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--Save the Mothers November 2017 e-Newsletter--



Hope shone bright ...

... at the annual Save the Mothers' Fundraising Gala Dinner and Auction on November 17. **Friends and supporters came together for an elegant evening of dinner and entertainment, and opened their hearts and wallets to further the work of Save the Mothers.** Masters of Ceremony journalist Steve Paikin, and nutritionist and author Dr. Joey Shulman were enthusiastic in their praise of Save the Mothers' founder and executive director Dr. Jean Chamberlain Froese, and warmly supportive when introducing her East African successor, Dr. Miriam Mutabazi. (Pictured above from left to right are: Dr. Joey, Dr. Miriam, auctioneer Matthew Penstone, Dr. Jean, Steve Paikin)

Special thanks to the team of volunteers - too many of whom there are to mention by name - who worked hard throughout the year to ensure a successful event.

Attendees were encouraged to become monthly donors, to help keep Save the Mothers strong. If you were unable to attend, you can still join them. **Tomorrow is "Giving**

Tuesday" - the special day that inaugurates the season of giving each year with a focus on giving to your favourite charities. Consider making a gift to Save the Mothers! Simply click on the button below and indicate your desire to add your name to the growing number of supporters who give monthly.

[GIVE NOW](#)



Stronger

**TOGETHER
GRANTS**

Major grant for Save the Mothers announced

The Canadian philanthropic organization, **Stronger Together, announced** a number of new grants last week, including a sizable one for the work of Save the Mothers (STM).

Stronger Together announced their intention to invest \$81,400 in a pilot **Midwifery Mentorship** program in Uganda.

East African midwives work long hours caring for mothers and newborns under conditions of poor wages, limited resources, and chronic understaffing. STM will use the funds to establish the model in our 10 **Mother Baby Friendly Hospitals**.

Thank you to participating grantmakers: Bridgeway Foundation, Kehila Foundation, Redleaf Foundation and River Dali Foundation who will make this lifesaving initiative possible.

[SEE GRANT APPLICATION VIDEO](#)

News from here *and there*

What is Volunteer Fundraising?

New web pages

Volunteer Fundraising is - as its name suggests - the action of fundraising by volunteers. Recently, Save the Mothers enhanced our web site to provide helpful suggestions, ideas, and answers to FAQs on the topic of Volunteer Fundraising.

We invite you to **visit these pages**, and then ask yourself how you might get involved.



Ugandan class back in session

Last month closed out with the Ugandan class wrapping up their module. **We received 23 new students for the Ugandan class of 2017 and 20 returning students from the class of 2016.** Second year students wrote exams on content covered during the previous module, while first year students were oriented to the program.



Assessing needs

STM staff members regularly visit East African hospitals participating in the Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative. Such visits are important for fact-finding, problem solving, and providing mentorship and encouragement. At Mityana District Hospital last month, STM met with administrators to evaluate the



Helping students succeed

The Master of Public Health Leadership program ran a week-long Dissertation Writing Workshop led by academic director, Dr. Justus Barageine (above). Its purpose? To help students - who are almost ready to submit their dissertation to the university for examination - to refine their work.

facility's most urgent needs, one of which is access to clean water.

"We were able to ... see the High Dependence Unit, which STM sponsored," wrote program intern Stephanie Fraser in an email. *"There was a patient on the unit recovering from sepsis, after labouring for over two days at the home of a traditional birth attendant. She came to the hospital too late, lost her child, and contracted a serious infection. Fortunately, she was recovering on the [High Dependence] Unit."* **Thank you for your financial support, which makes these units possible.**

The students' research studies cover a wide range of important topics, and will offer relevant insights to the growing pool of knowledge surrounding maternal health in East Africa, for example:

"Prevalence and factors associated with depression among pregnant women in Awach Subcounty, Gulu District"; "Postnatal utilization and its influencing factors on the mothers in Kalerwe slum"; and "Motivators for male involvement in Antenatal care in Chip District, Pankshin Local Government Area, Plateau state – Nigeria (A case study)".

On *the blog*

Profile of a graduate

Moses Kyangwa is a public health scientist who graduated from Save the Mothers' Master of Public Health Leadership program just over two years ago. **We caught up with him to find out how his STM education changed his life, and how he, in turn, is changing the lives of others.**

MEET MOSES



Higher education takes us further

Former program intern, Jess Huston **writes** thoughtfully about the importance of higher education programs, like STM's Master of Public Health Leadership.



Second year student Janet Apio

"The most significant problem" in Janet Apio's rural Ugandan community is maternal and child death. **Read** about the changes Janet is bringing to her village, thanks to her Save the Mothers education.

The *biggest* solution ...



*"I believe that Africa has remained with challenges for many years ... but one of the biggest solutions to these challenges is not going to be resources. The issue is beyond resources. It's about changing people's mindsets. If we can make people realize that **they** are the best resources, realize the power of every individual in society, then we'll bring about the change we desire."*



Obed Kabanda

Founder, executive director, ACODEV. Save the Mothers' graduate.

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