



MPHL alumni
meet-up.
Leah & Sophie
serving in
Karamoja region,
Uganda.

Celebrating July 2025 MPHL Graduates

We congratulate our students who graduated from the Master of Public Health Leadership (MPHL) program on July 4, 2025, during Uganda Christian University's 26th Graduation Ceremony (part 1) at the Main Campus. This milestone marks their dedication to advancing maternal and child health.

The graduation ceremony was graced by distinguished guests, including The Most Reverend Dr. Stephen Kaziimba Mugalu, Archbishop of the Church of Uganda and Chancellor of Uganda Christian University (UCU), and Dr. Philip Ryken, President of Wheaton College in the United States, who was the guest of honor.

After the main graduation event, Save the Mothers (STM) hosted the MPHL graduates and their families to a luncheon at the Jean



Chamberlain Froese House. Congratulations Veronica Maraka, Namutebi Zuena, Nakyeyune Joselyn, Kiyuba Ivan, Namara Golden, Kiweewa Pascal, Kansime Joan and Acheng Brenda.

Their success reflects the shared vision of STM and UCU to strengthen maternal and child health through the Master of Public Health Leadership program for multidisciplinary professionals trained to advocate for safe mothers.



Veronica Maraka



Namutebi Zuena



Brenda Acheng



Sarah Namara



Kiyuba Ivan



Pascal Kiweewa



Joan Kansime

Master of Public Health Leadership Tracer Study

In August 2025, Save the Mothers, in partnership with the Department of Public Health at Uganda Christian University, conducted a tracer study for Master of Public Health Leadership program.

This study is a key step in the curriculum review process. It ensures the MPHL program remains relevant, responsive and aligned with the evolving public health environment.

The Tracer Study is also a requirement by the University and National Council for Higher Education.

Data collection and analysis are complete, and report writing is underway.

We thank students, alumni, and faculty who participated in the Tracer study. Your feedback will help shape the future MPHL curriculum.

STM-UCU expand Mukono Hospital Labor Suite

Save the Mothers, in partnership with Uganda Christian University (UCU), is spearheading the expansion of the labor suite at Mukono General Hospital under the Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (MBFHI). Active in 15 hospitals across Uganda, MBFHI promotes safe, respectful, and dignified maternity and newborn care.

Mukono General Hospital's maternity ward faces infrastructural challenges that compromise maternal and neonatal care. With only three delivery beds and an average of 900 births each month, the suite is chronically overcrowded. This heightened risks of infection, compromising their safety and dignity.



L: A group photo after a stakeholder's meeting at UCU on 5 Aug led by Mr David Mugawe, Dep Vice Chancellor Finance & Administration.
R: Onsite inspection on 27 Aug: L-R. U Nsereko -hospital administrator, Dr JP Bagala & Eng G Otim (Ministry of Health), Dr M Nsubuga (STMEA-ED), Eng D Kivumbi (UCU). Sr Alex Namala (Right)



To address this crisis, Save the Mothers, UCU, the Ministry of Health, Mukono District Office, and hospital leadership have collaborated on an expansion plan for labour suite. The redesigned space, will double bed capacity to six and provide essential equipment to conduct deliveries, newborn resuscitation and an ultrasound scan to support the labour suite.

The initiative has earned strong support from the Ministry of Health. During a recent planning meeting,

Commissioner for Health Infrastructure, Engineer George Otim, commended the effort and confirmed his office's approval of the expansion plan.

This investment reflects a shared commitment to reducing maternal and newborn deaths, improving care in Mukono District, and advancing Uganda's health priorities and Sustainable Development Goal 3; ensuring every mother and baby the right to a safe and dignified birth.

STMEA showcased its Master of Public Health Leadership at the All Clergy Conference, hosted by the Church of Uganda at UCU.



The Most Rev Dr Kaziimba Mugalu.



The Vice Chancellor Prof Aaron Mushengyezi (3rd left) flanked by the Dep Vice Chancellors Mr D Mugawe & Rev Prof J Kitayimbwa.



STM-Clergy engagement.

STM at the All Clergy Conference

Bringing together over 1500 clergy from 39 dioceses, the four-day gathering reflected on the theme "The Good Shepherd and the Flock of God" (Ezekiel 34:1-31), focusing on spiritual leadership, pastoral well-being, and the clergy's role in shaping community change.

The conference held on 18-21 Aug was officially opened by The Most Rev Dr Stephen Samuel Kaziimba Mugalu, the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda and Chancellor of UCU.

At the STM exhibition booth, the team engaged the clergy on how the MPHIL program equips leaders to champion maternal and child health.

STM also held a focused dialogue with about 20 clergy who lead health programs in their dioceses.

The dialogue focused on safe motherhood at the pulpit and interested clergy in the MPHIL program to which some have joined.

This engagement reaffirmed the enormous potential of faith leaders to drive lasting change in maternal and child health at different levels.

Save the Mothers East Africa (STMEA) Uganda Christian University <https://savethemothersea.org/>

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MPHL @ UCUGrad2025 Photos



Dignitaries at the graduation ceremony.



Red Carpet: MPHL graduates at the graduation UCU grounds.



Left: Dr Mushin Nsubuga -Executive Director STMEA.



Graduates and their families are joined by STM staff.

Front row: Dr Mushin Nsubuga- ED-STMEA (4th right), Josephine Namyalo - MPHL Academic Coordinator (3rd right)



Luncheon at Jean Chamberlain Froese House



Special gifts from Canada for the graduates



Cake cutting

Empowering Teenage Mothers Through Skills Training

Teenage pregnancy remains a major public health challenge, with over 12 million girls aged 15–19 giving birth each year. The burden is particularly heavy in sub-Saharan Africa, where early pregnancies fuel maternal and perinatal deaths, disrupt education and fuel poverty.

In Uganda, one in four adolescent girls has begun childbearing, according to the 2022 UDHS.

Many young mothers face difficulties staying in school, accessing healthcare, and supporting their children, leaving them vulnerable to poor health and lifelong economic hardship. To address this, Save the Mothers, is initiating the Skilling Girls Pro-

ject at Mukono General Hospital, for teenage mothers attending antenatal and postnatal care.

The project has brought together healthcare staff and the Uganda Christian University School of Business to design a business training program tailored to young mothers. A detailed proposal is under review by the Uganda Christian University Research Ethics Committee.

Once approved, the six-month pilot will provide training in income-generating skills, enabling participants to gain financial independence, remain engaged in care, and improve maternal and child health outcomes.