

Kukundakwe Melody, Betty Asire, Nabossa Damali, Racheal Babirye and Arica Juliet; congratulations on your bundles of joy! All born within in the last one month.

Save the Mothers (STM) has started the process of reviewing the Masters in Public Health Leadership (MPHL) curriculum to align it to the current trends at the national and international level.

The meeting which was held in Kampala, Uganda recently was attended by about 16 faculty members representing maternal health, public health, research, communications and leadership courses.

The review process shall be enriched with input from key stakeholders who include students and alumni. The guest speaker at the inaugural curriculum review meeting was Prof Everd Maniple, Vice Chancellor, Virtual University of Uganda.

STM network fraternity welcome the

STM starts the MPHL Curriculum review



Left-Right: A cross section of faculty members at curriculum review meeting. Guest Speaker, Prof Everd Maniple, STM Academics Director-Dr J Barageine, Rev E Mugarura & Dr O Setumbwe. **Bottom Right:** Prof Florence Mirembe flanked by Dr M Mutabazi (L) & J Kawuba (R).

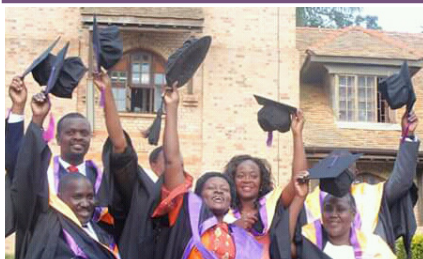
news:

Wilson Agutu international class 2011, Tanzania: "What a great move. I think this might contribute to making the MPHL the most relevant program that corresponds with the changing environment. Bravo Dr Miriam and the entire STM team."

Thierry Uhawenimana - Class 2011, Rwanda: "It is really a good practice to review the curriculum and align it with the current needs. I am happy to contribute my ideas anytime."

STM: Thierry, thank you for offering your availability to contribute. We shall contact you.

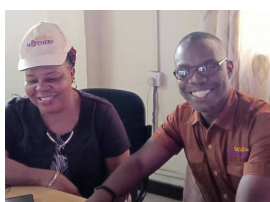
Congratulations STM-MPHL graduates



Left: Hats in the air as we say: 'To God be the glory.' Congratulations to the seven July 2018 MPHL graduates. **Right:** The graduates joined by STM faculty and staff. Pascal Mulindwa, Penninah Kyoyagala, Namazzi Damali, Bernard Opige, Reuben Ladu, Margaret Maki. STM staff and faculty: Fred Musisi (extreme right), Dr Miriam Mutabazi, STM East Africa Director (front middle in purple hood), Behind row: Dr Edward Mukozza and Juliet Kawuba. This was on 6 July 2018 at the Uganda Christian University graduation ceremony. Deogratia Mabuga STM missed you at the ceremony.

MPHL information session in Arusha

STM alumni conducted Masters in Public Health Leadership (MPHL) information sessions in Arusha, Tanzania that gathered 20 participants. Wilson Agutu who lives and works in Arusha volunteered to support STM to plan, mobilise and execute this activity. He was assisted by Gladness Munno who travelled from Dar es Salaam to co-facilitate the session.



The preparation included seeking the venue, designing and distributing invitation posters. The posters were distributed through social media. All Tanzania MPHL alumni participated in publicising the sessions.

Great Job! Asante sana STM alumni in Tanzania. Hogera Sana.

Left to Right: Gladness & Wilson in Arusha

UPDATES

from STM Game Changers

Jude Okeria,

Congratulations on your new job!

Chief of Party for Promoting Peaceful Co-existence and Resilience Activity in Northern Uganda, a new project for Transcultural Psychosocial Organisation (TPO).

Jude (class 2015) has been at the helm of this project that focuses on peace building, psychosocial and economic empowerment since January 2018. Sexual and Gender Based Violence issues plus trauma are also addressed. Congratulations!



Claire Kyokushaba - it was good linking up with you



Clare (middle) with STM's T Agutu (L) & Dr M Mutabazi (R).

During STM's recent visit to Mwanza, Save the Mothers hooked up with Claire, STM alumni class 2014. Claire who works with Health Child, Mbarara was on duty in Mwanza representing her organisation that has a partnership with Mama Na Mtoto, Tanzania.

Safe motherhood lands among the pygmies in DRC

By David Upoki

It is confirmed that leaving women health problems in the hands of medical doctors, nurses, midwives and other medical professionals alone will never yield much results. Dealing with health problems requires contribution from all professionals.

After my first, second and third modules of Masters in Public Health Leadership (MPHL) at Save the mother, Uganda Christian University, I realized the importance of introducing safe motherhood to my fellow pastors, and how it can be integrated in our daily preaching.

Because the women, mothers, and girls who are dying from pregnancy and child-birth related complications are our church members. Not talking about maternal health is a disservice to our congregation in this time when maternal death is flooding our homes with more tears.

Recently I organized a four days theological conference in Bunia, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where pastors and church leaders attended. I introduced participants to safe motherhood and three delays.

The purpose of the conference was to equip pastors with safe motherhood information to

Not talking about maternal health is a disservice to our congregation in this time when maternal death is flooding our homes with more tears.



David Upoki (extreme left) makes a presentation to pastors in Bunia, DRC about the place of safe motherhood in the church,

promote maternal and child health in the church.

