

## PhDs in STM network

Dr Eve Nakabembe - Faculty and STM Board member

Dr Eve completed her PhD in Oct 2024 at City St George's University of London, United Kingdom in Safety & Immunogenicity of new vaccines given during pregnancy in context of HIV



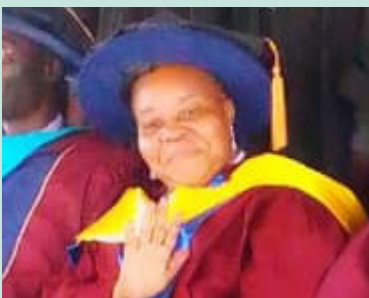
Roseline Achola - MPHL alumna

Roseline completed her PhD in Nov 2024 at Makerere University in Reproductive Health focusing on decision making for contraceptive use among refugees and host communities.



Gladness Munuo - MPHL alumna:

Gladness graduated with a PhD in Theology Christian Counselling at Wisdom Bible University - Kisumu, Kenya on 14 Dec 2024.



**Congratulations**



## STM at the 4th National Safe Motherhood Conference

Save the Mothers (STM) was honoured to prominently feature at the Ministry of Health's 4th National Safe Motherhood Conference, held in Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda. The three-day conference opened by the Minister of Health, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, brought together stakeholders from various sectors committed to advancing maternal and child health.

Dr Jean Chamberlain-Froese, one of STM's founders, delivered the keynote address aligned to the conference theme 'Strengthening Community Engagement for Sustainable Maternal and Child Health'. In her address, Dr. Jean invited delegates to reflect deeply on the essence of safe motherhood, emphasizing that "no mother or her baby should die or be harmed due to preventable pregnancy complications." She said this as a fundamental human right.

Drawing on the metaphor of a marathon, Dr. Jean illustrated the persistence and resilience required to overcome the three delays that hinder safe motherhood: delay in seeking care, delay in reaching care, and delay in receiving care.

She likened the journey to the discipline and endurance of a marathon runner, highlighting the need for sustained effort and forward planning.

**To page 2**



Brenda Acheing

### Brenda & Victoria, welcome to the STM team

**Brenda is a program intern** who joined STM East Africa in Oct 2024 is an MPHL student.

**Victoria is a volunteer supporting the grants portfolio.** She joined STM East Africa in Nov 2024. Victoria is an MPHL alumna class 2012.



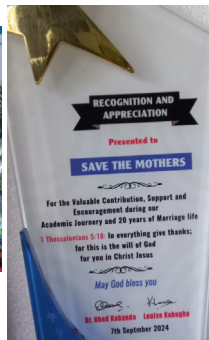
Victoria Acen

# We believe in Partnerships

## MPHL alumni recognise Save the Mothers



The Archbishop of Church of Uganda Most Rev Dr Stephen Kazimba was the chief guest.



Dr Obed Kabanda and Louise Kabugho had a thanksgiving ceremony to celebrate 20 years in marriage and academic achievements since graduating on the Master of Public Health Leadership program. Dr Obed Kabanda celebrated his doctorate and Louise a second masters degree. During the celebrations the couple recognised STM for its contribution in their academic journey.

**Thank you Dr Obed and Louise**

## Faith for Family Health Initiatives



Save the Mothers East Africa (STMEA) team led by Dr Mushin Nsubuga, Executive Director had a meeting with Faith for Family Health Initiatives (3FHI) team that was led by Jackie Katana. The meeting that was held on 11 Dec 2024 at Golden Tulip Hotel, Kampala discussed collaborations to promote safe motherhood.

Save the Mothers East Africa (STMEA) Uganda Christian University, [www.stmeastafrica.org](http://www.stmeastafrica.org).  
**Editor/graphic designer:** T. Agutu,  
**Photographers:** A Gum, R Masiga, A Bugembe, T Agutu,  
**Contributors:** S Othieno-  
**Reviewer:** Dr M Nsubuga



Safe motherhood is a marathon that needs involvement of multidisciplinary partners from different fields. Save the Mothers appreciates all its partners. It was great connecting with partners in the media, legal and religious sectors.

