

# Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD)

Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Class of 2023 -

#### A Message from the Dean

It is my pleasure to introduce you to the Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) Class of 2023. These students have successfully passed a rigorous and holistic admissions process and are now beginning a one-year, fulltime program based at UGHE's Butaro Campus.

Learning will take place both inside and outside of the classroom, with a focus on real-world scenarios in the community. MGHD students will be trained as leaders and advocates, not only as individuals but also for entire health systems. From their first day at UGHE, faculty and staff will provide them with support and mentorship as they progress through the engaging and rigorous curriculum.

The academic program at UGHE will transform students into changemakers. It will equip them with the skills to investigate complex problems with a fresh lens, one that is multidisciplinary, open-minded, and empathetic yet critical. This will be key to addressing global health issues and concerns in a productive, effective and sustainable manner. I would also like to reaffirm our commitment to equity in education and health care, which our students will exemplify throughout the program and take into their careers.

We are confident that this class of Lions will serve as global health leaders for Africa and beyond, and we are here to support and accompany them through this exciting journey.

Warm Regards,

Abebe Bekele, MD, FCS, FACS Dean of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences



QUICK STATS ABOUT

#### MGHD-GSRH OPTION CLASS **OF 2023**

- ► 158 Applicants
- 9.49% Acceptance Rate
- 23 Students
- 16 Female
- 7 Male
- 11 Countries Represented
- 73.33% 2+ years work experience



### A Message from the Course Director

#### Tsion Yohannes Waka

Dear GSRH Class of 2023,

Chair, Center for Gender Equity

It gives me pleasure to congratulate you- our second cohort of Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health Track students in joining this program under our esteemed flagship Masters in Global Health Delivery Program!

UGHE designed this program two years ago to support global efforts toward addressing gaps in SRHR delivery, and most importantly in Sub-Saharan Africa. Through the generous support of our partners and collaborators, our aim is to train current and future leaders of change and enable them to influence care, practices, education research, and policy. You are among the lucky few who succeeded in joining this program to learn from our team at UGHE, our visiting lecturers, and partners who uphold the values of equity, diversity, and social justice.

It is a great pleasure for us to host such a diverse group of students from Africa, Asia, the US, and Canada in the heart of Rwanda- Butaro. While congratulating you on joining the program, I would also like to remind you of your duty to pay it forward - pass on your knowledge to your peers, colleagues, students, and especially grassroots implementers who have important roles in the change we are striving to make.

On behalf of the Center for Gender Equity team and faculty, I welcome you to the UGHE family and look forward to your contribution as dynamic students, future alumina, and leaders in this field.

#### Alice Nsengiyumva

Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to eliminate is the female inferiority complex. This is because society has discriminated against us and lowered our self-esteem for a long time, therefore our opportunities to limiting financially and enjoy our lives. We are capable of making our own decisions regarding our lives and health. our regardless of men's perspectives. As an African woman, I want to inspire other women to be independent.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

At the end of this Master of Global Health Delivery, I want to be able to critically analyze health issues encountered by different sexes and genders and be able to provide solutions that meet the population's needs. I want to be able to conduct research that is applicable to my community, therefore, elaborate evidence-based policies and strategies.



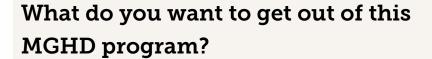
Alice Nsengiyumva is a medical doctor, earned a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) from the University of South China in China. During the Covid-19 outbreak, she served as a frontline health worker for the Rwanda Covid-19 joint task force. She is currently a general practitioner at the Nyamata District Hospital. In order to achieve equity in sexual and reproductive health for all individuals, Alice aspires to become a global health leader and challenge harmful gender and sexual stereotypes.

#### Angel U. Uwimbabazi

Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Mental health and Chronic disease. These are two challenges I would like to address because day by day their numbers are increasing and leading to morbidity and mortality. Chronic disease and Mental health are among the top 5 diseases that have highest DALYs as reported by global burden of disease.



