelli and other researchers at Columbia University.

### Optimizing Prevention Approaches for Children Reintegrating from Orphanages in Azerbaijan (2019 – 2024)

Funded by the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development, the Optimizing Prevention Approaches for Children Reintegrating from Orphanages in Azerbaijan seeks to develop locally appropriate strategies to eliminate childhood abuse and reduce the long-term negative impact of low childhood socioeconomic status on mental health. Led by PI Dr. Leyla Ismayilova, University of Chicago, and Co-I Dr. Fred Ssewamala, the study uses the Multiphase Optimization Strategy (MOST) to compare different intervention components and identify the most optimal combination.

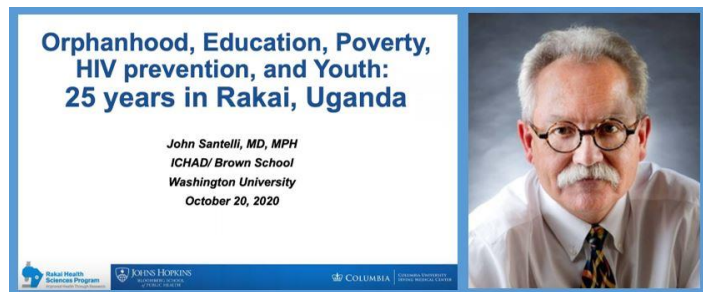
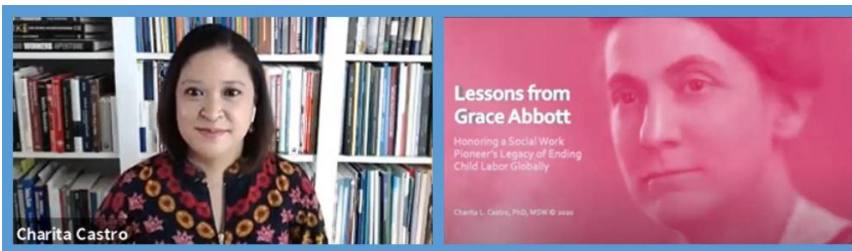
### An Economic and Relationship-Strengthening Intervention for HIV-Affected Couples Who Drink Alcohol in Malawi (2019 – 2022)

Funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Addiction, this Economic and Relationship-Strengthening Intervention led by PI Dr. Amy Conroy, University of California San Francisco, and Co-I Dr. Fred Ssewamala aims to produce a culturally-grounded, sustainable, and evidence-based intervention to reduce heavy alcohol use and its harms on couple relationships, household poverty, and HIV health outcomes.



The ICHAD/SMART Africa Speaker Series highlights global research on the well-being of children, adolescents, and families. In February, Washington University Vice Chancellor of International Affairs, Dr. Kurt Dirks, delivered the first 2020 lecture for the ICHAD/SMART Speaker Series. His interactive presentation on “Developing Trust: Implications across Different Cultures” explored common trust-cultivating factors that appear across cultures and highlighted that trust is a multi-level process influenced by context (culture, structure, and incentives), relationship (communication and interpersonal patterns), and individual outlook (personal attributes and behavior).

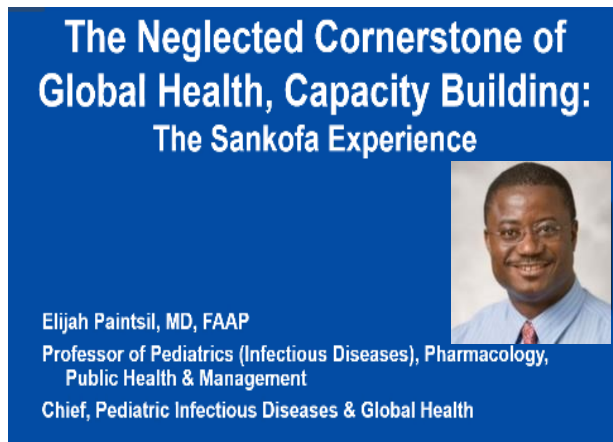
In September, the Speaker Series resumed with a presentation by Brown School alum Charita L. Castro, PhD, MSW, on “Lessons from Grace: A Social Work Pioneer’s Legacy to End Child Labor Globally.” Dr. Castro, If/Then Ambassador and 2018 Brown School Award of Distinction Recipient, examined the beginnings of the field of social work and child welfare through the life and work of Grace Abbott, a pioneer of the social work profession who laid the foundation for the passage of U.S. child labor law. Using the U.S. Department of Labor’s Sweat & Toil mobile app and interweaving Grace Abbott’s early commitment to using data to develop good child labor policy, Dr. Castro guided participants to practically connect their research with key policy players in their communities and countries.



