



International Center for Child Health and Development

# Capacity Building Report

## 2022



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## Capacity Building Partners

ICHAD’s Capacity Building Training Programs are supported by the following institutions committed to the advancement of researchers from diverse backgrounds.



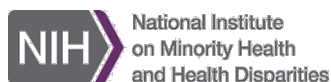
MAKERERE



UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI



## Letter from the Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As a young international scholar from Uganda starting my academic career in the United States, I benefitted from the mentorship and support of committed individuals and a training program dedicated to support early career social scientists. Since my early days in academia, I have been committed to mentoring early career researchers to provide the support and opportunities I was afforded. This commitment is now a key part of our mission at the International Center for Child Health and Development (ICHAD). In partnership with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and implementing partners, we have built a robust research training program that has enhanced the careers of over 80 researchers from the United States and across Sub-Saharan Africa to date. In 2022, ICHAD was fortunate to receive a highly competitive Global Health Program for Fellows and Scholars /Launching Future Leaders in Global Health Research Training Program (LAUNCH) award, the flagship program of the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health. This esteemed program builds upon the bi-directional research and capacity building work of ICHAD, and allows for enhanced connection between rising researchers in the Global North and Global South. This program, in conjunction with our three other NIH-funded research training programs, will expand on our commitment and determination to uplift and prepare social science researchers from underrepresented backgrounds to continue this important work globally. In 2022 alone, 42 fellows from the ACHIEVE training program, CHILD-Global Research Fellowship, LEAD Global Training Program, and Researcher Resiliency training joined the ICHAD global family.



The connections and collaborations among fellows, directors, and mentors have always been the cornerstone of our training curriculum, and with the ability to travel in summer 2022 this was no more apparent than among our participant trainees at the *Forum on Child and Adolescent Global Health Disparities Research and Capacity Building* in Uganda. Multidisciplinary, cross-national connections and collaborations of trainees, which began during the summer training session, have flourished and grown to seeking funding together and publishing manuscripts. In fact, our fellows and alumni have published over 250 manuscripts and have been awarded funding for at least 25 research and educational grants and awards in 2022.

ICHAD co-directors, Dr. Proscovia Nabunya and Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, and I are also committed to building the capacity of our staff to ensure consistent growth and access to new skills, experiences and opportunities. The Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis (WashU) was fortunate to welcome two ICHAD Uganda staff members as MPH and PhD students again in 2022, further growing the WashU and ICHAD Uganda connection. Educational opportunities through staff development trainings and activities also facilitate our staff's career advancement.

In the coming year, ICHAD will be celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It will be a welcome opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our trainees and alumni and to continue to further grow opportunities within our training programs for their enhanced professional growth. We could not support this vital growth of the next generation of global health and mental health researchers without the support of our partners, program mentors, and co-investigators across the globe. We continue to expand our opportunities for capacity building and innovative research, in no small part, in collaboration with our partners across the world. No better phrase embodies this collaboration than the African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

In partnership,

Fred Ssewamala  
William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor  
Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Faculty Research  
Professor of Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine  
Director and Founder, International Center for Child Health and Development (ICHAD)  
Director, SMART Africa Center  
Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

## Capacity Building at ICHAD

ICHAD promotes bi-directional learning between the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa, and throughout the Global North and Global South by leveraging our global research studies, university affiliations, and institutional partnerships. ICHAD focuses not only on current intervention research, but on capacity building for the next generation of research scholars. This advances the mission of ICHAD to support children, families, and communities in addressing the unique challenges they experience by developing and implementing contextually relevant evidence-based interventions. In fact, capacity building is one of ICHAD's primary focus areas through which we provide opportunities such as training, mentorship opportunities, and fellowships to students, team members, and scholars globally.

We build capacity through several programs and initiatives:

- Cultivating a pipeline for educational and professional advancement among ICHAD staff and student employees in the US and Uganda
- Providing fellowships to graduate students and early career researchers with a focus of global health and mental health disparities through research training programs funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH):
  - [ACHIEVE Training Program](#)
  - [CHILD-Global Research Fellowship \(CHILD-GRF\)](#)
  - [Researcher Resilience Training Program \(RRT\)](#)
  - [LEAD Global Training Program \(LEAD\)](#)

### ICHAD's Mission and Focus Areas

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.

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

## ICHAD Annual Report

As one the four main focus areas, Capacity Building remains a priority for ICHAD. To learn more about ICHAD's complete score of accomplishments in 2022, please view the ICHAD Annual Report available at <https://ichad.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/ICHAD-Annual-Report-2022-FINAL-FOR-PRINT.pdf>



## Bi-Directional Learning for ICHAD Capacity Building

With offices in Uganda and the US, ICHAD is uniquely positioned to foster bi-directional learning and collaboration between our offices and staff members, sharing important opportunities to gain insight and build skills.

### ICHAD Staff Training and Professional Development

ICHAD's success and continued growth is in large part due to our commitment to staff development at every stage. We have built a robust staff training and professional development curriculum to further the potential of our ambitious and talented staff and student workers.

The curriculum offers a combination of technical skills to enhance staff capabilities in their roles and professional development that provides skills and knowledge for career advancement. These sessions utilize the expertise of leadership and colleagues from within ICHAD and our implementing partners.

Trainings provided to ICHAD staff this year include:



*ICHAD Uganda staff gathered for a professional development training retreat at Bunyonyi Safaris Resort, Uganda, in May*

Staff Training Topics in 2022	Facilitator/Trainer
Good Clinical Practice on Human Subjects Protection	Dr. Samuel Kizito, PhD Student/Research Associate
Data Management sessions	Dr. Samuel Kizito, PhD Student/Research Associate
Conducting Qualitative Interviews, Translation and Transcription	Josephine Nabayinda, PhD Student/Research Associate and RRT Trainee, Scovia Nassaazi, Head of Qualitative Interviews
Coding Training	Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar, Dr. Proscovia Nabunya, and Dr. Samtani Satabdi
Financial Literacy Delivery Refresher Training	Jennifer Nattabi, PhD Student/Research Associate
Good Clinical Laboratory Practice	Mildmay Uganda
Counsellors' Refresher Training	Rebecca Walugembe, Training Programs Coordinator
Refresher Training on Administering Fidelity Assessment	Phionah Namatovu, Research Coordinator and Claire Najjuuko, Data manager
Ebola Sensitization	Dr. Raymond Atwebembere, Study Coordinator
Refresher training on Administering ongoing study measures	Claire Najjuuko, Data Manager
Refresher training on collection of pill counts and clinic records data	Claire Najjuuko, Data Manager ICHAD Uganda
Obuvumu Study Sensitivity Training	Dr. Raymond Atwebembere, Study Coordinator
Professional Development Training Retreat at Bunyonyi Safaris Resort, Uganda	ICHAD Uganda Staff

## ICHAD Staff Highlights

ICHAD is proud to be a principal driver of an increasing number of sponsored students at WashU as well as other universities. Currently, in Masaka, Uganda, there is a growing number of WashU alumni. The work of our staff and their desire to continue their education and move into the next generation of researchers, leaders, and practitioners is point of pride and a growth marker for ICHAD. In the academic year 2022-2023 alone, four staff members from the ICHAD Uganda field office were admitted into the PhD, MSW, and MPH programs at WashU. While in St. Louis, ICHAD students often work as research assistants or fellows with ICHAD, and are an integral part of the research activities. The opportunity to work with ICHAD during their graduate education provides students hands-on experience to contribute to research coordination, data analysis, manuscript preparation, conference presentations, publications, and more. We are particularly proud of the educational achievements and advancements of our student workers and staff in 2022, which included:



Members of the ICHAD team with the Bishop of Masaka, Uganda, at the Forum on Child and Adolescent Global Health and Capacity Building in June