As I am taking Gender and Sexual reproductive, I want to help the country and the world to help people know and feel free while taking about SRHR and not taking it as a taboo, reducing Gender based violence and working hand in hand with health Practitioners to promote Gender equality.



Angel is a laboratory scientist who holds a bachelor's degree in Biomedical laboratory sciences from the Institute of applied science Ines Ruhengeri. Angel has attended different training concerning adolescents and young women justice, teenager pregnancy and legalization of abortion in the country organized by different organizations such Health initiative Development and AFriYAN. She is a debater from Aspire debate Rwanda. Angel confidently says that she has grown into a better health practitioner and has found strength in learning from people that are already bringing change however small it might be to the community.

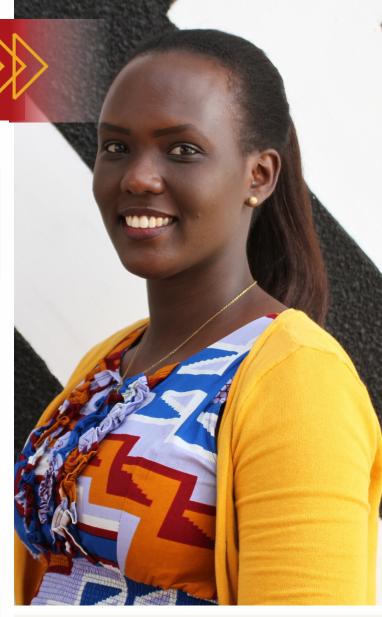
### Arlette Bizimana Burundi

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Inequity in health is one of the biggest issues in global health. There are huge disparities between the health status of the rich and the poor. I would like to learn more about the determinants of health and how I would address them to achieve equity in health.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I want to acquire the required knowledge and skills to develop strategies and design programs that effectively address the challenges of gender, sexual and reproductive health. I also want to improve my problem-solving skills which will help me to resolve global health issues.

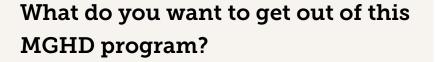


Arlette is a medical doctor with three years' experience of clinical practice. Arlette holds a bachelor's degree in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Rwanda. She works as a general practitioner and a research assistant. She is also a national trainer in longacting reversible contraceptive methods. Arlette is an upcoming global health leader who believes in the power of innovation and change. Her areas of interest are maternal health and nutrition. As for hobbies, she enjoys basketball, music, dance, and cinema.

#### Basanti Aryal Nepal

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

The major global health issue I'd like to tackle is sexually transmitted diseases, with a primary emphasis on prevention, followed by treatment, support, and rehabilitation through education, research, technological advancements, the strengthening of health systems, and changes at the policy level.



On the accomplishment of this course, I wish to be entitled as an expert in the field of SRH. This course will ultimately help me to fulfill my dream of finding loopholes and revising the policy of SRH in Nepal through evidence-based research.



Basanti is a Research enthusiast who is a Nursing graduate from a reputed Indian Medical institute i.e., AIIMS, Delhi, and post-graduated in Nursing with a Community Health specialization from Delhi University, India. Before moving to Rwanda, she was working as a Researcher in the Government of Nepal and served as a lecturer for public service aspirants. Moreover, she is a current project coordinator for ASAPP, Nepal, and serves as the youngest board member for a different organization named NeNAp and Jaya mental Health. Moreover, she also worked as a Nurse trainer for WHO, Syria, and Good Neighbour International Nepal.

#### Benjamin D. Habikigeni

Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to address is about gender inequalities among health care providers and structural violence because as a medical doctor, I have seen colleagues( women) being put under pressure during our training as medical doctors for a lot of reasons and it needs to be changed for a better future with reduced inequity.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

Several skill sets, mentality, and critical thinking to deal with global challenges by improving our health system(Rwandan health system) as it still has a lot of gaps and challenges that need to be addressed either structurally and management wise.



