

 ONLINE VERSION

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Uganda records *significant decline* in maternal death rate



YOU have helped to make this happen

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics is reporting a significant decline in maternal and infant mortality rates. Uganda has made great strides in maternal health, according to a report released this month, with the maternal mortality rate decreasing from 438 deaths per 100,000 live births (registered in 2011) to 336 deaths per 100,000 live births.

It is very good, deeply satisfying news for all of us at Save the Mothers--but especially for founder and executive director Dr. Jean Chamberlain Froese. Next month, Dr. Jean and her family say "good-bye" to their Ugandan home, and re-establish a full-time home in Canada. They leave behind 12 years of work in East Africa, but their commitment to the mission of Save the Mothers will continue, through Dr. Jean's advocacy and strategic oversight.

The statistics represent this truth: **thousands of lives have been saved.** And YOU have helped that to happen. With hearts full of gratitude, we thank you.

(Special thanks to our partners at H2O 4ALL for providing the beautiful photo above.)

[READ MORE FROM UGANDA'S MINISTRY OF HEALTH](#)

Join *us*



May is the month to celebrate mothers ...

... It is also the month to tie up your running shoes and take a walk to raise funds for maternal and child health in the developing world. We need you to **sign up to participate**. Then, we need you to **fundraise**. It's fun. It's easy. It's important. It's a way to make your life and your privilege count. Please, help us Save the Mothers.

[TAKE STEPS TO DELIVER CHANGE](#)

Happenings *here and there*



International Game Changers

Our international students completed their second module in the program. But before travelling back to their home countries throughout East Africa, they paused for a photograph.

[Read all about it.](#)



Good-byes ... and Hellos

(Pictured above: STM East Africa board member Dr. Pius Okong makes a special presentation to Dr. Jean and her husband, Thomas Froese.)

We held our annual reunion conference and dinner at the Serena Hotel in Kampala. Past and present students, alumni, professors, their families, staff, supporters and guests turned out to celebrate all that Dr. Jean has given to the program over the last 12 years, and to welcome Dr. Miriam.



Rwandan recruitment

Four STM team members travelled to Kigali, Rwanda to build connections, establish partnerships and recruit professionals to apply for the Save the Mothers international program. While there, they met with alumni and other individuals and organizations working in the field of maternal health.

[Learn more.](#)



More graduates to celebrate

On March 3, Save the Mothers honoured 20 Master of Public Health Leadership students--journalists, teachers, politicians and other professionals--during their convocation ceremonies at Uganda Christian University. These new graduates represent the hope of mothers and babies across East Africa, as they return to their respective professions and work to bring about improved maternal and child health. [Hear from one of our new grads.](#)



Women's Institute for mothers

McMaster University student (and Save the Mothers' supporter) Emily Bryson, gave a talk to her grandmother's group, the Reidville-Camden East Women's Institute (in Kingston, Ontario Canada) this month. Her topic? The challenges mothers face in the developing world, and the Save the Mothers' solution. The women learned about maternal health realities in East Africa, and purchased copies of *The Game Changers* to support our work there.



Road Trip

Seventeen STM team members headed to Eastern Uganda this month to visit some of our alumni in Mbale and Tororo.

The purpose of the trip? To encourage and strengthen our grads in their ongoing work to improve maternal and child health in their districts, and to explore the possibility of establishing the Mother Baby Friendly Hospital program there.

On *the blog*

How the empowerment of women anywhere helps women everywhere

Save the Mothers' program intern Jess Huston took time out from her hectic schedule this month to reflect on women's empowerment, in honour of International Women's Day--a national holiday in Uganda.

[READ BLOG](#)



Research yields understanding

When our Global Health Corps Fellows mobilized a Community

Drive to increase awareness of the Toll Free Line service in four communities, Save the Mothers' research assistant Chrispus Muganyizi went along. He later reflected on his experiences for **the blog**.



World Water Day

Just in time for World Water Day, **Timothy Muttuo, executive director of partner organization H2O 4ALL, blogged for us** about the importance of clean water to maternal and child health.

--Save the Mothers e-Newsletter--



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