



### **WELCOME NOTE FROM CENTER:**

Welcome to the April/ May Newsletter from the Center for Social Science Research on AIDS (CeSSRA), a collaborative training and research center, with collaborators from Case Western Reserve University, Makerere University, the Joint Clinical Research Centre, and Mbarara University of Science and Technology, SABRES/IDI/SPH, among others. The CeSSRA office is always open Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm. It is located in Seminar Room 7 in the Faculty of Social Sciences, Makerere University main campus.

The center's aim is to train social scientists to carry out social science research on HIV/AIDS collaboratively and also to conduct a longitudinal study on the social context of HIV/AIDS treatment.

### **PROFILE**

This month we are featuring a profile of one of our research fellows, **Cliff Richards Mugasha**. Cliff is pursuing a Master's degree in Social Sector Planning and Management from Makerere University. He previously worked with the Inter-religious council as a needs assessment personnel.

He is interested in researching the responses of faith-based organizations to the needs of orphans and vulnerable children. His career goal is to create change and plans to work on research and development projects.



**CeSSRA fellow, Cliff Richards Mugasha**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Public lecture: CeSSRA will be hosting a public lecture by Dr. Andrew Ellias State on "Poultry and Peoples' Livelihoods in Uganda." Date to be communicated later.

### **OTHER EVENTS:**

Uganda Society for Health Scientists is to hold the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific conference on 17 and 18 June 2010 at Imperial Royale Hotel. The year's theme is: "Optimising Care and Treatment Settings for Research."

Uganda National Council of Science & Technology (UNCST) and Uganda National Association of Community and Occupational Health (UNACOH) are presenting the Joint 6<sup>th</sup> College of Health Sciences (MU-CHS) Annual Scientific Conference and 18<sup>TH</sup> UNACOH Annual Scientific Conference with the 9<sup>TH</sup> Dr. Matthew Lukwiya Memotal Lecture on 22<sup>ND</sup> – 24<sup>TH</sup> September 2010, entitled "Global Health Challenges: Training, research, service delivery – maximizing benefits to the people."

### **RECENT EVENTS:**

CeSSRA held a public lecture on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010. The lunch hour lecture, facilitated by **Dr. David Kyaddondo**, was well attended with over 40 participants- including CeSSRA fellows, lecturers, students and the CeSSRA staff.

Dr. David Kyaddondo is a lecturer at Makerere University. He holds a master's degree in medical anthropology from the University of Amsterdam and a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Copenhagen. He has conducted research on

health systems and health workers, food security and family relations, children, and HIV/AIDS. His publications include *African Anthropologies in a Context of Evolving Needs* and “Health Workers Entangled: Confidentiality and Certification,” published in the edited volume *Morality, Hope and Grief: Anthropologies of AIDS in Africa (2010)* among others.



**Dr. David Kyaddondo during the lunch hour lecture**

Dr. Kyaddondo’s talk was about the “**Disclosure of Intergenerational Practices in Uganda.**” This research was conducted in Kenya, Malawi, Burkina Faso and Uganda among others through quantitative/quantitative data collection, focus groups and narratives of PLWHA. His talk emphasized that open disclosure and communication is fundamental in the treatment and care of HIV. In this context, intergeneration meant communication between older people and the young, not limited to those over 18. He said that Uganda’s response to HIV/AIDS is universal access to treatment and care.

Due to the impact of resources from other countries, counseling has been extended to families and communities. In 10 districts, treatment programs have reached the entire family. This has brought challenges to people with HIV/AIDS, including increased pressure towards other people in the home to test and know their status, if it is not yet known and the increased need for parents to discuss socially taboo issues of sexuality with their children.

Some other research findings in Dr. Kyaddondo’s talk include the idea that treatment availability has not necessarily eased the process of disclosure, particularly between parents and children. Some people may suspect illness for themselves or their children, but do not test for fear of blame and guilt. He spoke of situations of “mutual pretence” where everyone suspects but never talks. Parents often fear being judged by their children because results have moral implications of past and present. Children also fear disclosure to parents, especially mothers, for fear of rejection.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For any questions regarding this Newsletter or CeSSRA activities, please contact:

CeSSRA office,

Makerere University main campus

Faculty of Social Sciences

Seminar Room 7

Kampala, Uganda

P.O. Box 7062 Kampala (U)

Tel. 256-414-540650

[cessra@ss.mak.ac.ug](mailto:cessra@ss.mak.ac.ug)

<http://www.case.edu/artsci/anth/CeSSRA.html>