- 2 members of ICHAD Uganda staff embarked on their doctoral and masters programs at Washington University
- 4 members of ICHAD Uganda have been admitted for their doctoral and masters programs at Washington University
- 4 members of ICHAD Uganda graduated with bachelor's degrees
- 9 members of ICHAD Uganda are enrolled on bachelor's and master's programs
- 1 member of ICHAD US successfully defended their PhD thesis in December 2022

*“Working with ICHAD introduced me to the world of research which enabled me to grow professionally in some spheres of research such as capacity building, networking opportunities, influencing policy, collaborations, professional trainings, and mentorship thus making an impact on social change.”*

*– Sulaiti Mutebi, ICHAD Uganda staff*



## Capacity Building through Research Training Programs

ICHAD is proud to host four NIH-funded (Fogarty International Center, National Institute for Mental Health, and National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities) research training programs:

1. [R25 Researcher Resilience Training Program \(RRT\)](#)
2. [T37 LEAD Global Training Program \(LEAD\)](#)
3. [D43 CHILD-Global Research Fellowship \(CHILD-GRF\)](#)
4. [D43 ACHIEVE](#)

The training programs align with the aim to provide early-career scientists from underrepresented backgrounds with the mentorship, skills, and hands-on experiences needed to become principal investigators (PIs) on externally funded intervention studies in low-resource settings and to lead multi-disciplinary, collaborative research teams. Each program features a summer training component and mentorship. Mentorship and connections built often continue beyond the duration of the training program and help to shape our trainees' research.

Our trainees’ research interests span a variety of topics in the U.S. and global settings including health disparities, mental health, child and adolescent health, economic development, and HIV/AIDS in resource-constrained communities.

### Overview of Research Training Program

	 <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>	 CHILD Global Research Fellowship Washington University in St. Louis   Makerere University <a href="https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf">https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf</a>	 <a href="https://sites.wustl.edu/achieve">https://sites.wustl.edu/achieve</a>
<b>Directors</b>	Mary McKay, Fred Ssewamala, Sean Joe	Fred Ssewamala, Patricia Cavazos--Rehg	Fred Ssewamala, Mary McKay, Noeline Nakasujja	Mary McKay, Fred Ssewamala
<b>Research Focus</b>	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	D&I and data sciences research to address global child, adolescent, and family health disparities and other health focus areas
<b>Region</b>	U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa	U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa	Uganda	Ghana, Kenya, Kosovo, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan, Uganda, Zambia
<b>Number of Fellows</b>	7-9 fellows per year	7-9 short term fellows per year; 1-2 postdoctoral fellows per year	7 fellows (Year 1); 12 fellows (Year 2); 18 fellows (Year 3)	10 Fellow per year
<b>Career Level</b>	PhD, MD, or other doctoral students, postdocs, fellows, residents, early career faculty (advanced degree completed within 5 years of program start)		Advanced graduate-level student through early career faculty (advanced degree completed within 5 years of program start)	U.S.: PhD, MD, or other doctoral students through early career professionals within 6 years of completing terminal degree SSA: Early career professionals who have completed terminal degree within 6 years
<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>	No citizenship requirement, but must be affiliated with a U.S.-based institution; priority given to those of African decent	U.S. citizen; Under-represented minority	Ugandan national	U.S.: U.S. citizen/permanent resident, Under-represented background  SSA: Citizen of Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, or Uganda
<b>Duration</b>	1-year appointment (April-March)	10-week appointment (June-August)	3-year appointment (begins each June)	1-year appointment (July – June)
<b>Timeline</b>	1 week in person; on-going research/mentorship for 1 or 2 years	4 weeks in the U.S.; 6 weeks in a SSA research site	6-week summer training in U.S. over a three-year period; on-going research/mentorship	US: 10-12 months in Global Site SSA: 9-10 months at home site, 2-3 months at US site
<b>Funded by</b>	National Institute of Mental Health: R25MH118935	National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities: T37MD014218	Fogarty International Center and National Institute for Child Health and Development: D43TW011541	Fogarty International Center: D43TW012275

### 2022 Training Program Highlights



**251**  
 Manuscripts published by training program fellows and alumni



**58**  
 Conference and workshop presentations by training program fellows and alumni



**25**  
 Grants, Fellowships, and Awards received by ICHAD training program fellows and alumni

While each training program has a unique research focus area and target candidate population, broad goals of child and adolescent global health and mental health disparities resonate with trainees across programs. Intra-program networking and connection have been significant factors in the success of the training programs in the recent years. Originally designed to incorporate in-person, hands-on training and research experiences, our programs were implemented virtually in 2020 and 2021 via Zoom due to the COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainty. In 2022, training was delivered in a hybrid format through in-person and remote engagement as travel restrictions eased. Trainees were thrilled to connect in person with one another, as well as esteemed faculty and mentors for two weeks during the summer training session. Each of the 42 trainees were matched with a mentor from WashU or from one of our numerous global partner institutions to develop a research project, analyze data, draft a manuscript or apply for their own research funding.



Building on the success of the virtual programming in 2020 and 2021, the summer 2022 training curriculum featured ten weeks of training sessions, both in-person and virtual, consisting of the following:

Research Methods		
Title/Topic	Presenter	Partner Institution
Longitudinal Analysis: A Whirlwind Tour	Tor Neilands	University of California San Francisco
Introduction on Data Science Methods	Chenyang Lu	Washington University in St. Louis
Qualitative Methodologies	Janet Nakigudde	Makerere University
Introduction to Dissemination and Implementation Science	Fred Semitala	Makerere University
Methods, Metrics, and Measures for D&I	Joseph Kalisa Vincent Sezibera	University of Rwanda
Tools and Measurements for Cognitive Functioning	April Thames	University of California Los Angeles

Grant Writing & Data Collection, Management, & Dissemination		
Title/Topic	Presenter	Partner Institution
Biosketch Workshop	Cathy Sarli, Amy Suiter	Becker Library, Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
Budget Development and Justification	Mordecai Tayebwa	Makerere University
Introduction to Big Data Sets	Agnes Kiragga	African Populations Health Research Council
Research Budget Development and Justification	Mordecai Tayebwa	Makerere University
Cost Effectiveness	Yesim Tozan Sooyoung Kim Joshua Kiyingi	New York University New York University Washington University in St. Louis
Manuscript Writing	William Byansi	Washington University in St. Louis



Global Research Topics		
Title/Topic	Presenter	Partner Institution
Global Mental Health Priorities and Funding Opportunities at NIMH and	Susannah Allison	NIH National Institute of Mental Health
“Do’s and Don’ts of Working in Global and Local Partnerships” Panel	Proscovia Nabunya (moderator) Vetta Thompson Thomas Crea James Mugisha	Washington University in St. Louis Washington University in St. Louis Boston College Kyambogo University and Butabika National Referral and Teaching Hospital (Uganda)
Scientific Integrity and Ethical Conduct of Research	Tom Lutalo	Uganda Virus Research Institute
HomeGrownSTL Summit: Organizing to Solve Problems that Unleash the Elite Potential of Young Black Males	Sean Joe Valerie Patton Flint Fowler Beverly Wendland Mary McKay Tonya Edmond Adren Wilson Anael Alston	Washington University in St. Louis Greater STL Inc. Boys and Girls Club of Greater STL Washington University in St. Louis Washington University in St. Louis Washington University in St. Louis MBK Alliance, Obama Foundation New York State Education Dept.
Community Science and Capacity to Serve Workshop with an Anti-Racism Framework	Sean Joe	Washington University in St. Louis

