

SMART AFRICA

**Third Annual
Conference on Child
Behavioral Health in
Sub-Saharan Africa**

*Achieving Sustainable Impact on
Child Behavioral Health in Sub-
Saharan Africa through
Research, Policy and Stakeholder
Engagement*

**JULY 30th-31st, 2018
MASAKA, UGANDA**

Acknowledgements

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Fred Ssewamala, Ozge Sensoy Bahar, William Byansi, Hayden Blair, Charlotte Hechler, Phionah Namatovu, Miriam Mukasa, Edward Nsubuga

SMART AFRICA-UGANDA STUDY PARTICIPANTS

We would also like to thank the children, caregivers, community health care workers, parent peers, and schools participating in the SMART Africa-Uganda study.



SMART Africa Center

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SECURING OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE TODAY



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The SMART Africa Center is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Brown School at Washington University. The content presented at this conference is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not represent the official views of the NIMH.

CONFERENCE HOSTS



Mary M. McKay

Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean of the Brown School

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Dr. Mary McKay is the Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean of the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis. Dean McKay joined the Brown School as Dean in 2016, continuing the School's legacy of creating vital knowledge, initiating social change, and preparing leaders to address social and health challenges both locally and globally. Dean McKay's academic experience connects deeply to both social work and public health. She 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 also 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 National Institutes of Health. She has authored more than 150 publications on mental and behavioral health, HIV/AIDS prevention and urban poverty, and more. Prior to joining the Brown School, Dean McKay was the McSilver Professor of Social Work and the inaugural director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University's Silver School of Social Work. She previously served as the Head of the Division of Mental Health Services Research at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Her prior academic appointments include Columbia University and University of Illinois at Chicago.



Fred M. Ssewamala

*William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, Brown School
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Dr. Fred Ssewamala is William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor at the Brown School, and Professor of Medicine at Washington University's School of Medicine in St. Louis. He is also the Founder and Director of the International Center for Child Health and Development (ICHAD); and the Director for SMART Africa Center. Dr. Ssewamala leads innovative, interdisciplinary research that informs, develops and tests family-based economic empowerment and social protection interventions to improve life chances and long-term developmental outcomes for children and adolescent youth, particularly those impacted by poverty and HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). His research engages collaboratively with local institutions to ensure scale-up and sustainability. Before joining the Brown School in 2017, Dr. Ssewamala was a tenured Professor at Columbia University School of Social Work, for 15 years, where he established the ICHAD. Now based at the Brown School, ICHAD continues to contribute to poverty reduction and improvement of health outcomes for children, adolescents in low-resource communities in SSA. Ssewamala is currently the Lead on four large scale NIH-funded longitudinal randomized controlled trials in Uganda: 1) Bridges to the Future evaluates the long-term impact and cost-effectiveness of a family-based savings-led intervention for adolescent orphans in 48 schools; 2) Suubi+Adherence assesses the effects of economic strengthening in improving adherence to medication by HIV-positive children and adolescents in 39 health clinics; 3) Suubi4Her evaluates the long-term impact and cost of a combination intervention comprised of Youth Savings Accounts and family-strengthening groups for adolescent girls in 42 secondary schools; and 4) SMART Africa focused on adapting and testing an evidence-based intervention, multiple family groups (MFG) to address child and adolescent mental health difficulties in three sub-Saharan African countries: Uganda, Kenya and Ghana.



Ozge Sensoy Bahar

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Dr. Ozge Sensoy Bahar is a Research Assistant Professor at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis. She also serves as a Co-Investigator for the SMART Africa Center. Dr. Sensoy Bahar's research focuses on child and family well-being in global contexts characterized by poverty and associated stressors. Dr. Sensoy Bahar's previous research used ethnographic methods to examine the interrelatedness of poverty, migration and marginalization, and the consequences (such as child labor) for children and families in a poverty-impacted ethnic community in Turkey. Her current research program focuses on youth experiences of child work and employment, 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. Dr. Sensoy Bahar recently completed a three year, externally funded post-doctoral fellowship at the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University Silver School of Social Work. Dr. Sensoy Bahar is a SMART Africa Global Child Health Fellow.

**Hayden Blair**

Research Assistant & Administrative Coordinator

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Mr. Hayden Blair is a Research Assistant and Administrative Coordinator for the ICHAD USA at the Brown School. Garnering a substantial foundation in technology, he has applied his knowledge and aptitude to many facets of ICHAD studies. By implementing these new techniques, Mr. Blair has been able to increase the precision and accuracy within which ICHAD operates. Utilizing telecommunication and advances in industrial science, Mr. Blair is eager to further cultivate and grow the sphere of technology at ICHAD.