In October, ICHAD faculty affiliate Dr. John Santelli, MD, MPH presented on “Orphanhood, Education, Poverty, HIV Prevention, and Youth: 25 Years in Rakai, Uganda.” His lecture explored several factors that attribute to the high rates of HIV among young people in Sub-Saharan Africa by looking at data collected over the course of 25 years among various communities in Rakai. Dr. Santelli also introduced the SSTAR (Structural and Social Transitions among Adolescents and

Young Adults in Rakai) Project and discussed the role of social structural determinants (i.e., access to school, family structure, socio-economic status, etc.) and the timing of social transitions (i.e., marriage formation, school leaving, migration etc.) play in ensuring that prevention policies and programs are strengthened among the youth in Rakai, Uganda.

In December, in partnership with the Africa Speaks lecture series, Dr. Elijah Paintsil, MD, FAAP, closed off the 2020 series with “The Neglected Cornerstone of Global Health, Capacity Building: The Sankofa Experience.” Dr. Paintsil, a longtime ICHAD collaborator and native of Ghana, discussed the complexities and limitations of research collaborations between the Global North and Global South and the changing health care needs and political environments in African nations. He led the audience through his journey to becoming a bridge to improve and foster more equitable and productive partnerships between the Global North (U.S.) and the Global South (Ghana and seven additional nations), emphasizing capacity building of health researchers as a key to forming the foundation for a lasting, sustainable research environment at partner nations and improve health outcomes.





# Conference Presentations

## 2020 Society for Social Work and Research

ICHAD and SMART Africa centers were well represented by several team members this past January at the 2020 Annual Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) conference in Washington, D.C. During the conference, doctoral students Darejan (Daji) Dvalishvili and William Byansi gave two oral presentations highlighting the impact of incentivized Child Development Accounts (CDAs) on mental health and child poverty outcomes among adolescents living with HIV. Daji's presentation was titled "Impact of Family-Based Economic Empowerment Intervention on Multidimensional Poverty for Adolescents Living with HIV (ALWHIV) in Uganda" and William's presentation was titled "Examining the Long-Term Effect of a Family-Based Economic Strengthening Intervention on Depression among HIV Positive Adolescents in Southern Uganda." William also presented a poster titled "HIV and AIDS Health Knowledge, and Attitudes among Adolescents Living with HIV in Southwestern Uganda: Does Gender Matter?" In addition, ICHAD Co-Director Dr. Proscovia Nabunya gave an oral presentation titled "Gender, Family Communication, and Social Support Factors Associated with HIV Disclosure and HIV-related Stigma among Adolescents Living with HIV in Uganda" using findings from the Suubi+Adherence study as part of the panel on "Youth Mental Health and Global Adversity."



## Virtual Annual Meeting & Expo of the American Public Health Association

In October 2020, ICHAD faculty affiliate Dr. Yesim Tozan presented a paper on "Effects and Cost-Effectiveness Evaluation of a Family Economic Empowerment Intervention to Increase ARV Adherence among HIV+ Adolescents in Uganda," highlighting findings from the Suubi+Adherence study, at the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting & Expo of the American Public Health Association.

## 8th Annual McDonnell Academy International Symposium

**Opportunities and Challenges in Developing Child Savings Programs in Uganda**

In October 2020, ICHAD Founding Director, Dr. Fred Ssewamala, ICHAD Global Affiliate Timothy Opobo, Executive Director of the AfriChild Center, and ICHAD Co-Director, Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar presented on "Opportunities and Challenges in Developing Child Savings Programs in Israel and Uganda" at a symposium hosted by the McDonnell International Scholars Academy at Washington University in St. Louis. This virtual event featured presentations and a discussion about asset building for long-term child development and Child Saving Account programs in Israel and Uganda. Dr. Ssewamala provided an overview of asset development interventions in Uganda, including results from some of the research studies ICHAD has implemented since 2004. Mr. Opobo discussed the importance of taking this evidence-based data and working with policy makers at all levels to implement programs. He highlighted the relationships ICHAD and SMART Africa have established with policy makers, including with the First Lady's Office, the Prime Minister, and Speaker of Parliament. Dr. Sensoy Bahar provided the concluding remarks summarizing the key points and next steps for both Israel and Uganda.