Career Development		
Title/Topic	Presenter	Partner Institution
“Engaging with Mentors through your Research Career” Panel	Ozge Sensoy Bahar (moderator) Massy Mutumba Robert Motley	Washington University in St. Louis  University of Michigan Boston College
Career Talk: Combination Interventions Addressing HIV Prevention, Care and Support Among Children and Adolescents in Sub- Saharan Africa: Lesson from 15+ Years of Applied Research	Fred Ssewamala	Washington University in St. Louis
Career Talk: HomeGrown STL Summit Opening Session	Sean Joe	Washington University in St. Louis
Career Talk: My Leap to Independent Funding	Patricia Cavazos	Washington University in St. Louis
Career Talk: Mental Health Research Career Introduction Session	Noeline Nakasujja	Makerere University

Networking Opportunities	
Title/Topic	Description/Purpose
Mentor Meetings	Trainees met on a regular basis with their primary mentors. Each trainee had a unique meeting schedule, meeting via Zoom regularly with their mentors and their mentors’ research teams.
Orientation	Program staff and leadership covered the following topics to prepare trainees for the summer: Welcome from Directors, Introductions, Program Overview, Benefits, Trainee Handbook, Next Steps.
Peer-led sessions	Trainees took turns leading weekly discussions with their peers across programs about selected topics in research careers and mental health and health disparities.
Publication Working Meetings	Hosted by ICHAD, all trainees were invited to attend these meetings as observers or presenters to offer and receive feedback on research projects and manuscripts in progress.
Program Check-In meetings	LEAD trainees met with program leadership to check in, report progress, seek guidance, and network.



## The Forum on Child and Adolescent Global Health Research and Capacity Building and Site Visits

### Uganda Forum

After two years of remote engagement, ICHAD was thrilled to gather with our trainees and host the *Forum on Child and Adolescent Global Health Research and Capacity Building* in Kampala and Masaka, Uganda.

#### Week 1

##### Day 1 & 2

Trainees along with esteemed guests and members of the public were invited for keynote and plenary sessions that highlighted ICHAD and its' partners work in Uganda and the Global South. The Forum hosted speakers including the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, Barnabas Nawangwe; Uganda Minister of Health, the Honorable Jane Ruth Aceng; and USAID Mission Director to Uganda, Richard Nelson who provided welcoming remarks that celebrated the contributions and accomplishments of ICHAD. Three trainee scientific panels accompanied these important figures to round of the conference welcoming and in-depth look at our trainees and programming.



**Dr. Fred Ssewamala presents Minister of Health Hon. Ruth Aceng with his book at the Forum in Kampala, Uganda**

##### Day 3 to 6

These days featured a comprehensive training schedule for our trainees through engaging and prolific researchers in the field. Program faculty mentors and field experts facilitated sessions on qualitative research methods, big data, dissemination and implementation science, cost-effectiveness research, research tools and measurements, scientific integrity and ethical conduct of research, as well as budget development and justification for research projects. Beyond the didactic sessions, this time facilitated crucial in-person networking opportunities and featured presentations of our first graduating cohort of CHILD-GRF Fellows.



**Trainees, alumni, mentors, and program staff, gather at the Kimaanya Catholic Church grounds in Masaka City, Uganda**

#### Week 2

Trainees and partners traveled from Kampala to Masaka, Uganda. After a welcome reception at the Kimaanya Church Grounds and opening remarks from the Mayor of Masaka city and Bishop of Masaka Diocese, the ICHAD Uganda team shared findings from their research in ICHAD's school-based studies (Bridges to the Future, SMART Africa, Suubi4StrongerFamilies, Suubi4her). Students and parents of study participants were welcomed to review the findings and engage with opening matched savings accounts during the celebrations. Community, clinic collaborators and participants were also welcomed to the Brovad Hotel to learn about our community-based research study findings. This included Suubi+Adherence, Suubi4Cancer, Suubi-Mhealth, M-Suubi, Youth Health SMS, Kyaterakera, and Obuvumu. The engaging sessions and discussions with trainees, researchers, and study participants brought the complex studies to a place of

understanding for the attendees. The remainder of the week gave space for trainees to travel to a school, a clinic, and a community research site to witness ICHAD researchers and collaborators at work. This truly hands-on opportunity allowed trainees and participants to conclude the Forum with an enhanced dedication to the work of improving the health and lives of children and adolescents around the world.

## St. Louis Immersion and Site Visits

Trainees were also offered the opportunity to opt for a domestic-based experience for individuals in St. Louis, Missouri. Held concurrently with the sessions and site visits in Masaka, the St. Louis immersion and site visits allowed trainees to engage with Program Directors and staff from our Researcher Resilience Training (RRT) and LEAD Global Training Program to learn about the vital community-based work and research being conducted in St. Louis. With visits to community partners working with underrepresented populations, including children and their adult caregivers, participants were given unique insights into the collaborative nature of the research conducted by Dr. Sean Joe, alumna Dr. Devin Banks, as well as other program and community partners. This experience allowed trainees to observe innovative and impactful work in the domestic (United States) arena.



*Trainees and alumni from LEAD and RRT training programs and faculty from Washington University in St. Louis met for US-base site visits and workshops during a three-day training event. From left: Dr. Sean Joe, Jerell DeCaille, Dr. Camille Quin, Dr. Mary McKay, Dr. Samantha Francois, Dr. Sonyia Richardson, and Dr. Patty Cavazos-Rehg*

For complete information on the *Forum on Child and Adolescent Global Health Research and Capacity Building*, please visit the 2022 Forum Report at: <https://ichad.wustl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Forum-Report-2022.pdf>



## Mentorship

Strong, supportive mentorship is essential to trainee growth and resilience, and remains a vital component of our training programs. To support their professional growth and research capacity, trainees were matched with a faculty mentor or team of faculty mentors with active research projects that aligned with their interests. Trainees and mentors met via Zoom regularly and worked together to create an Individual Development Plan (IDP) at the beginning of their training appointment. They used their respective IDPs as a dynamic guiding document to define and monitor progress towards their research, training, and professional development goals.



*ACHIEVE Mentor, Dr. Fred Ssewamala, meets with ACHIEVE trainees at the Forum on Child and Adolescent Global Health Research and Capacity Building in Kampala, June 2022*



*CHILD-GRF trainees meet with program co-director Dr. Noeline Nakasujja at the Forum in Kampala, Uganda*

“[My experience in the program was] wonderful. I believe I’m a way more prolific researcher having gone through the program.”

– CHILD-GRF Fellow



## Program Overviews and Trainee Profiles



**CHILD**  
Global Research Fellowship  
Washington University in St. Louis |  
Makerere University

### CHILD-Global Research Fellowship

<https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf/>

#### Co-Directors

**Fred Ssewamala, PhD**

William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Faculty Research, Director and Founder, ICHAD, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

**Mary McKay, PhD**

Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives, Washington University in St. Louis

**Noeline Nakasujja, MBChB, PhD**

Associate Professor of Psychiatry; Chair, Department of Psychiatry, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

#### Mentors

**Catherine Abbo, MBChB, MMED, MPhil, PhD**

Associate Professor, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Department of Psychiatry, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

**Dickens H. Akena, PhD**

Senior Lecturer, Psychiatry, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

**Paul Bukuluki, PhD**

Lecturer, Social Work & Social Administration, School of Social Sciences, Makerere University

**David Kaawa-Mafigiri, PhD**

Lecturer, Social Work & Social Administration, School of Social Sciences, Makerere University

**Eugene Kinyanda, MBChB, MMed, PhD**

Head, Mental Health Project, Medical Research Council/Uganda Virus Research Institute

**Fredrick Makumbi, PhD**

Senior Lecturer and Departmental Chair, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

**James Mugisha, PhD**

Senior Lecturer, Mental Health Systems Research & Development Specialist, Kyambogo University & Butabika National Referral and Teaching Hospital  
Executive Director, Mildmay Uganda

**Barbara Mukasa, MBChB, MPH**

Senior Lecturer, Department of Pediatrics and Child Health College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

**Philippa Musoke, PhD**

Professor of Pediatrics and Child Health, School of Medicine, Makerere University and Executive Director, Makerere University-Johns Hopkins University Research Collaborations (MUJHU)

**Janet Nakigudde, PhD**

Clinical Psychologist and Lecturer, Psychiatry, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

**April Thames, PhD**

Professor-in-Residence, Department of Psychiatry and Bio-behavioral Sciences, University of California Los Angeles

**Child Mental Health in HIV-Impacted Low-Resource Settings in Developing Countries: Global Research Fellowship (CHILD-GRF)** is supported by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development (NICHD) and Fogarty International Center (FIC) (D43TW011541). The program provides methods training, mentoring, and hands-on research experience to promising early career researchers from Ugandan institutions committed to research that addresses the serious burden of child and adolescent mental health in the context of HIV/AIDS. Its aim is to increase, strengthen, and sustain the capacity of research institutions in Uganda, a Sub-Saharan African country heavily affected by HIV/AIDS.