**William Byansi**

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Mr. William Byansi is a Doctoral student in Social Work at the Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis. His research interest is in child and adolescent behavioral health services and community development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Mr. Byansi also works as a Senior Research Associate for the International Center for Child Health and Development (ICHAD), supporting NIH-funded Suubi4Her and Suubi+Adherence studies under Dr. Fred Ssewamala's leadership.

**Charlotte Hechler**

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Ms. Charlotte Hechler is a MSW student at the Brown School and a Masters Research Fellow for SMART Africa Center. She is interested in violence prevention among youth and adolescents both nationally and globally.



Miriam Mukasa
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Ms. Miriam Mukasa is the Head of Operations at ICHAD, Uganda field offices, Masaka-Uganda. She supervises all field activities including data collection and monitoring of field work for all ICHAD studies in Uganda. Ms. Mukasa was also pivotal in creating the health education curriculum provided to Suubi+Adherence study participants. She is concurrently responsible for managing the center's human resource needs. Prior to joining ICHAD, she worked at McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University, as a Junior Research Scientist.



Phionah Namatovu
Project Coordinator
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A Quantitative Economist by training, Ms. Phionah Namatovu is the Project Coordinator for the SMART Africa Center in Uganda. She oversees the SMART Africa field research, including data collection activities, for the scale-up study in Uganda. Ms. Namatovu is interested in influencing policy by using evidence-based practices to improve behavioral health outcomes among children in vulnerable communities.



Edward Nsubuga
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Mr. Edward Nsubuga is a Research Assistant at the ICHAD Field Office. As a research assistant, his responsibilities include data collection, community mobilization to recruit study participants, translation of study documents into Luganda (local language spoken in the area), and home visits as well as school and clinic visits. He is interested in identifying solutions to the challenges in society through applied research.

GUESTS OF HONOR



Hon. Dr. John Chrysestom Muyingo

*State Minister for Higher Education
Ministry of Education and Sports
Kampala, Uganda*

Hon. Dr. John Chrysestom Muyingo is the State Minister for Higher Education in Uganda. Hon. Dr. Muyingo graduated with a Bachelor of Science with a Diploma in Education from Makerere University. He also holds a Master of Arts in Educational Management, obtained in 1996, and a Doctor of Philosophy obtained in 2004, both from Makerere University. His doctorate dissertation focused on the financing of university education in Uganda.



Hon. Florence Nakiwala Kiyingi

*State Minister
Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (Youth
and Children Affairs)
Kampala, Uganda*

Hon. Florence Nakiwala Kiyingi graduated from Makerere University with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Hon. Nakiwala Kiyingi was appointed Minister of State for Gender, Labour and Social Development (Youth and Children Affairs) in 2016. In her position, she has been actively working on issues related to social protection, gender equality, equity, human rights, culture, decent work conditions and empowerment for different groups, including women, children, the unemployed youth, internally displaced persons, the older persons and persons with disabilities. She is particularly committed to empower youth to harness their potential, promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the development process, as well as enhance the resilience and productive capacity of vulnerable persons for inclusive growth.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS



Benjamin Ola. Akande

Senior Advisor to the Chancellor & Director

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Dr. Benjamin Ola. Akande is Senior Advisor to the Chancellor and Director of the Africa Initiative at Washington University in St. Louis. A Nigerian-born American, Dr. Akande was appointed by Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton in March 2018 to lead the Africa

Initiative aimed at strengthening and expanding the University's efforts in Africa. He assists in developing and implementing strategies in bringing people together to identify ways to expand and enhance activities that will be rewarding to students and faculty, and build on initiatives in Africa. Dr. Akande is a respected economist, scholar and global consultant to Fortune 500 companies and institutions in the higher education space in the areas of strategy, leadership development, corporate responsibility and market positioning. Dr. Akande served as the 21st President of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri from 2015-2017, where he made substantial gains in developing the infrastructure necessary for the college's long-term sustainability. As a tenured professor of economics and Dean of the George Herbert Walker School of Business and Technology at Webster University in St. Louis from 2000-2015, Dr. Akande is credited with building the school's reputation, and positioning it as a globally relevant business school. Dr. Akande holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Oklahoma and completed post-doctoral studies at JFK School of Government, Harvard University and Saïd Business School at Oxford University.