*ICHAD studies have shown that economic empowerment interventions help address poverty-related issues among people living in poverty and have led to improved mental health functioning, sexual risk-taking decisions, decisions about the future, educational and health outcomes among others.*

**– Dr. Fred Ssewamala, ICHAD Founding Director**

## 2020 Publications

In addition to the publications mentioned above under ongoing research projects, ICHAD team members also worked with other researchers and collaborators to publish findings in the following peer-reviewed journals.

<b>Bridges to the Future</b>	Ssewamala, F. M., Wang, J. S-H., Brathwaite, R., Sun, S., Jennings Mayo-Wilson, L., Neilands, T. B., & Brooks-Gunn, J. (In Press). Impact of a family economic intervention (Bridges) on health functioning of adolescents orphaned by HIV/AIDS: A 5-year (2012-2017) cluster randomized controlled trial in Uganda. <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> .
<b>Suubi+Adherence</b>	Cavazos-Rehg, P., Byansi, W., Xu, C., Nabunya, P., Sensoy Bahar, O., ...Ssewamala, F. M. (2020). The impact of a family-based economic intervention on the mental health of HIV-infected adolescents in Uganda: Results from Suubi+Adherence. <i>Journal of Adolescent Health</i> . Online ahead of print
	Cavazos-Rehg, P., Xu, C., Borodovsky, J., Kasson, E., Byansi, W., Nabunya, P., Bahar, O.S., & Ssewamala, F.M. (2020). The impact of discomfort with HIV status and hopelessness on depressive symptoms among adolescents living with HIV in Uganda. <i>AIDS Care</i> . Online ahead of print
	Cavazos-Rehg, P., Xu, C., Kasson, E., Byansi, W., Sensoy Bahar, O., & Ssewamala, F. M. (2020). Social and economic equity and family cohesion as potential protective factors from depression among adolescents living with HIV in Uganda. <i>AIDS and Behavior</i> , 24(9), 2546–2554.
	Nabunya, P., Byansi, W., Muwanga, J., Damulira, C., Brathwaite, R., Sensoy Bahar, O., Namuwonge, F., & Ssewamala, F. M. (2020). Gender, HIV knowledge and prevention attitudes among adolescents living with HIV participating in an economic empowerment intervention in Uganda. <i>AIDS Care</i> .
	Nabunya, P., Byansi, W., Sensoy Bahar, O., McKay, M. M., Ssewamala, F. M., & Damulira, C. (2020). Factors associated with HIV disclosure and HIV-related stigma among adolescents living with HIV in Southwestern Uganda. <i>Frontiers in Psychiatry</i> . eCollection 2020.
	Nabunya, P., Sensoy Bahar, O., Chen, B., Dvalishvili, D., Damulira, C., & Ssewamala F. M. (2020). The role of family factors in antiretroviral therapy (ART) adherence self-efficacy among HIV-infected adolescents in southern Uganda. <i>BMC Public Health</i> , 20(1), 340.
	Ssewamala, F. M., Dvalishvili, D., Mellins, C., Geng, E., Makumbi, F., Neilands, T., McKay, M., Damulira, C., Nabunya, P., Sensoy Bahar, O., Nakigozi, G., Kigozi, G., Byansi, W., Mukasa, M., Namuwonge, F. (2020) The long-term effects of a family-based economic empowerment intervention (Suubi+Adherence) on suppression of HIV viral loads among adolescents living with HIV in southern Uganda: Findings from 5-year cluster randomized trial. <i>PLoS One</i> 15(2): p. e0228370.
<b>Unrelated to Specific Study Data Set</b>	Bermudez, L. G., Sensoy Bahar, O., Dako-Gyeke, M., Boateng, A., Ibrahim, A., Ssewamala, F. M., & McKay, M. (2020). Understanding female migrant child labor within a cumulative risk framework: The case for combined interventions in Ghana. <i>Int Soc Work</i> , 63(2):147-16.
	Cohen, F., Seff, I., Ssewamala, F. M., Opobo, T., & Stark, L. (2020). Intimate partner violence and mental health: Sex-disaggregated associations among adolescents and young adults in Uganda. <i>Journal of Interpersonal Violence</i> . SAGE.
	Galvin, M. & Byansi, W. (2020). A Systematic Review of Task Shifting for Mental Health in Sub-Saharan Africa. <i>International Journal of Mental Health</i> , 49(4), 336-360.
	Jennings Mayo-Wilson, L., Glass, N. E., Labrique, A., Davoust, M., Ssewamala, F. M., Linnemayr, S., & Johnson, M. W. (2020). Feasibility of assessing economic and sexual risk behaviors using text message surveys in African-American young adults experiencing homelessness and unemployment: Single-Group Study. <i>JMIR Form Res</i> , 4(7):e14833.
	Mayo-Wilson, L. J., Coleman, J., Timbo, F.; Ssewamala, F. M., Linnemayr, S., Yi, G. T., Kang, B.; Johnson, M. W., Yenokyan, G., Dodge, B., & Glass, N. E. (2020). Microenterprise intervention to reduce sexual risk behaviors and increase employment and HIV preventive practices among economically-vulnerable African-American young adults (EMERGE): a feasibility randomized clinical trial. <i>AIDS and Behavior</i> , 24(12):3545-3561.
	Mayo-Wilson, L. J., Mathai, M., Yi, G., Mak'anyengo, M. O., Davoust, M., Massaquoi, M., Baral, S., Ssewamala, F. M., Glass, N. E., & The NAHEDO Study Group. (In Press). Lessons learned from using respondent-driven sampling (RDS) to assess sexual risk behaviors among Kenyan young adults living in urban slum settlements: A process evaluation. <i>PLOS ONE</i> 15(4), e0231248.
	Rahman, A., Naslund, J. A., Betancourt, T. S.,...Byansi, W.,...Sensoy Bahar, O.,...Ssewamala, F. M., & Wainberg, M. L. (2020). COVID19 and the impending mental health crisis: What can the NIMH global mental health research community offer? <i>The Lancet Psychiatry</i> , 7(10), 834-836.