Benjamin is a future global health leader and extrovert with a 5-year history of volunteering with IOWD (International Organization for Woman Development) assisting women with gynecologic and obstetric complications of childbirth such as fistula. He is a junior medical officer with honors in general medicine and surgery who has worked in the public and private sectors for three years. His primary motivation is to promote health access and gender equity for all while fighting against all forms of discrimination against marginalized people and females in order to improve reproductive health in his community.

#### Beth W. Mbogo Kenya

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Improving healthcare access for marginalized and vulnerable populations, especially those living in resource-constrained settings.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I have great expectations for embarking on MGHD program. the Based challenges in my country, I am hoping that the program will help me to understand the systems thinking approach and master its application in practice. I hope to further develop project design and management skills that will enable me to plan and execute equitable programs. I see myself influencing policy at the highest levels, therefore, I hope to acquire the capacity to conduct empirical research and use the evidence to conduct impactful advocacy.



Beth Process Performance а and Improvement Specialist with a passion for making a positive impact in the non-profit sector. She has a decade of experience in strategy development, systems improvement, and guiding quality improvements and quality assurance functions for programs. Beth has a strong track record of success, having previously worked with organizations such as VSO Kenya, the Ministry of Culture & Social Services, and Population Services Kenya. She has also served as an operations Consultant and later as a Quality Assurance Specialist for Tiny Totos Kenya, a leading childcare network in Kenya.

#### Bezawit W. Afessa Ethiopia

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Living in one of the developing countries, there are many challenges and problems in the health sector. One of which is global health inequity and injustice. The health system is being dominated by the private sector, leaving the public service with poor quality of care and inaccessibility of many investigations, medications, and other Wealthy people get services. their treatments in the private sector, while the poor are left with poor medical care provided in the public sector

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I would like to pursue the knowledge to solve many of the challenges we face. I face challenges just because of my gender, even in the medical field. I would love to get the necessary knowledge on gender sexual reproductive health and leadership skills so that I can pave the way for the next generation of women who are abused on a daily basis.



Bezawit is a general practitioner with three years of clinical experience and currently working at Amanuel mental specialized hospital, the only mental specialized hospital in Ethiopia. Bezawit earned her doctor of medicine degree from Mekelle University in Ethiopia. She is also a TV show host for a program called "Enzirt" on Abbay TV which airs on Saturdays.

She aspires to be a global health leader to end gender inequality and work on sexual and reproductive health issues, especially for women and mentally ill patients.

#### Blami Dao

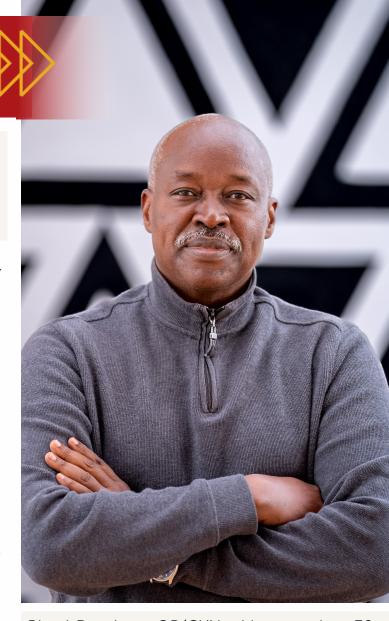
Burkina Faso

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Improving access to RMNCHAH services for internal displaced people in Burkina Faso as almost 10% of the population of Burkina Faso are IDPs.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I have worked as a clinician for 20 years working as a OB/GYN implementing sexual and reproductive health programs. Twelve years ago I joined an international NGO, that has allowed me to have some knowledge in public health. From that experience I have realized how much clinicians public health need some expertise and I am sure the MGHD will allow me to achieve that. As a university professor, the MGHD will also give me the knowledge and skills to train clinicians in global health not only in Burkina Faso but African also other Francophone countries through a partnership with UGHE.