## 2022 Trainee Highlights



10

Manuscripts published in peer-reviewed journals authored by CHILD-GRF trainees and alumni



22

Conference and academic presentations given by CHILD-GRF trainees and alumni

Trainee	Accolade
<b>COHORT 1</b>	
<b>Dr. Agatha Kafuko</b>	Presented at the Sexual Violence Initiative Forum 2022 for the Sexual Violence Research Initiative in Cancun, Mexico.
<b>Dr. Esther Nanfuka</b>	Awarded the Novo Nordisk Foundation Grant Postdoctoral Fellowship on the Mobility – Global Medicine and Health Research Project
<b>Dr. Apollo Kivumbi</b>	Admitted to the PhD program in public health at Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
<b>COHORT 2</b>	
<b>Dr. Richard Mpango</b>	Awarded a grant to study the genetic risk underlying common mental illnesses among rural general population cohort in southwestern Uganda
<b>Dr. Harriet Ajilong</b>	Appointed as a medical expert for the Chemoprevention of Malaria in Children with Sickle Cell Anemia (CHEMCHA) trial

## Final Presentations

The 2020 cohort (Cohort 1) of CHILD-GR Fellows presented their culminating research presentations for training program directors, fellow trainees, and esteemed guests during the *Forum on Child and Adolescent Health and Capacity Building* in Kampala, Uganda. This was an invaluable opportunity to conduct a scientific presentation on their preliminary research preparations and data collection of their pilot study while participating in the CHILD-Global research fellowship. Cohort 1 fellows prepared engaging presentations and fielded questions regarding their research methods and strategy. This experience served as a launching point to prepare the fellows in seeking extramural funds to continue their respective researches, and offered crucial feedback to direct their next steps.

Trainee	Presentation Title
<b>Dr. Anita Arinda</b>	<b>An HIV Education Program for Improvement in HIV Knowledge for Adolescents with Intellectual Disability in Entebbe, Uganda</b>
<b>Dr. Racheal Alinaitwe</b>	Detection and Referral of Depression among Adolescents Living with HIV in Uganda
<b>Dr. Esther Nanfuka</b>	Mental Resilience in the Face of Anxiety, Depression, and Suicidal Ideation: A Qualitative Study of Adolescents Living with HIV in Uganda
<b>Dr. Justine Namuli</b>	The Burden, Lived Experiences of HIV Stigma and Associated Factors Among HIV-infected Children and Adolescents. A Mixed-Methods Study in Uganda
<b>Dr. Agatha Kafuko</b>	ART Adherence, Social Support, and Psychosocial Functioning among HIV-positive Street Connected Adolescents in Uganda
<b>Dr. Apollo Kivumbi</b>	Cognition in Children and Adolescents with both HIV/AIDS and ADHD

## Pilot Awards

Cohort 2 Fellows also focused on designing, drafting, presenting, and beginning their pilot study to generate compelling preliminary data. During the final week of the summer training session in 2022, each fellow submitted a proposal for a \$5,000 seed funding highlighting their specific aims, research strategy, data analysis plans, and protection of Human Subjects Plan for review.

This seed funding is designed to support pilot research activities, including participant incentives, IRB submission fees, and other field activities. Applications were reviewed by review committees consisting of program directors, faculty mentors, and trainee peer reviewers. Each proposal was evaluated in an NIH-style review session, providing feedback and guidance to the fellows before their proposals were given final approval by program leadership and funding was dispersed. The fund is critical for fellows to establish the groundwork and get preliminary/pilot data that will inform their extramural grant application submissions.

Trainee	Pilot Project Title
Andrew Sentoogo Ssemata	Transitioning from Pediatric to HIV Adult Care Services and its Impact on Mental Health and Wellbeing for Adolescents and Young People in Kampala
Harriet Ajilong	Assessing Vitamin D Levels in HIV Positive Adolescents with Depressive Symptoms in Post-Conflict Northern Uganda
Raymond Atwebembere	Prevalence and Risk Factors Associated with Suicide Behavior amongst ALWHIV in Low-Social Economic Settings in Masaka, Central Uganda
Richard Mpango	Adaptation and Evaluation of the New Forest Parenting Program (NFPP) in the Management of ADHD among Children and Adolescents infected with HIV (CA-HIV) in Uganda
Yvonne Kara magi	Impact of COVID 19 on Mental Health of Adolescents living with HIV (15-19 years) at Mildmay Uganda Hospital

## Fogarty International Center Networking Meeting Presentations

In October, two CHILD-GRF fellows were invited to present at the Fogarty International Center’s Annual HIV Research Training D43 Trainees and K Grantees Network Meeting. CHILD-GRF fellows from Cohort 2, Dr. Yvonne Karamagi and Dr. Richard Mpango, gave presentations at the virtual meeting, highlighting the progress, challenges overcome, next steps, and long-term goals for their mentored research projects. The meeting provided an opportunity for fellows to share their work and identify opportunities for future collaborations, as well as hear from program officials.

## Publications

For an up-to-date list of CHILD-GRF trainee publications in 2022, please visit <https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf/publications/>.

## CHILD-GRF Trainees

In 2022, we welcomed our third cohort of the CHILD-GRF program of six trainees for the inaugural grant cycle. Our first cohort of seven trainees shared the progress of their projects during the Forum on Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Capacity Building through individual research presentations, and were awarded certificates and recognition by our program directors. With the conclusion of their program year at the end of 2022, we look forward to the impactful work to follow their studies, now as CHILD-GRF alumni.

The following fellow profiles provide a brief overview. For full biographies and additional information, visit <https://sites.wustl.edu/childgrf/trainees-2/>.

## Cohort 1 (June 1, 2020 – December 2022)



**Rachel Alinaitwe, MBChB, MMed**  
Psychiatrist, College of Health Sciences,  
Makerere University  
**Mentor:** Dickens H. Akena, PhD  
**Research Project:** Detection and  
Referral of Depression among  
Adolescents Living with HIV in Uganda



**Anita Arinda, MBChB, MMed**  
Psychiatrist, Mildmay Uganda Hospital  
**Mentor:** James Mugisha, PhD  
**Research Project:** An HIV Education Program  
for Improvement in HIV Knowledge for  
Adolescents with Intellectual Disability in  
Entebbe, Uganda



**Agatha Kafuko, MA**  
PhD Student, Makerere University  
**Mentor:** Paul Bukuluki, PhD  
**Research Project:** Youth Participatory  
Action Research to Co-Create and  
Implement a Social  
Support Intervention to Improve  
Psychosocial Functioning and ART  
Adherence among Adolescents in Central Uganda



**Apollo Kivumbi, MBChB, MPH**  
Master of Medicine in Psychiatry Student,  
College of Health Sciences, Makerere University  
**Mentor:** Fredrick Makumbi, PhD  
**Research Project:** Cognitive Deficits in Children  
and Adolescents with HIV/AIDS and ADHD Co-  
Morbidity