Alexis Decosimo

Executive Director & Founder

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Dr. Alexis Decosimo received her Doctorate in Public Health from East Tennessee State University and received her Masters in Art Therapy and Clinical Counseling at George Washington University. Dr. Decosimo is currently working as an art therapist in Asheville, NC and is the Founder and Executive Director of

Playing to Live! She specializes in trauma-informed art therapy, program development, and international work. She has worked in Yekepa, Liberia, India, Jamaica, Florence, Italy, and the Walter Reed National Military Hospital. She has worked as a clinician in wilderness therapy settings, autism, substance abuse, at risk youth in diverse populations, PTSD, military, and with homeless and displaced persons. Dr. Decosimo has experienced time and time again how artistic expression, play, and cultural empowerment can facilitate recovery and healing after a traumatic experience, and her passion and career path lies within developing global programs that provide children in low resource communities with a safe and healing space for recovering from trauma.

**Dan Ferris**

*Assistant Dean of Policy Initiatives & Director of Policy and Planning
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Dan Ferris is the Assistant Dean of Policy Initiatives at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis and Director of Policy and Planning for the Evolve Center for Health Behavior Change, a community-industry-academic partnership between

Washington University and Centene Corporation, the largest Medicaid Managed Care Organization in the United States. He has worked for over ten years in a variety of policy and research roles, with significant experience in areas including healthcare, Medicaid redesign, tobacco control, poverty, social justice, and equity. He has taught graduate-level courses in Legislative Advocacy, Healthcare Policy, Social Welfare Policy, and Advancing Equity through Policy. Dan received his MPA with a concentration in Public Policy from New York University Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

**Maji Hailemariam**

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Dr. Maji Hailemariam is a Research Associate at Michigan State University, College of Human Medicine, Division of Public Health. Her research interests include health disparities in low-resource settings, severe mental illness, health equity and health services research. Dr. Hailemariam's previous study examined the

feasibility and acceptability of integration of mental health care into primary care facilities in rural Ethiopia, Africa. As part of her doctoral dissertation, she investigated barriers to equitable access to mental health care services for disadvantaged groups (women, rural residents, and individuals living in absolute poverty) with severe mental illness in Ethiopia. Dr. Hailemariam is a SMART Africa Global Child Health Fellow.

**Godfrey Kayemba**

*Mayor, Masaka District
Masaka, Uganda*

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Mr. Godfrey Kayemba is the Mayor of Masaka district and the political head of Masaka municipality. Masaka district is located in the central region of Uganda, and houses the ICHAD-Uganda field offices. In his role, Mayor Kayemba monitors the general administration of Masaka and oversees duties of the town. He ensures the implementation of government programs in the city.

This includes developing strategies and programs that develop the municipality as well as providing guidance to the ward urban councils, village urban councils and street committees. Prior to taking the position of Mayor, he was the secretary in charge of works and transport at Masaka district.

**Apollo Kivumbi**

*In-country Principal Investigator
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Dr. Apollo Kivumbi is the in-country Principal Investigator for SMART Africa-Uganda's scale-up study based in Masaka. Dr. Apollo is a medical doctor with a keen interest in child and adolescent mental health intervention research that aims to improve mental health at family and community levels, especially in HIV-impacted communities. Dr. Kivumbi previously served as the Project Coordinator for ICHAD's Suubi+Adherence study in Uganda. Dr. Apollo holds a master's degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

**Jude Mbabaali**

*Chairperson, Masaka District Local Government,
Chairman of District Chairpersons of Greater Masaka Region,
President of Uganda Catholic Lawyers' Society,
Practicing Advocate & Commissioner of Oaths,
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Mr. Jude Mbabaali is the chairperson of Masaka District Local government. He is in charge of the general administration of the district and oversees strategic planning and management for the district. He ensures the implementation of government programs in the district as well monitoring utilization of public funds. This includes developing strategies and programs as well as local policies geared towards improving the welfare of the people in the district. Mr. Mbabaali also chairs a committee of all district chairpersons for greater Masaka region which works as an advocate group for people within the region. Mr. Mbabaali is a practicing advocate and managing partner at Mbabaali & Co. Advocates in Uganda.

**James Mugisha**

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Dr. James Mugisha is currently a Senior Researcher at Butabika National Mental Hospital and a Lecturer at Kyambogo University, Kampala, Uganda. He holds a PhD from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. His research focuses on systems strengthening in low income settings and integration of mental health in primary health care. Currently, he is a qualitative research advisor on a project that integrates management of mental illness in HIV/AIDS care, supported by Wellcome Trust U.K and implemented by Medical Research Council (MRC) Uganda. Additionally, he has expertise in qualitative methodologies and has published a number of manuscripts in high impact journals.