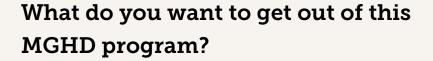


Blami Dao is an OB/GYN with more than 30 years of field experience in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. His areas of expertise include maternal and newborn health, family planning and cervical cancer. After teaching obstetrics and gynecology for 15 years in Burkina Faso, he moved to Jhpiego, a Johns Hopkins University affiliate international NGO where he held the position of director of maternal and newborn health then his actual position of technical director for West and Central Africa. He has worked in most of Sub-Saharan African countries including Rwanda. Blami Dao is part of many technical working groups including the WHO STAGE.

#### Claude Nsabimana Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I am passionate about addressing Communicable diseases like HIV/AIDS pandemic and associated factors that affect disadvantaged people especially in low and middle income countries. As a Global health leader I want to advance the equitable access to healthcare services to create a more just world.



I hope to advance my skills and knowledge in addressing issues related to sexual reproductive health and rights especially among disadvantaged groups. I am an advocate and a pro-choice physician and I Want to strengthen my skills in advocacy and activism to advance the right and access for girls and women to high qualify safe abortion services In Rwanda.



Claude is an advocate and a passionate prochoice physician. He is working to advance access for girls and women to high-quality sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services, especially safe abortion care, without stigma, judgment and discrimination. He is the founding member and executive director at Medical Doctors for Choice. Claude holds a Bachelor's degree in general medicine and surgery. He volunteered and held multiple leadership roles with different grassroots and international organizations. Claude aspires to help build a world in which everyone has the right to choose and bodily autonomy is not a privilege.

### Ekram H. Ahmed Ethiopia

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

would like to address disparities in health care related to access to health care, poor infrastructure, and the availability of health care. As a fundamental human right, regardless everyone of sex, age, socioeconomic status, or political and religious beliefs should have equitable access to quality health care. In the two years that I have worked in rural Ethiopia, I personally witnessed how these have socioeconomic determinants of the disease have impacted the community. I wish to solve these challenges.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I would like to learn more about the impact gender has on global health delivery and how to provide practical, applicable strategies to overcome these issues. I want to participate in the multicultural experience in addition to the academic and learning from one another.



Ekram is a general practitioner and was working in St. Peter Hospital as part of the covid pandemic response team. She has been responsible for the provision of reproductive health services during the pandemic such as ANC follow up and contraceptive. Ekram holds an undergraduate degree in medicine from Haramaya University in Ethiopia. She is enthusiastic about working in improving maternal reproductive health services. Hopes to become a global health leader that fights for social justice. She likes to read and listen to jazz as a hobby.

#### Elvis Benimana

Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I want to address is inequity in accessing health services to everyone. Each person deserves stigma-free services regardless of who his/her social status, profession or age. As example, female sex workers and LGBTQI are denied or provided limited health services due to cultural beliefs in regard to these two. This is very concerning as they are identified as key population with the most elevated incidence of HIV/AIDS.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

My MGHD/GSRH experience will equip me with skills and knowledge regarding the provision of equal services to everyone. This will help me contribute in influencing and participate in the establishment of policies giving everyone the right to access health services and information especially sexual and reproductive health matters.like access to contraception.



Elvis is a nurse, and public health enthusiast. Elvis completed his Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Mount Kenya University Rwanda. He has worked with Health Development Initiative Rwanda for over two years, first as a hotline nurse counselor, then as a community outreach officer focusing on HIV prevention among key populations projects, and WASH **ECD** programs in and marginalized communities. Elvis aspires to become a global health leader, with a particular interest in advocating and breaking the stigma surrounding the most vulnerable populations in accessing health.

#### Elyse Ihirwe Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I experienced five years of chronic pain during my childhood that could have been prevented with adequate healthcare. Thus, I would like to make healthcare services fairer to everyone regardless of gender, geographical location, and/or education status so that no one ever suffers from unstable healthcare.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I will be delighted to learn data analysis, and interpretation to conduct proper research that will provide more insight into equity in gender, sexual and reproductive health (a tackled subject less in research). Additionally, getting an insight managerial skills in the healthcare industry will help me, together with the learned leadership skills, to influence data-based decision-making in public policy and administration for an overall improvement of the healthcare system in Rwanda.