**Violette Nabatte, MBChB, MMed**  
Head of Pediatric and Adolescent  
Services, Mildmay Uganda Hospital  
**Mentor:** Barbara Mukasa, MBChB, MPH  
**Research Project:** Prevalence and Factors  
Associated with Depression among  
Adolescents Living with HIV in Care at  
Mildmay Uganda Hospital



**Justine Diana Namuli, MBChB, MMed**  
Psychiatrist, Lecturer, Makerere University  
**Mentor:** Janet Nakigudde, PhD  
**Research Project:** The Burden, Types, Lived  
Experiences of HIV Stigma and Associated  
Factors among HIV Infected Children and  
Adolescents: A Mixed Methods Study in Uganda



**Esther Nanfuka, MA, PhD**  
Assistant Lecturer, Department of Social  
Work and Social Administration,  
Makerere University  
**Mentor:** David Kaawa-Mafigiri, PhD  
**Research Project:** Mental Resilience in  
the Face of Anxiety, Depression and  
Suicidal Ideation: A Qualitative Study of  
Adolescents Living with HIV in Uganda

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## Cohort 2 (June 1, 2021 – December 2023)



**Harriet Ajilong, MBChB**  
Pediatrician /Lecturer, Gulu University  
**Mentor:** Victor Musiime, MBChB,  
MMED, PhD  
**Research Project:** Association Between  
Vitamin D Levels and Depression  
among HIV-Positive Adolescents in Post-Conflict Northern  
Uganda



**Raymond Atwebembere, MBChB**  
Study Coordinator, International Center for  
Child Health and Development (ICHAD)  
**Mentor:** James Mugisha, PhD  
**Research Project:** Association Between  
Depression and Suicidality Amongst Children  
Living with HIV in Low Social Economic Settings



**Andrew Sentoogo Ssemata, BCP, MSc**

Doctoral Student, Makerere University

**Mentor:** Eugene Kinyanda, PhD

**Research Project:** Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult HIV Care Services and

its Impact on Adherence and Mental Health and Wellbeing for Adolescents and Young People at an HIV Clinic in Kampala



**Yvonne Karamagi, MBChB, MPH**

Director Medical Services - Mildmay Uganda Hospital

**Mentor:** Akena Dickens, MBChB, MMed Psych, PhD

**Research Project:** To Assess the Impact of COVID-19 on the Mental Health of

Adolescents Living with HIV (ALHIV) Aged 15-19 Years at Mildmay Uganda



**Richard Mpango, BSc, MSc, PhD**

Research Scientist, MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Uganda Research

**Mentor**

Eugene Kinyanda, PhD

**Research Project:** Evaluating the Effectiveness of the New Forest

Parenting Program (NFPP) to Mitigate Behavioral Problems and Improve Adherence Outcomes among Children and Adolescents Infected with HIV (CA-HIV) in Uganda

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**Cohort 3 (June 1, 2022 – December 2024)**



**Edgar Guma, MBChB, MMed**

Head of Mental Health Department, General Military Hospital Bombo

**Mentor:** Dickens Akena, PhD

**Research Interest:** Mental Health and Violence Against Children Living with HIV in Uganda



**Allan Kalungi, PhD**

Research Scientist, Department of Psychiatry, Makerere University

**Mentor**

Eugene Kinyanda, PhD

**Research Interest:** Stress as a Factor in the Incidence and Persistence of Behavioral Problems among Perinatally HIV-infected Children in Uganda



**Leticia Kyohangirwe, MBChB, MMed**

Scientist, Uganda Research Unit, Medical Research Council/Uganda Virus Research Institute

**Mentor :** Eugene Kinyanda, PHD

**Research Interest:** Integration of Management of Common Mental Health Disorders in Children and Adolescent Routine HIV Care



**Emmanuel Mpamizo, MBChB, MMed**

Lecturer in Mental Health Department, Gulu University

**Mentor**

Catherine Abbo, PhD

**Research Interest:** Prevalence of Alcohol Use for Children and Adolescents Born with HIV Attending HIV/AIDS Clinic



**Molly Naisanga, MBChB, MMed**

Graduate Trainee, Department of Mental Health and Psychiatry, Gulu University

**Mentor:** Noeline Nakasujja, PhD

**Research Interest:** Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Needs of Refugee Children and Adolescents with HIV/AIDS in Refugee Settlements in Uganda



**Damalie Nalwanga, MBChB, MMed**

Assistant Lecturer, Department of Pediatrics and Child Health, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University

**Mentor:** Phillipa Musoke, PhD

**Research Interest:** Neurocognitive Function among HIV infected Children Hospitalized for Severe Pneumonia



## Researcher Resilience Training (RRT) Program

<https://sites.wustl.edu/rtraining/>



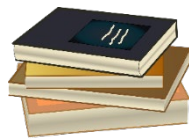
Researcher Resilience Training  
(RRT)

### Program Co-Directors/Mentors

<b>Mary McKay, PhD</b>	Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives, Washington University in St. Louis
<b>Fred Ssewamala, PhD</b>	William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Faculty Research, Director and Founder, ICHAD, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
<b>Sean Joe, PhD</b>	Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development, Director, Race and Opportunity Lab, Washington University in St. Louis

## 2022 Trainee Highlights

Funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the Researcher Resilience Training (RRT) Program (R25MH118935) is designed to provide advanced doctoral students and early career investigators of African descent interested in child and adolescent behavioral health with the necessary research skills to address the significant challenges that exist within resource-constrained settings. These include obstacles related to: 1) Retention of poverty-impacted, highly mobile youth and families; 2) Collaboration with youth, families and providers experiencing high levels of stress and nested within overburdened communities and systems; and 3) Building and maintaining community, provider, and academic partnerships.



127

Manuscripts published in peer-reviewed journals authored by RRT trainees and alumni



20

Conference and academic presentations given by RRT trainees and alumni

- Ms. Flavia Namuwonge was accepted and began her PhD studies at the Brown School of Washington University in St. Louis.
- Dr. Samantha Francois published seven manuscripts at various peer-reviewed journals.
- Ms. Josephine Nabayinda presented her work, "Inconsistent condom use among female sex workers: Findings from the Kyaterakera study, a randomized control trial in southwestern Uganda" at the American Public Health Association Annual meeting in Boston. She also presented the paper, "*I Expected Little, Although I Learned a Lot*": Perceived Benefits of Participating in HIV Risk Reduction Sessions Among Women Engaged in Sex Work in Uganda" and the poster, "Does Prior Asset Ownership Influence Sexual Risk-Taking Behaviors Among Women Engaged in Sex Work? A Mediation Analysis" at the Society for Social Work and Research 27th Annual Conference in early 2023.

### Publications

For an up-to-date list of RRT trainee and alumni publications, please visit <https://sites.wustl.edu/rtraining/publications/>.

## RRT Fellows

The following fellow profiles provide a brief overview. For full biographies and additional information, visit <https://sites.wustl.edu/rrtraining/2022-fellows/>.

### 2022 Cohort (April 1, 2022 – March 2023)



**Dennis Boyd Jr., MSW**  
Lab Manager, Race and Opportunity Lab, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis  
**Mentor:** Sean Joe, PhD, MSW  
**Research Project:** The Road to Mothers with Sons



**Jerell DeCaille, MS**  
Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Public Health and Social Justice, Saint Louis University  
**Mentor:** Sean Joe, PhD, MSW  
**Research Project:** Sexual Health Communication and Role of Fathers and Mentors in communicating about sexual health with sons



**Samantha Francois, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of the School of Social Work; Executive Director of Violence Prevention Institute, Tulane University  
**Mentor:** Sean Joe, PhD, MSW  
**Research Project:** Systematic Review of the Evidence on the Impact of Structural Forms of Racism on Black Youth Development



**Natasha Magorokosho, MA**  
PhD Student and Administrative Coordinator/Research Assistant, Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis  
**Mentor:** Fred Ssewamala, PhD, MSW  
**Research Project:** COVID-19 Experiences and the Emotional and Cognitive Well-Being of Adolescent Girls in Southern Uganda



**Josephine Nabayinda, MSc**  
PhD Student/Research Associate, Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis  
**Mentor:** Fred Ssewamala, PhD, MSW  
**Research Project:** Influence of Asset Ownership on Sexual Risk-Taking Behaviors among Women Engaged in Sex Work in Uganda



**Flavia Namuwonge, MBA**  
Doctoral Student/Research Assistant, Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis  
**Mentor:** Mary McKay, PhD  
**Research Project:** Peer Pressure and Risk Taking Behavior among School-Going Adolescents Impacted by HIV/AIDS in Southwestern Uganda

“The program coordinators are exceptional, the program topics were exhaustive and are of importance to young researchers.”