Miriam Mukasa

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Ms. Miriam Mukasa is the Head of Operations at ICHAD, Uganda field offices, Masaka-Uganda. She supervises all field activities including data collection and monitoring of field work for all ICHAD studies in Uganda. Ms. Mukasa was pivotal in creating the health education curriculum provided to Suubi+Adherence study participants. She is also responsible for managing the center's human resource needs. Prior to joining ICHAD, she worked at McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University, as a Junior Research Scientist.



Teresa Mutavi

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Dr. Teresa Mutavi is a Tutorial Fellow at the School of Psychiatry and Social Work at University of Nairobi. She has ten years of experience working with children and in hospital settings as a social worker. She has published on poverty and child sexual abuse. Her ongoing research work is on trauma in children. In addition, she has clinical experience with children, specializing in Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Her interests are on youth and mental health. Dr. Mutavi is a SMART Africa Global Child Health Fellow.



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Scovia Nassaazi is a Research Assistant with ICHAD. As a research assistant, her responsibilities include data collection, community mobilization for study participants, translation of study documents into Luganda (local language spoken in the area), and home visits as well as school and clinic visits.



Timothy Opobo
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Mr. Timothy Opobo is the Head of Child Protection at ChildFund in Uganda, and the in-country coordinator for the Child Protection in Crisis Learning Network (PLGN). His primary interests are social challenges affecting children and young people in Sub-Saharan Africa. He has over 10 years of development practice experience. Mr. Opobo has previously served as Acting Executive Director of the AfriChild Centre and also worked with the African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect in Uganda and Liberia. Mr. Opobo is a SMART Africa Global Child Health Fellow.



Tammy Orahod
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Ms. Tammy Orahod is the Director of Global Programs at Brown School, Washington University in St. Louis. Ms. Orahod is responsible for international program development and strategic global initiatives. She has over fifteen years of experience in student services at three separate universities, and has written articles, taught courses, and presented at numerous conferences on topics such as studying abroad for career development, globalization, and global competency. She holds a master's degree in international affairs from American University and a B.A. in International Studies with minors in French with Spanish and Western European studies from Bradley University.



Tyrone M. Parchment
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Mr. Tyrone M. Parchment is a Doctoral candidate at the Silver School of Social Work and a Research Scientist at McSilver Institute for Poverty, Policy and Research at New York University. As a Research Scientist, he coordinates and manages local and global research studies on family caregiving and behavioral health of racially and ethnically marginalized children and adolescents. His research investigates the influences of male caregiving on family and child well-being among racially/ethnically marginalized communities both globally and locally. His dissertation examines the moderating effect of having a South African male head of household on the relationship between the female caregiver well-being and child pro-social behavior. Mr. Parchment is a SMART Africa Global Child Health Fellow and will start his position as an Assistant Professor at Boston College School of Social Work in September 2018.



Beverly Pringle

Deputy Director

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Dr. Beverly Pringle is the Deputy Director for the Office of Research on Disparities and Global Mental Health (ORDGMH) and Chief of Global Mental Health Research at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). She joined NIMH's Division of Services and Intervention Research in 2009. In 2012, Dr. Pringle worked with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), providing technical assistance to the Mozambique Ministry of Health. Dr. Pringle received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Dr. Pringle's research has covered a variety of topics, including pathways to diagnosis and services for children with autism; intervention services for adolescent drug abuse; pain, memory, and distress management in pediatric cancer patients; parent behaviors in pediatric settings; and education policy for underserved and disadvantaged populations.



Yesim Tozan

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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 fever and malaria. Dr. Tozan is currently leading a health economics work package in a European Union-funded research project on dengue fever surveillance and control with field sites in Sri Lanka and Thailand. She is also leading a prospective multi-center study on the cost of dengue illness in international travelers utilizing a network of travel clinics in Europe, the US, the Middle East and Australia. Most recently, she has been working on economic evaluation of artemisinin-based combination therapies for the treatment of uncomplicated childhood malaria using data from multi-site randomized clinical trials in Africa and Asia. Dr. Tozan was also a task force associate for the UN Millennium Project's Task Force on HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis and Access to Essential Medicines and was lead author of the malaria task force report entitled "Coming to grips with malaria in the new millennium."



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Mr. Wilberforce Tumwesige is an MSW student at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis and a Masters Research Fellow for SMART Africa Center. He is interested in the social determinants of health for orphans and other vulnerable children. Mr. Tumwesige has previously worked on ICHAD's Bridges and Suubi+Adherence studies in Uganda.



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