Elyse is a pharmacist with a bachelor's degree from Mount Kenva University. She's passionate about quality and equity in healthcare delivery. Elyse has gained skills in quality control and continuous improvement from working for Algorithm Inc (Ishyiga Software) and Zipline International. She draws on her leadership abilities to actively stand for justice of all genders and advocate for mental health to break stigma and discrimination. Furthermore, Elyse adores artwork, music, reading, photography, traveling, and acquiring new skills, and she is currently sharpening her data analyst skills through the GirlLEAD Project.

#### Evans M. Khayati Kenya

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to address the sexual genderbased violence against girls and young women in low-income settlements. This violence has led to unintended pregnancies, resulting in survivors dropping out of school, and impacting their future. Those who try abortion end up risking unethical procedures, through some bleeding to death. Ending GBV against this population will make them achieve their dreams for the betterment of the whole community.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I want to get and understand the deeper aspects of SRH especially the drivers to the unmet needs in the whole spectra of SRH. I want to get the knowledge and skills to design as well as implement SRH programs that meet the needs of the vulnerable groups that are at most at risk and evaluate the effectiveness of SRH policies.



Evans is a Biomedical Field Officer in the DREAMS Program implemented by LVCT Health, in Kiambu County of central Kenya. He is an HIV testing services provider, a trainer of Evidence based Behavioral Interventions and a mentor at Mpesa Foundation Academy.

Evans holds an undergraduate degree in Public Health from Kenyatta University, Nairobi and professional certification in Project Management, M&E and HIV Testing and Counselling.

He has been involved in adolescents' health programs for more that 10 years, and values integrity, quality, and professionalism.

#### Konlobe Y. Ouedraogo

Burkina Faso

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

The biggest global health challenge I would like to address is teenage pregnancy, which is a cross-border phenomenon affecting high-income and low-income both countries. It is evidence of poor sexual and reproductive health of adolescents with enormous abortion, consequences: mortality, neonatal maternal death, psychological complications (suicide), decolorization, early marriage. midwife, I will contribute to the solution raising, sexuality through awareness education and access to contraception.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

This program will strengthen my knowledge and skills on GSRH and will allow me to be more effective in my role as a GBV regional advisor for my organization. I will be able to better address gender and SRH issues in my region and beyond.



Advisor for West and Central Africa for Engender Health. Yvette is a specialized midwife with a master's degree in Gender, Population Development and bachelor's degree in Psychology. She has twenty years of experience working in government, international NGOs, and UN agencies. She is an expert in the coordination and management of reproductive health and gender programs, from design to evaluation. She is a global health leader who has been awarded Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite/Santé by the President of Burkina Faso. Her dream is to get a PhD in social sciences.

### Lily A. Kaze Burundi

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Lack of access to a good quality health care service by remote, marginalized, underserved, and/or low-income communities that would not otherwise have access to it. This is a huge challenge in African countries, it moves my heart and pushes to unite with others with the same passion to act.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

From this MGHD program, I want to get an broadening of exposure, а my comprehension to on issues related healthcare and access to it by all people. I want to learn and unlearn so that I can know how to navigate the taboo and the sensitivity that surround issues related to gender, sexual and reproductive health. I want to be stretched so that my skills get sharpened or gain more. I also want to be connected to people who are eager to be part of the change in healthcare delivery systems in African countries.



Lily graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Lubbock Christian University in Texas, USA. She has experience in content creation and online communities' management which she obtained through working in an organization of young people which informs, sensitizes, advocates and trains on various subjects that concern the youth using digital approaches. Her dream is to be part of teams that work in the betterment of health systems in low income and middle countries, especially in Africa.

#### Marie P. U. Muhuza

Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to address is inequity in healthcare access for vulnerable populations, particularly women and young girls. Improving health services and increasing health access for women and girls can help prevent maternal morbidity, mortality, teen pregnancies, increase earlier diagnosis and treatment, and decrease risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I want to leave this MGHD program with skills and knowledge to use in global healthcare. By the end of the program, I want to maximize my research potential, learn how to evaluate and monitor research studies, and how to implement healthcare policies that can improve the lives of women and girls. I would like to learn how to address gender inequalities and health disparities, so I can help improve gender equality and health equity in Rwanda.