-- RRT Fellow

# LEAD Global Training Program

<https://sites.wustl.edu/lead/>



## Program Co-Directors

- Patricia Cavazos, PhD** Professor of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, Washington University in St. Louis
- Fred Ssewamala, PhD** William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Faculty Research, Director and Founder, ICHAD, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

## Mentors

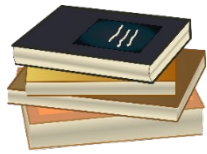
- Abdallah Ibrahim, DrPH, CPH** Senior Lecturer at the School of Public Health, University of Ghana
- Arvin Bhana, PhD** Chief Specialist Scientist, South African Medical Research Council and Honorary Associate Professor of Psychology, University of KwaZulu-Natal
- Theresa Betancourt, PhD** Professor, Social Work, Global Practice, Boston College
- Juliet Iwelunmor, PhD** Associate Professor, Behavioral Science and Health Education, College for Public Health and Social Justice, St. Louis University
- Shannon Lenze, PhD** Professor of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, Washington University in St. Louis
- Mary McKay, PhD** Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives, Washington University in St. Louis
- Janet Nakigudde, PhD** Behavioral Scientist and Lecturer, Psychiatry, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University
- Proscovia Nabunya, PhD** Assistant Professor, Social Work, Co-Director, ICHAD, Washington University in St. Louis
- Robert Paul, PhD** Professor, Behavioral Neuroscience, University of Missouri, St. Louis, Director, Missouri Institute of Mental Health
- Ilana Seff, PhD** Research Assistant Professor, Public Health, Washington University in St. Louis
- Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD** Research Assistant Professor, Social Work, Co-Investigator – LEAD and CHILD-GRF, Washington University in St. Louis
- Lindsay Stark, PhD** Associate Professor, Associate Dean for Global Strategy and Programs, Washington University in St. Louis

LEAD has been innovatively designed to provide an opportunity to amplify predoctoral students and postdoctoral early career researchers from underrepresented backgrounds in the United States who are committed to health disparities with a specific focus on global mental health research within resource-constrained settings. This program prepares trainees to look at global mental health prevention, intervention, services, and implementation research and provides the foundational skills to conduct research through experiential learning, mentoring, and hands-on immersion in a global mental health study site, as well as individualized consultation, goal setting and monitoring. LEAD is supported by the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (T37MD014218), and features a short-term summer intensive option as well as up to two twelve-month postdoctoral fellowships with the potential for a second twelve-month appointment.

“I found the LEAD summer program to be a great overall experience. It was great to meet new people and learn from the presented topics. – LEAD Trainee

In 2022, LEAD expanded its virtual programming and added in-person opportunities for travel to Uganda and St. Louis, Missouri, US, to its newest cohort of trainees. LEAD welcomed the third cohort of trainees, which included nine summer program trainees and two postdoctoral research associates. The LEAD trainees are highly qualified predoctoral and postdoctoral early career researchers from underrepresented minority groups with an interest in global mental health disparities in resource-constrained setting from institutions around the United States. Their diverse and unique research as well as professional and academic experiences were enhanced as they collaborated with their mentors on research projects focused on communities in the United States and the Global South. Despite the conclusion of the training period in August 2022, our trainees continue to collaborate on projects initiated with their mentors and with one another.

## 2022 LEAD Trainee Highlights



**114**

Manuscripts published in peer-reviewed journals authored by LEAD trainees and alumni



**16**

Conference and academic presentations by LEAD trainees

- Dr. Lindsey Filiatreau, LEAD Postdoctoral Research Associate, was published seven times in 2022, and had a additional sixteen manuscripts under revise and resubmit or under review.
- Dr. Camille Quinn, 2022 Summer Trainee, was awarded a prestigious NIMHHD Loan Repayment Program Award from the National Institutes of Health and was promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Michigan in the School of Social Work
- Dr. Julia Lopez was promoted to Assistant Professor at Washington University School of Medicine

### Publications

For an up-to-date list of LEAD trainee publication, visit <https://sites.wustl.edu/lead/publications/>.

## Summer 2022 Trainees

The following fellow profiles provide a brief overview. For full biographies and additional information, visit <https://sites.wustl.edu/lead/2022-trainees/>



**Angel Boulware, BS**  
Doctoral Student, Department of Comparative Human Development, University of Chicago  
**Mentor:** Ebony Carter, MD, MPH  
**Research Project:** Obesity, Diet Quality, Neighborhood Socioeconomics, and Risk for Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes among Black Women



**Zelibeth Gutierrez, MD**  
Department of Family Medicine, Tallahassee Medical HealthCare  
**Mentor:** Patricia Cavazos-Rehg, PhD  
**Research Project:** Substance Use Disorder and Lack of Readiness to Stop Using



**Camelia Harb, MA**  
PhD Graduate Student, Psychological Sciences, University of Missouri St. Louis  
**Mentor:** Leo Cabassa, PhD  
**Research Project:** Utility of CBPR Approaches for Improving Mental Health Treatment and Research Engagement



**Husain Lateef, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis  
**Mentor:** James Mugisha, PhD  
**Research Project:** Culturally Centered Mental Health Interventions among Youth in Africa: An Afrocentric Assessment Afrocentric implementations in Africa and US



**Julia López, PhD, MPH, LCSW**  
Associate Professor in Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine  
**Mentor:** Elvin Geng, PhD  
**Research Project:** Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trials in Implementation Science



**Camille Quinn, PhD, AM, LCSW, LISW-S**  
Associate Professor of Social Work, University of Michigan  
**Mentor:** Manasi Kumar, PhD  
**Project Title:** Intersections of violence, suicide and HIV risk: a scoping review of Ugandan girls and young women's with arrest histories



**Montray Smith, MPH, MSN, RN, NDHP-BC**  
PhD Student, School of Nursing, University of Louisville  
**Mentor:** Thomas Crea, PhD  
**Project Title:** Ebola Virus Pediatric Mental Health Study (EVD-PMH) in Sierra Leone



**Hannah Stewart, MPH**  
PhD Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Health Promotion and Human Behavior, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health  
**Mentor:** Robert Paul, PhD  
**Project Title:** Capacity Building for Trauma-Informed and Culturally Relevant Mental Health Systems

## LEAD Postdoctoral Research Associates



### Lindsey Filiatreau, PhD, MPH

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Psychiatry, Washington University in St. Louis

### Mentors

Patricia Cavazos-Rehg, PhD, Mary McKay, PhD

### Research Project

**Addressing Mental Health and Substance Use Disparities among Key Populations in Resource-Constrained Settings**

### Biography

Dr. Filiatreau completed her PhD in Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with an interest in global mental health and HIV prevention and care. In her dissertation work, Lindsey characterized differences in longitudinal HIV care continuum outcomes before and after implementation of South Africa's Universal Test and Treat policy and explores the relationship between key psychosocial stressors (e.g., depressive symptoms, low social support, etc.) and HIV treatment outcomes among youth with HIV in rural South Africa. Before joining the Epidemiology doctoral training program, Lindsey completed her Master of Public Health degree at the University of Ghana, Legon, and worked in direct HIV service provision as a Health Educator and HIV Testing Services Coordinator in Indianapolis and Chicago. In her post-doctoral training, Lindsey is exploring the causal effects of co-occurring psychosocial stressors on HIV treatment outcomes and formalize her training in implementation science methods. Ultimately, she seeks to apply her research to the design and scale-up of effective mental health interventions for people with HIV in resource-constrained settings.