## Church of Uganda



L-R: Rev Barbara M, B Muheebwa - Ag Provincial treasurer, Dr Mushin, S Ochieng & J Namyala.

Church of Uganda hosted Save the Mothers at their provincial offices in Kampala to discuss safe motherhood at the pulpit.

## Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF)



STMEA team led by the Executive Director Dr Mushin Nsubuga (2nd right) held a meeting with UCLF CEO, Martin Sabiiti (3rd right) at their offices in Kampala.



## Uganda Journalism Association (UJA)

Save the Mothers conducted a training on safe motherhood for members of UJA at Uganda Christian University (UCU), main campus, Mukono. The team was led by the UJA general secretary, Emmanuel Kirunda.

## STM tripartite board



Strategic Meeting: STM tripartite board is made of STMEA, STM Canada and STM USA boards.



MPHL alumnus Medi Mukalu (Left) & Lucy (Middle) of Communities for Childbirth International visited Save the Mothers at UCU. The team was received by Dr Mushin Nsubuga, ED - STMEA.

# Save the Mothers @ the National Safe Motherhood Conference

*Dr Jean Chamberlain delivered the keynote address*

From page 1

“Safe motherhood,” Dr Jean noted, is not just about addressing immediate needs but also about maintaining unwavering commitment for the long haul. Like a marathon, safe motherhood demands foresight, discipline, and relentless effort.

Dr. Jean underscored the critical role of community engagement in ensuring the success of safe motherhood initiatives. She asserted that every link in the chain of maternal and child health is vital, and without the active participation of all sectors including education, agriculture, faith, culture, water and sanitation, NGOs, health facilities, businesses, and community groups—the chain is weakened.

Communities must be empowered not just through knowledge but through actionable strategies Dr Jean said, emphasizing the importance of reaching both hearts and minds to drive change.

Highlighting innovative approaches Dr said, “One example of reaching the community through their hearts and minds is the Masters of Public Health Leadership Program (MPHL) directed by Save the Mothers at Uganda Christian University.” The MPHL program targets multidisciplinary professionals to advocate for safe motherhood.

Dr Jean also showcased STM’s Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative, a creative and impactful strategy to enhance maternal and child health at healthcare facilities.

To provide safe motherhood Dr Jean noted the need to learn from the business world adding that companies like coco-cola reach various communities and never stop sending the message.

Dr Jean urged all stakeholders in the safe motherhood space to adopt an intentional and persistent approach, committing to ‘becoming strong and staying strong’ in their service to mothers and babies.

By Teopista Agutu - Comms & Networking @STMEA



Min of Health Dr Jane Ruth Aceng.



STM Canada leaders: Heather Sinclair & Janet Sampson



Min of Health Dr Jane Ruth & Dr Jean meet



Conference conveners, presenters, & partners



Min of Health Dr Jane Ruth greets Prof Mirembe.



The Permanent Secretary meets MoH, Dr Diana Atwine, meets Prof Mirembe.



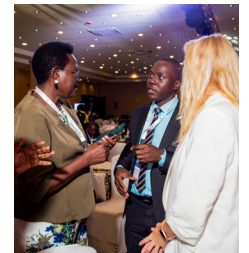
L-R: Dr Jean, Prof Mirembe, Dr Richard Mugahi – MoH Commissioner Reproductive Health and Child Health & Dr Mushin Nsubuga



Janet, Dr Miriam Mutabazi, Prof Mirembe, Dr Jean and Heather



MPHL alumni Hellen, Dr Doreen, Ellen, Disan & Teopista join Dr Jean and Dr Sam Ononge for a photo moment.



Dr Nsubuga and Heather chat with MPHL alumna Nicole



L-R: STMEA ED Dr Nsubuga Mushin, MPHL Academic Coordinator, Fortunate STM wellwisher, Teopista (MPHL alumna), Dr Jean, and Eunice (MPHL alumna)



MPHL alumni Beatrice, Teopista, Maria with Dr Jean



Faculty link up with Dr Jean Chamberlain: Dr Sam Ononge (L) and Dr Justus Baragine (R)



Dr Nsubuga Mushin, Prof Mirembe & Dr Jean Chamberlain



Save the Mothers network



STM founders: Dr Jean Chamberlain & Prof Pius Okong.