Marie is a doctor and researcher. Marie holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, MBBS, and an MSc in Obstetrics and Gynecology with a thesis focused on the early prediction of adverse pregnancy outcomes in women with aestational diabetes mellitus, GDM. She has received 4 awards, including the SEED FUND project to improve antenatal and primary care in developing countries. Marie has worked on different kinds of research and has published her research in the World Journal of Diabetes, BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth, and Frontiers in Public Health. She is an activist for women's health and rights.

#### Michelle Che Yan Lam

Canada

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to address achieving equitable universal health coverage. I believe in health as a fundamental human right and the need for accessible and context-specific healthcare services especially for vulnerable populations. Socioeconomic circumstances should not stand in the way of accessing health services, and it is unreasonable that those choosing to seek necessary healthcare may suffer from detrimental financial hardships.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

Through the MGHD program, I want to gain insights into important global health topics, especially those related to gender, sexual, and reproductive health. I hope to graduate as a future healthcare professional who not only treats diseases but also cares for patients with consideration for their related social determinants of health.



Michelle is a medical student at the University of Hong Kong and currently intercalating her master's degree at UGHE through the Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health track. She has always had an interest in health and gender equity. Eager to explore the topics of medical education and global health, she is also currently serving as the Standing Committee of Medical Education External Affairs Assistant for the International Federation of Medical Students Associations. She looks forward to learning about, from, and with the amazing faculty and students at UGHE this coming year!

#### Nomzamo T. S. Ncube

Zimbabwe

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to address adolescents access to comprehensive sexual reproductive health information and services. Adolescent girls and young women in the global south continue to face a mirage of challenges in accessing SRHR information and services which makes them susceptible to teenage pregnancies, child marriages, HIV/STI infections, and intimate partner violence among other challenges.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I believe being part of the program will provide me an opportunity to improve my leadership skills, enhance my knowledge to articulate strategic sexual reproductive health information, develop skills and knowledge to address complex challenges of gender and sexual and reproductive health program design and implementation effectively and efficiently and develop the legislative advocacy on critical public health issues especially through new media.



Nomzamo is a seasoned development worker with more than 5 years of experience programming on gender, GBV prevention and response, SRH, HIV, and women economic empowerment programs. She values lifelong learning for increased knowledge in planning and executing work activities. She holds a Bachelor of Social Science Honours degree in Development Studies State (Lupane University) and Master of Science Degree in Gender and Policy Studies (Great Zimbabwe University). She has the passion development and gender issues.

#### Peace Iraguha

Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

As a healthcare provider I want to use my skills to address Non-communicable diseases. The current health system we have is more focused on communicable diseases and curative measurements. I believe that to address this cases we need to start focusing on the prevention side and help people before they fall sick. More awareness is needed and some solutions around the fragmented care. I'm also intrigued by the role of gender on the overall health and how we can built on it to change health outcomes.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I'm excited to learn and understand how healthcare can be delivered with maximizing equity. I want to see first hand how social determinants play a big role in health outcomes and the right approach to incorporating them in our everyday care. I'm also very excited to meet other healthcare providers to learn from them.



Peace is an ardent healthy lifestyle practitioner and entrepreneur with a keen focus on sexual and reproductive health in the Rwandan health ecosystem. With a background in Human Nutrition Dietetics. Peace has had an extensive rich entrepreneurial experience working with various health facilities aimed towards improving better nutrition among individuals in Rwanda. She has worked with various health startups tackling different problems sector and co-founded a within the HealthTech startup that brings awareness to NCDs while empowering individuals on better lifestyles.