### Nhal Tutlam, PhD

LEAD Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis  
(May 2021 - June 2022)

### Mentor

Fred Ssewamala, PhD

### Research Project

**Seeking to understand the impact of adversity on the mental health of youth and adults from communities that have faced multiple adversities ranging from HIV to armed conflicts and designing interventions to improve their mental health outcomes**

### Biography

Dr. Tutlam earned his Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Tennessee State University and both his Master of Public Health (MPH) and PhD degrees from Saint Louis University. Prior to his role as a Postdoctoral Trainee with the LEAD program, Dr. Tutlam was the Chronic Disease Epidemiology Program manager in the Division of Health Promotion and Public Health Research at Saint Louis County Department of Public Health (DPH), where he oversaw chronic diseases and mental health surveillance. Dr. Tutlam was also the Project Director for Project RESTORE, a four-year, \$1.7 million minority youth violence prevention project funded by the Office of Minority Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Currently, Dr. Tutlam is research assistant professor at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis. His research interests include chronic diseases, maternal and child health and intergenerational impact of war trauma among South Sudanese. As part of his postdoctoral training, Dr. Tutlam participated as a trainee in the inaugural cohort of the LEAD Global Training Program summer training program in 2021 and then moved to his postdoctoral position in LEAD from 2021-2022. In 2022, Dr. Nhal joined the inaugural cohort of the ACHIEVE Training Program and is currently conducting research in Uganda with refugee youth mental health services.

## ACHIEVE Training Program

<https://sites.wustl.edu/achieve/>



### Program Co-Directors and Co-Investigators

<b>Fred Ssewamala, PhD</b>	William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Faculty Research, Director and Founder, ICHAD, Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis
<b>Mary McKay, PhD</b>	Vice-Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives, Washington University St. Louis
<b>Patricia Akweongo, PhD</b>	Senior Lecturer, Head of Department of Health Policy Planning and Management, School of Public Health, University of Ghana
<b>Theresa S. Betancourt, ScD</b>	Salem Professor in Global Practice, Director, Research Program on Child and Adversity (RPCA) School of Social Work, Boston College
<b>Arvin Bhana, PhD</b>	Honorary Associate Professor, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, Honorary Research Associate, South African Medical Research Council
<b>Rebecca Esliker, PhD</b>	Head of Department, Mental Health Programme, University of Makeni
<b>Keng-Yen Huang, PhD</b>	Associate Professor, Department of Population Health, Associate Professor, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Grossman School of Medicine, New York University
<b>Muthoni Mathai, PhD</b>	Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Nairobi
<b>Noeline Nakasujja, PhD</b>	Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Head of Psychiatry Department, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University
<b>Vincent Sezibera, PhD</b>	Professor of Psychology, Director, Centre for Mental Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Rwanda
<b>Yesim Tozan, PhD</b>	Assistant Professor, School of Global Public Health, New York University
<b>Stevan Weine, MD</b>	Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Director of Global Medicine, Director, Center for Global Health, School of Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago

As part of the Fogarty International Center’s flagship Global Health Fellows LAUNCH Program, Addressing the Research Capacity Gap in Global Child, Adolescent & Family Health Disparities Utilizing Implementation and Data Sciences among Vulnerable Populations in Resource-Limited Settings (ACHIEVE) (D43TW012275) is ICHAD’s newest research training program. ACHIEVE is designed for medical doctors and postdoctoral early career researchers from the United States and Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Uganda, as well as predoctoral students and trainees from underrepresented groups in the United States committed to conducting health disparities research with a specific focus on global mental health prevention, intervention, services, and implementation research within resource-constrained settings. ACHIEVE focuses on preparing the next cadre of researchers to address these global health disparities affecting children, adolescents, and their adult caregivers. Through a year of mentored research in an LMIC setting with support of mentors from the US and the Global South, ACHIEVE provides trainees invaluable experience and support to launch global health research studies with the support of renowned research mentors.

## 2022 ACHIEVE Trainee Highlights

The inaugural ACHIEVE training program cohort was launched in July 2022, and the fellows have launched into their mentored research projects by working with their mentors, obtaining ethical clearance, and recruiting program staff. The eight fellows in our first cohort are on track to meet the deliverables of the program, and continue their prolific research careers after completion of the ACHIEVE training program.

- Dr. Ronald Olum was awarded second prize for his presentation, “Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices towards Contraception Among School-Going Adolescents and young People in Mbale, Eastern Uganda” in Kigali, Rwanda at the Sexual and Reproductive Health: informing Policy and Practice through Research and Preserving Training conference.
- Dr. Nhial Tutlam was promoted to Research Assistant Professor at the Brown School of Washington University in St. Louis as of January 1, 2023 and has received NIH supplemental funding and an institutional seed grant. He has also submitted an NIH K grant.
- Dr. Mamadu Baldeh has submitted two NIH research grants.



**10**

Global program and recruitment sites in the United States, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Uganda



**13**

Global research sites: Ghana, Kenya, Kosovo, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan, Uganda, and Zambia



## 2022 ACHIEVE Trainees: Cohort 1



**Samuel Adjorlolo, PhD, Mphil, MSc**  
Senior Lecturer and Head, Department of Mental Health Nursing  
School of Nursing and Midwifery  
University of Ghana

**Mentors:** Kwasi Torpey, Alfred Yawson, Yesim Tozan and Keng-Yen Huang

**Research Project:** Developing an

Integrated, Multi-level School-based Mental Health Intervention Framework in Ghana



**Mamadu Baldeh, MD, MSPH**

Clinical Researcher Fellow  
King's Sierra Leone Partnership  
King's Global Health Partnership

**Mentors:** Patrick Eugene Turay, Fred Ssewamala, Elvin Geng

**Research Project:** Advance HIV disease in patients seen at Connaught Hospital,

Freetown, Sierra Leone



**Catherine Musyoka, PhD, MSc**

Alcohol and Drugs Abuse Program Coordinator  
Department of Psychiatry  
University of Nairobi

**Mentors:** Muthoni Mathai, Christopher Salas-Wright, Thomas Crea

**Research Project:** A User-Centered

Mhealth App to Provide On-Demand Mental Health Literacy for the Prevention and Management of Substance Abuse to Adolescents in a Resource-Limited Setting



**Joyce Nankumbi, PhD, MSc, MSN**

Lecturer  
Department of Nursing  
College of Health Sciences  
Makerere University

**Mentors:** Victor Musiime, Lora Iannotti, Byron Powell

**Research Project:** Effect of the Healthy baby

tool kit on maternal, infant, and young child feeding practices; a pilot study among HIV positive/exposed mother-baby dyads attending a PMTCT clinic



**Ronald Olum, MBChB**

Study Coordinator  
Department of Pharmacy  
College of Health Sciences  
Makerere University

**Mentors:** Barbara Mukasa, Noeline Nakasujja, Elvin Geng

**Research Project:** Group Therapy for the Management of Stigma among HIV

Positive Pregnant Adolescents in Northern Uganda



**Kwame Opare-Asamoah, PhD**

Head of Department  
Department of Biological Sciences  
University for Developmental Studies

**Mentors:** Ernest Kenu, Reshma Shah, Randi Foraker

**Research Project:** The Pharmacokinetics of Antibiotics Used in the Treatment of

Neonatal Sepsis and the Postexposure Effect of Antibiotics on Hearing at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of the Tamale Teaching Hospital, Ghana