# Meet the ICHAD St. Louis Team



**Fred M. Ssewamala, PhD**  
Founding Director



**Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD**  
Co-Director



**Proscovia Nabunya, PhD**  
Co-Director



**Lindsay Stark, DrPH**  
Co-Director



**Betsy Abente, MPH**  
Associate Director



**Laura Peer, MPH**  
Training Programs Manager



**Suzie Fragale**  
Coordinator



**Bethel Mandefro, MA**  
Coordinator



**Rachel Brathwaite, PhD**  
Post-Doctoral Fellow



**William Byansi**  
PhD Candidate, Research Associate



**Angel Algarin**  
Finance and Reporting Manager



**Wilberforce Tumwesige**  
Study Coordinator



**Christopher Damulira**  
Senior Data Manager, MPH Student



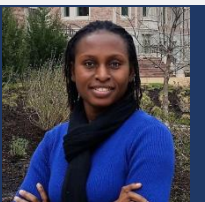
**Flora Cohen**  
PhD Student, Research Associate



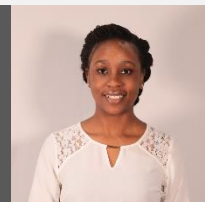
**Darejan (Daji) Dvalishvili**  
PhD Candidate, Research Associate



**Joshua Kiyingi**  
PhD Student, Research Associate



**Jennifer Nattabi**  
PhD Student, Research Associate



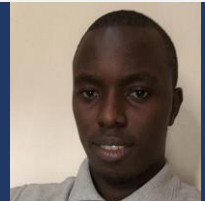
**Thembekile Shato, PhD**  
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Research Associate



**Sicong (Summer) Sun**  
PhD Candidate, Research Associate



**Emmanuel Amoako**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Robert Kasumba**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Phionah Namatovu**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Rashida Namirembe**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Portia Nartey**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Leah Nason**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Lily Zmachinski**  
Graduate Student Assistant



**Bradley Hamilton**  
Undergraduate Student Assistant

*I started work at ICHAD as an interviewer and have grown professionally over the last seven years. 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.*

**– Christopher Damulira, Senior Data Manager**

# Meet the ICHAD Uganda Team



**Sarah Namutebi**  
Financial Manager



**Flavia Namuwonge**  
Head of Operations



**Rebecca Walugembe**  
Training Coordinator



**Jacqueline Nanteza**  
HR Manager, Field  
Accounts Manager



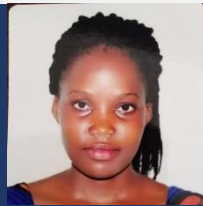
**Raymond Atwebembere,**  
**MBChB,** Study  
Coordinator