### Sam M. Livingstone Liberia

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Health Advocacy & Research: many issues remain untouched at the moment in healthcare delivery for women within the Mano River Basin which include: Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, & Ivory Coast. I will use empowerment to advocate for healthcare delivery for citizen using Family Health as the cornerstone of my advocacy. Currently, there are limited publications from academicians from this region. I will use research as medium to inform the world and policy makers.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I want to be a voice of advocacy for healthcare institutions that are not staff with the need for human resources. I need the necessary skills and knowledge on advocacy of health inequity and distribution of resources in my homeland that is dominantly centered urban & peri-urban areas, thus less attention are placed on rural areas.



Sam is a Public Health enthusiast from Liberia. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from the CEPRES International University, Liberia. Sam is the Data Manager on the Lassa Fever Study at University of North Carolina, Phebe Hospital Liberia. Sam worked on the Sepsis research project before joining the UNC Team as Data Manager.

#### Samuel G. Habarurema Rwanda

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

Malnutrition, because lack of food full of nutrients is not only an issue in less developed countries, it also hit developed countries where people being killed by obesity and underweight increase everyday



### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I want to gain knowledge and skills related to sexual and gender reproductive health so that in future I can be the leader who can influence policies regarding the same field. Samuel is a researcher and a lecturer at Mount Kenya University and ULPGL medical school in Goma/DRC. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Health & works as an editorial board member of Acta Scientific Journals, NN publication, Stratford Peer Reviewed Journal and Book Publishing, & EC clinical and medical case reports. He worked in the Government of Rwanda (RNP), UN (UNMISS), World Bank (SDF2), and the private sector as Managing Director of Saga Nexus Group, Mugolds International Fire safety, and Jardin Meuble. He authored and co-authored more than 12 articles.

#### Sara M. D. Ripa

#### United States of America

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I aim to address the health and wellness needs of people seeking care around the time of birth. With a background in innovation for postpartum hemorrhage, I am especially driven by the fact that most deaths due to excessive bleeding after birth could have been prevented. believe that addressing unmet needs around the time of birth through respectful care, education, and quality medical technology will move the needle closer to health equity and reproductive justice.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

Through the MGHD program, I want to gain insights into important global health topics, especially those related to gender, sexual, and reproductive health. I hope to graduate as a future healthcare professional who not only treats diseases, but also cares for patients with consideration for their related social determinants of health.



Sara bridges global health approaches and engineering solutions to prevent deaths around the time of childbirth. Since 2016 she has studied and worked to address maternal mortality and morbidity due to postpartum hemorrhage. Sara holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Biomedical Engineering from California Polytechnic State University. Sara believes in the impact that educating our world's problem solvers can have on improving health outcomes. In 2019 she began teaching a university Women's Health course that she designed be equity-based interdisciplinary. These same principles are what drew her to UGHE.

#### Wongani P. Kawonga

Malawi

## What is the biggest Global Health challenge you would like to address and why?

I would like to address is Economic disparities healthcare and access to services. This is because there are a lot of gaps or health disparities that exist in the global community that is fueled economic differences which affect health service delivery and quality of health care. This therefore would help to accelerate and create opportunities for optimal health services for all groups despite the economic differences.

### What do you want to get out of this MGHD program?

I want to broaden my scope on Gender, Sexual, and Reproductive Health. Enhance my skills, abilities, and knowledge in key global health challenges such as Inequality and their association with GSRH. Be equipped in the analysis of existing interventions, developing strategies and approaches that are crucial in addressing the challenge.



Wongani Is a development professional with expertise in Disaster risk reduction and management, Gender. Natural resource management, partnership development, design, implementation, project management. Over 6 years of diverse and multi-disciplinary experience in resilience, livelihood, Health, WASH, and Humanitarian. Currently working as a flood measurement project Lead, but has also worked as GESI Advisor. COVID-19 Response, vaccination Manager. She is very enthusiastic, likes physical exercise, reading, and always exploring innovative ways to business ideas and living.



#### www.ughe.org

#### **RWANDA**

Kigali Heights, Plot 772 | KG 7 Ave., 5th Floor PO Box 6955 | Kigali