In DRC, maternal mortality and morbidity seems to be out of control: Maternal mortality is 846 per 100,000 live birth, ranking the country as one of worst nations in terms of maternal mortality.

Communities need to take bold initiatives to stand against the leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity.

The conference discussions revealed that in some tribes, culture such as early marriages prevent mothers and women from practising desired life saving behaviour. The discussion further revealed that many men and husbands beat their wives as if beating snakes.

Since people listen a lot to pastors, the power of the pulpit should be used to integrate women health messages. Time has come for pastors to effectively tackle maternal mortality from the pulpit.

I pray that the Lord may open doors that I may continue to hold conferences in DRC with pastors regarding the integration of Safe motherhood and theology to tackle maternal mortality. I also pray that the Lord may open the door for us to have an FM radio station for sensitizing on maternal health care. I also pray that I may complete my MPH.

The writer is an STM-MPHL student, International class 2016.

Midwifery Mentorship & Coaching: MBFHI

By Teopista Agutu

With support from Stronger Together, Save the Mothers rolled out the mentorship and coaching project for midwives across its 9 Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative sites.

27 Midwives from these 9 MBFHI hospitals gathered in Mityana district, Central Uganda at Enro Hotel in June 2018 to attend the mentorship and coaching sessions. The mentorship sessions focused on the role of leadership and communication skills in midwifery practice.

The 9 sites are Mukono Health Centre IV, Naggalama, Kawolo, Mubende, Mityana, Nakaseke, Tororo, Mbale, and Kagando hospitals.



Midwives who attended the mentorship pose for a photo with their facilitators. Below: Dr Eve Nakabembe stresses a point to midwives.



Meet the Stronger Together Founders



Dr Miriam Mutabazi, Director STM East Africa met the founders of Stronger Together grant during her visit to Canada recently.

"We are truly thankful to God for their kindness and generosity to STM and so many other projects across the Globe. A strong Chsiristan family who have supported STM on several occasions over the years. May God continue to guide us as we work on empowering midwives in hospitals across the country," Dr Eve Nakabembe, MPH Director.

Scott and Monica Radely, it was a pleasure having you visit Save the Mothers and picking interest in one of the MBFHI sites: Mukono Health Centre IV in June 2018.

Friends of Save the Mothers



Touring the health facility with Dr Miriam. Welcome to the world: The Radley join these mothers to give glory to good for safe deliveries - healthy mothers and healthy babies.

STM at Naggalama Hospital's Health Assembly



Women in armed forces: Uganda police officers at the hospital health assembly.



Sister Jane Frances (extreme left) joined by community leaders.

By Lillian Tushabe & T Agutu

On 22 June 2018 Save the Mothers was privileged to join St. Francis Hospital Naggalama's health assembly.

The assembly that gathered different community leaders opened up the hospital doors to the community members to showcase the services offered while highlighting the costs for these services.

The assembly was attended by religious, community and district leaders and hospital partners such as Save the Mothers.

Naggalama Hospital under the leadership of Sr Jane Frances Nakafeero also used this opportunity to publicly share with community leaders and members the hospital income and expenditure to promote transparency and accountability.

St Francis Hospital Naggalama which is located in Kayunga, central Uganda is one of STM's Mother Baby Friendly Hospitals.

Mission to Tanzania

STM Partnership with Mama Na Mtoto in Mwanza

Save the Mothers (STM) team led by the director, Dr Miriam Mutabazi conducted a visit to Mwanza, Tanzania to promote Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative under a partnership with Mama Na Mtoto (MnM) project.



Clockwise from top left: MBFHI seminar participants pose for a group photo. A cross section of participants during the seminar.

Dr Miriam holds discussions with District Medical Officer (DMO), Misungwi district, Dr Zaburoni. Dr Miriam checks the Mbarika health facility ambulance emergency readiness regarding equipment & supplies. Dr Miriam poses for a photo with the ambulance driver.

The visit was conducted between 8 to 15 July 2018. During the visit Save the Mothers conducted MBFHI community dialogues in four health facilities in Misungwi district, Mwanza.

The health facilities are Misasi, Mwawile, Nyamayinza and Mbarika. Further Save the Mothers also conducted a seminar on MBFHI in Misungwi for health workers, community health workers, community health workers and health facility governance leadership.

Save the Mothers supports the four health facilities with clinical mentorships while implementing the MBFHI 10 steps. At Mbarika health facility, STM in partnership with Crossroads



sponsored construction of an operating theatre.

In Nyamayinza the community health workers and community leaders mobilised community members to start construction of a maternity ward which was raised from the foundation level to the ring beam level.

Communities were concerned about lack of visual and audio privacy for mothers in the present small labour ward that can only accommodate one bed. Today with support from Save the Mothers the ward construction is about to be completed.

Save the Mothers East Africa - STM EA, Uganda Christian University, Mukono.

www.stmeastafrica.org,
T Agutu, Networking/Communications Director STM East Africa
(Editor/graphic designer) -
256-772311498,
stmnetworking@ucu.ac.ug

Contributors: David Upoki, Lilian Tushabe

Photographers:

Paddy, L Tushabe, I Mwase, T Agutu
Reviewers: Dr M Mutabazi, Director - STM East Africa, Dr E Nakabembe - MBFHI Director, Dr J Barageine - Academics Director