

## From the Editor

Welcome to the 2nd edition of this year's bulletin, if you have noticed, the news comes out every two weeks earlier or later depending on how many events have occurred in a given period of time.

Just to re-emphasise, please participate in the news gathering, so that you can feature in the bulletin, and the rest of the publications every now and then, to give it consistency as well as diversity.

I would encourage all of us to write articles for publications and our every won, Executive Director has set the pace by publishing an article about his trip to Thailand recently for a conference. Look out for this on our website and quarterly newsletter, for now enjoy this issue and do not forget to send in those articles, they will be published at a forum of your choice and I am more than happy to edit them. Draft it as it is and we will improve it together. Ms. Juliana, any events you would like to share with us from "up there to down here" I am glad to receive!

*Megan-Communications Officer*

## Another case of failed obligations from health workers up for Justice.



Representatives from CEHURD,UMDC and the late Jenifer's family at the ruling

At 5pm on 29th January 2016, Center for Health Human Rights and Development(CEHURD) had four representatives, who met with Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council, that was tasked earlier on to make a judgement ruling regarding the passing of a mother by the names; Jennifer Anguko (R.I.P).She died as a result of negligence from the medical provider, who did not attend to her condition when she needed support to deliver her baby at the right time. This was at Arua Referral Hospital in 2010. It is noted that she waited 16hours at the hospital without proper medical attention, hence compromising her survival chances and that of her baby, as she was already in labour.

As a result of her death CEHURD, along with her the council made its findings and with them concluded with a ruling that; Uganda Nurses and Midwives Council should take quick action against the nurses that failed to properly carry out their duties as the Council is not mandated to deal with nurses and midwives, but medical and dental practitioners. Equally, the Council promised to issue a serious caution to the Medical Superintendent by letter, on how to run his unit and finally the medical council sent recommendations to the Ministry of Health to ensure that Arua Referral Hospital has what it needs, as a referral hospital and promised to follow through with the recommendations.

This was progress made and CEHURD continues to ensure that pledges made, as a result of the meeting to find justice for the death of the late Jennifer Anguko who represents all mothers, whose health rights are abused.

## A Moment to Reflect: CEHURD Staff Retreat 2016



Hon. Justice Kenneth Kakuru sharing with CEHURD staff at the recently concluded retreat

No one knew the direction His Lordship was taking at the start of his presentation, until he used an example so dear to the work of the members at CEHURD. Upon mentioning one of the cases that the team from Strategic Litigation had embarked on, with enough research done on the case, the team was more than enlightened, on its component as a public interest litigation case.

This was during the recently concluded staff retreat in Garuga that took place between the 2nd-5th February 2016 at the Resort Beach Hotel, Garuga.

Hon. Justice Kenneth Kakuru made a tremendous mark on the team, when he exhausted all the aspects of Public Interest Litigation especially drawing examples from some of the cases he had intensely researched on that CEHURD had embarked on currently and in the past.

The staff retreat did not just present the honor to host the honorable justice as a highlight, but equally explored the role played by staff in strategic planning for the next 6months, while reflecting on the rest of the year. This counted a lot in the development and focus of the team.

The team of over 20 enjoyed trainings on photography, social media which they felt were a drop in the ice as the time allocated had not been exhausting enough given the design of the topics, but the basics regarding both issues were fully exhausted and the team appreciated the use of social media much more.

This was equally an opportunity for one of our partners (PATH) to meet the whole team from CEHURD in one place; getting to the know the rest of the individuals they never get to meet but most importantly, extensively educating the staff about compliance and expectations from both funder and grantee regarding the Action for Better Health Project, which addressed most of the questions regarding the current radio programs as a project funded under the same cohort.

## Budget Advocacy; How to influence 2016 Budget



Members of the budget advocacy group reflecting on the budget

Uganda's annual budget will be passed and read in June and July respectively and before then, advocates from the different sectors that constitute our country are working tooth and nail to ensure the budget not only reflects there issues, but equally a fair proportion of the money in the budget, is given to solve issues in the sector they represent. This is not any different for the health sector, as teams are working so hard to ensure come June and July health is well catered for in the budget.

Evidence is with the meetings being held to ensure engagements at all levels of budget influence are followed through closely to ensure health is given priority.Center for Health Human Rights and Development is taking lead and on 11th February 2016, yet another follow up meeting was held at the organisation's boardroom. The meeting which took half of the day proposed further recommendations in the process, which addressed the amount of money that is proposed for health facilities, access to medicines in public health facilities, prevention of STI's and HIV among many other recommendations and among the next proposed steps includes; a public dialogue on the process and a press release that will address the current status of budget and finally having development meetings with the technical working groups. The efforts of the teams to ensure health is given fair representation in the budget cannot be under looked thanks to all Civil Society Organisations taking part and the Ministry of health.

## Making a difference in Global Health Advocacy



Left: Mr. Mulumba, with the rest of the delegates at the conference

Mr.Mulumba, the Executive Director represented the country and CEHURD at a global conference in Thailand that took place between 26th-31st January 2016. This conference focused on priority setting for Universal Health Coverage. It attracted health and human rights advocates, stakeholders and prominent leaders from countries all over the world.

"I was particularly interested in this conference because, of some of the questions it addresses that rotate around health human rights." mentioned Mr.Mulumba in his own words.

He further mentions that, during the conference's break away sessions, he was privileged to join a panel of four experienced health rights advocates from other countries, to discuss the human rights aspects in the entitlements to health with the lead as; what it means in practice and how can it affect priority setting. At this point, he was able to share Uganda's experience regarding the subject and what measure, challenges and opportunities are available in that regard to ensure the priorities in health human rights budget advocacy are set. The conference, which lasted six days, equally shaped CEHURD's opportunity in its project known as, the Goals for global Health and Governance for Global Health also known as Go4Health, and through Mr.Mulumba, findings on how the right to health could shape were shared.

## Other events as they happened;

- Radio talk show programs have progressed on well, as teams continue educating masses over the radio, on their rights as patients and the issues reflected in the patients charter.
- Ms.Getrude Nakanwagi, currently Mama Gloria completed her 9months journey on Ash Wednesday 2016.Congs Trudy!
- The Coalition to Stop Maternal Mortality from Unsafe Abortion held a planning meeting in Garuga.



Left: Members of the coalition in the recently concluded meeting Garuga resort hotel