**Melissa Reimer-McAtee, MD**

Fogarty Global Health Fellow  
Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases,  
University of North Carolina

**Mentors:** Genesis Chorwe, Kim Johnson,

Chenyang Lu

**Research Project:** Identification of Barriers to Medication Adherence in Persons Living with HIV Admitted to Kamuzu Central Hospital in Lilongwe, Malawi



**Nhial Tutlam, PhD, MPH**

Assistant Professor  
Brown School  
Washington University in St. Louis

**Mentors:** James Mugisha, Janet Nakigudde, Fred Ssewamala

**Research Project:** Addressing the Mental Health Impact of Conflict and HIV Risk

among Refugee Youth in Uganda

## Capacity Building Leadership

### Executive Steering Committee



**Fred Ssewamala, PhD**

Co-Director – CHILD-GRF, LEAD, RRT, and ACHIEVE

William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor; Associate Dean for Transdisciplinary Faculty Research; Director of ICHAD and SMART Africa Centers; Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis; Professor of Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine

Dr. Ssewamala is the Founding Director of ICHAD and the Director of the SMART Africa Center. His global research, funded by a consortium of institutions including the U.S. government through NIMH and NICHD, focuses on improving health/mental health and developmental outcomes for vulnerable children and adolescents and creating innovative combination interventions for communities affected by poverty and HIV/AIDS.



**Mary McKay, PhD**

Co-Director – CHILD-GRF, RRT, and ACHIEVE

Vice Provost of Interdisciplinary Initiatives, Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. McKay has received substantial federal funding for research focused on meeting the mental health and health prevention needs of youth and families impacted by poverty. She has significant expertise in child mental health services and implementation research methods, as well as over 20 years of experience conducting HIV prevention and care-oriented studies, supported by the NIH. She has been the PI on studies set in Sub-Saharan Africa since 2000.



**Patricia Cavazos, PhD**

Co-Director, LEAD

Professor, Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Department of Psychiatry  
Director, Mentored Training Program in Clinical Investigation

Dr. Cavazos is a clinically trained licensed psychologist who has been involved in biomedical research for over ten years. Her research is funded by the NIH and involves studying the most efficacious policies that will reduce substance use involvement while accounting for today's new media-saturated environment. She is a member of an underrepresented minority group (Hispanic/Latina), and understands the importance of enhancing diversity in the workforce.



**Sean Joe, PhD**

Co-Director, RRT

Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development; Director, Race and Opportunity Lab; Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. Joe is a nationally recognized authority on suicidal behavior among African Americans. His research focuses on Black adolescents' mental health service use patterns, the role of religion in Black suicidal behavior (NIMH), salivary biomarkers for suicidal behavior, and development of father-focused, family-based interventions to prevent urban African American adolescent males from engaging in multiple forms of self-destructive behaviors.



**Noeline Nakasujja, PhD**

Co-Director – CHILD GRF; MPI – ACHIEVE  
Associate Professor, Psychiatry, Makerere University in Uganda

Dr. Nakasujja’s research focuses on mental health, in particular, evaluating special populations of HIV positive individuals. She is currently a Principal Investigator on a study evaluating the stress and caregiver burden of individuals looking after patients with Alzheimer’s disease in the community. She has an impressive record as a department chair and mentor, serves on several international associations and has received numerous recognitions and honors for her scientific achievements.



**Proscovia Nabunya, PhD**

Co-Investigator – LEAD and CHILD-GRF  
Assistant Professor, Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. Nabunya’s research focuses on HIV-stigma reduction interventions, family and community-based support systems as protective factors for the development and well-being of children and families impacted by HIV/AIDS. She has research expertise in poverty-reduction strategies that utilize asset-based interventions and their impact on the social, economic and health well-being of children and families in HIV-impacted communities in sub-Saharan Africa.



**Ozge Sensoy Bahar, PhD**

Co-Investigator – LEAD, CHILD-GRF, and ACHIEVE  
Research Assistant Professor, Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. Sensoy Bahar’s research focuses on child and family well-being in global contexts characterized by poverty and associated stressors. Her current research program focuses on youth experiences of child work and labor, as well as the individual, family, and contextual factors leading to child labor in two country contexts, Turkey and Ghana. The goal of her work is to develop culturally and contextually relevant interventions to reduce risk factors associated with child labor.



**Theresa Betancourt, ScD**

Professor, School of Social Work, Boston College  
Co-PI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Betancourt’s research interests include developmental and psychosocial consequences of concentrated adversity on children, youth and families; resilience and protective processes in child and adolescent mental health and child development; refugee families; and applied cross-cultural mental health research. She is Principal Investigator of an intergenerational study of war/prospective longitudinal study of war-affected youth in Sierra Leone (LSWAY).



**Arvin Bhana, PhD**

Associate Professor of Psychology, University of KwaZulu-Natal Durban  
MPI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Bhana’s research focuses on understanding risk and resilience, adolescent risk-taking behavior (including HIV/ AIDS), and substance abuse and mental health. He has been the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator of several NIH-funded research projects in South Africa supporting Perinatally HIV-infected Youth. His recent publications examine the role of family protective factors in improving mental health and behavioral outcomes and reducing the risk for STIs among children and youth.



**Keng-Yen Huang, PhD**

Associate Professor, Population Health, New York University School of Medicine  
Co-PI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Huang's research interests include child development, psychiatric epidemiology, prevention, implementation, and global public health research. She is the principal and co-investigator on numerous NIH and Foundation funded child development and mental health implementation research projects in international contexts. Her current research efforts focus on child mental/behavioral health implementation and epidemiological research both in low-and middle-income countries (LMICs) and in the US.



**Yesim Tozan, PhD**

Assistant Professor, School of Global Public Health, New York University  
Co-PI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Yesim Tozan's research centers on health decision science and priority setting, and explores the costs and cost-effectiveness of health care interventions using decision analytic models and the issues of health care resource allocation in low- and middle-income countries. Her main focus has been infectious disease prevention and control with an emphasis on dengue and malaria. Dr. Tozan is currently leading a health economics work package in a European Union-funded research project on dengue surveillance and control with field sites in Sri Lanka and Thailand.



**Rebecca Esliker, PhD**

Head of Department, Mental Health Programme, University of Makeni  
MPI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Rebecca Esliker's research interests include mental health service delivery, clinical supervision of mental health nurses, and her experience includes training front-line service providers in the WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme, and mentoring students. Dr. Esliker is a co-investigator on a current NIMH R21 focused on developing digital tools to support community health worker-delivered home visiting interventions to promote ECD and prevent violence in Sierra Leone.



**Muthoni Mathai, PhD**

Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Nairobi  
MPI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Muthoni Mathai's research interests include depression and psychotrauma, as well as sexual decision-making and AIDS and reproductive health. She has been primary investigator on several NIH and NIMH-funded projects in Kenya on depressive treatments and mental health, particularly among people living with HIV. One important area of Dr. Muthoni's work has been in the mentorship of postgraduate and doctoral students, as she has mentored over 50 masters and doctoral students since 2007. Her current research includes:



**Patricia Akweongo, PhD**

Senior Lecturer, Head of Department of Health Policy Planning and Management, School of Public Health, University of Ghana  
MPI - ACHIEVE

Dr. Patricia Akweongo's research interests are in the areas of health systems governance of social protection programs, health systems strengthening, community engagement and empowerment, access to health care, sexual and reproductive health, health system and health policy, human resource management, economic evaluation, among others. Her current research includes health systems governance for an inclusive and sustainable social health protection in Ghana and Tanzania, strengthening management at district level to support universal health coverage, and a project seeking to monitor the impact of violence in pregnancy on children up to 19 years old.

## CHILD-GRF Training Advisory Committee



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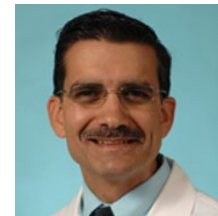
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