**Josephine Nabayinda**  
Study Coordinator



**Herbert Migadde**  
Deputy Study Coordinator



**Olive Imelda Namuyaba**  
Deputy Study Coordinator



**Edward Nsubuga**  
Deputy Study Coordinator



**Francis Ssemuju**  
Deputy Study Coordinator



**Florence Namuli**  
Field Supervisor



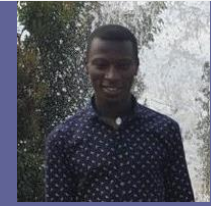
**Vicent Ssentumbwe**  
Data Manager



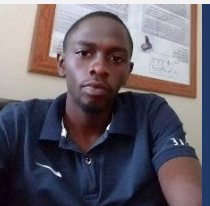
**Godfrey Ssekibubo**  
Data Clerk



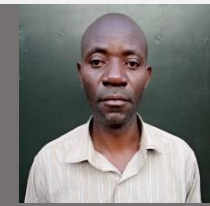
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Nurse



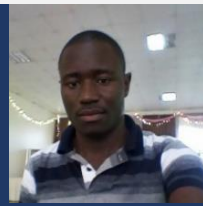
**Nicholas Kyanda**  
Driver



**Francis Matovu**  
Research Assistant



**David Mayengo**  
Driver



**Ivan Menya**  
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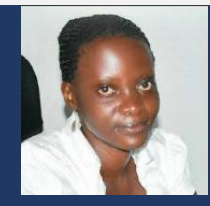
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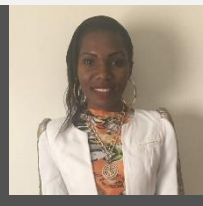
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**Betina Nabisere**  
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**Milly Nabulime**  
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**Fatumah Nakabuye**  
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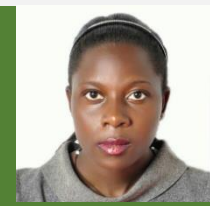
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**Annet Nakeeya**  
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**Sharon Namyalo**  
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**Sarah Nanono**  
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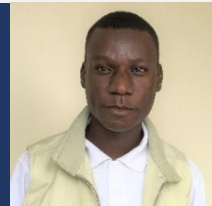
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**Scovia Nassaazi**  
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**Sam Ssekiranda**  
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**Fred Ssenyonjo**  
Driver



**James Zirimu**  
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**Gertrude Nabbosa**  
Counselor



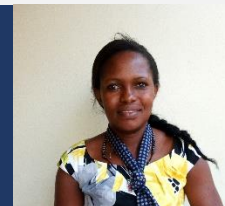
**Francis Ssebula**  
Counselor



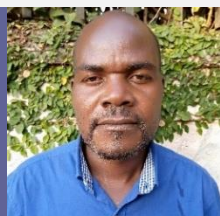
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**Jackson Malumba**  
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**Augustine Kiiza**  
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Security Personnel



**Daniel Ssesande**  
Security Personnel

## Field Interviewers



**Abelison Kiwalabye**



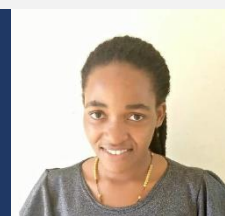
**Jamimah Amase Kirabo**



**Ronald Luboobi**



**Patrick Muleeto**



**Angel Najjuko**



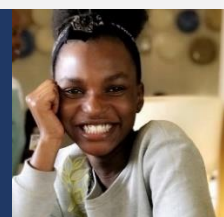
**Edrick Nakasinde**



**Madrine Nakisekka**



**Joan Nalukwago**



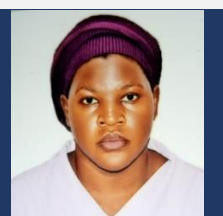
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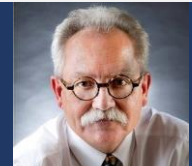
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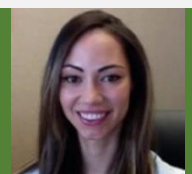
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**Joseph Kagaayi, MBChB, PhD, Rakai Health Sciences Program**



**Joseph Kato Bakulu, Rev. Fr., Catholic Diocese of Masaka**



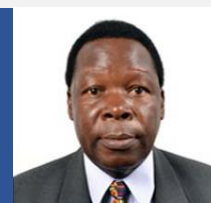
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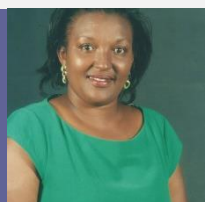
**Anne W. Mbwayo, PhD  
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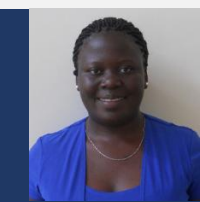
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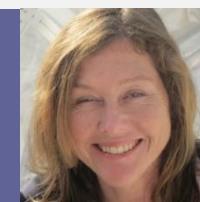
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