

MAMELLO MAKHELE

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

An accomplished and decorated Master of Public Health graduate and a Registered Nurse and Midwifery professional with a wide range of professional and advocacy experience in public health and policy across study, employment, and governance roles. 2022 Fullbright scholar, Mandela Washington Alumni, and Bill Gates Heroes in the Field Awardee, with a strong commitment to maternal and child health, peace and security, and gender equality. A highly skilled public health specialist and policy analyst, with extensive experience in advocacy for progressive and inclusive policies and consulting. Possesses a global perspective gained through participation as an advocate in some of the most fundamental public health and policy spaces. Driven by a commitment to improving public health and advancing equity in health policy. A track record of success in a wide range of projects and initiatives, bringing unique insight and perspective to every project.

SKILLS

Leadership and Governance| Donor Collaboration and Management| Advocacy| Community Engagement | Strategic Planning| Policy Development & Analysis| Program Development & Implementation| Grant Writing and Management| Research and Data Analysis| Stakeholder Engagement| Project Management| Public Health Advocacy| social media| Public Speaking| Grants Evaluations| Quantitative Research

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CURRENT ROLES:

University of Nebraska Medical Centre 08/2022- 05/2024

Omaha, NE. United States of America

Fullbright scholarship

Full support to pursue a two-year, full-time master's in public health with a concentration in Maternal and Child Health. This highly competitive program requires engagement in 14 modules over 5 semesters. As part of my academic requirements, I am conducting a comprehensive fetal and infant mortality review in Douglas County, Nebraska, for my Master's Capstone project. This project involves a meticulous assessment of community needs and the identification of barriers and facilitators to implementing initiatives within the Baby Blossom Collaborative.

Extra Curricula and Advocacy Programs

- Student Senate
- Sustainability liaison
- Member of the Executive Sustainability Council

First-year representative: College of Public Health Student Association Public Health

Safe Abortion Action Fund (SAAF), London

Board Member & Co-Chair

2020 – Present

- Strategic direction and oversight as the Board Co-Chair as of 2022, ensuring alignment with organizational objectives and priorities.
- Spearheads efforts to strategically allocate resources, supporting projects and organizations that champion reproductive rights and safe abortion access globally.
- Engages with global partners, policymakers, and stakeholders to advocate for progressive policies and legislative frameworks prioritizing reproductive rights.
- Leads grant evaluation and allocation processes, ensuring funds were efficiently directed to impactful initiatives and maximizing donor impact.

- Involvement in a select activist-scholar workshop organized by the Institute on Gender, Law, and Transformative Peace Initiative at CUNY School of Law.
- Participated in robust dialogue, reflection, and cross-cutting discussions on transnational movement building and solidarity.
- Engagement with urgent thematic issues such as environmental degradation, gender-based violence, bodily autonomy, and human rights on a global and comparative scale.
- Collaborated with global thought leaders and activists to strengthen global crisis response initiatives.

PREVIOUS ROLES:

SheDecides leader

Maseru, Lesotho

03/2019 – 03/2023

- Designed and implemented community awareness programs in 5 rural communities, utilizing quantitative research approaches to assess the impact on 40 adolescents annually regarding contraceptive knowledge and practices.
- Conducted community awareness programs, educating 40 adolescents in hard-to-reach areas on reproductive health services, during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Addressed the root causes of child marriage, gender-based violence (GBV) and HIV stigma, working with six local organizations and five community leaders and
- Attended the SADC Parliamentarian Forum to advocate for improved health access for adolescents and addressed 20 members of the Lesotho Parliament and key stakeholders
- Advocated for policy changes on sexual and reproductive health to the Prime Minister of Lesotho and contributed to the development and implementation of measures for individuals living with HIV
- Training on how to recognize and respond effectively to GBV for five rural community leaders.

Registered Nurse Midwife

Katse Health

05/2019-05/2022

Maseru, Lesotho

- Developed evidence-based interventions to improve adolescent sexual and reproductive health, using quantitative data collection to assess and refine services.
- Addressed root causes and barriers to care by leveraging expertise in social determinants of health, including income disparities, education, and systemic issues.
- Collected and analyzed quantitative data on service utilization and health outcomes to inform strategies for communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- Ensured equitable healthcare delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Demonstrated commitment to equitable healthcare delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Implemented evidence-based practices by utilizing both quantitative and qualitative data to inform interventions for sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, TB, cancer screening, immunization and hypertension fostering collaboration among 10 nurses, 1 pharmacist and 3 community health workers.

United Nations Youth Adolescent Program Member

United Nations Population Fund Strategic Plan Consultation 2022-2025 for Adolescent and Youth Programming Lesotho

Feb 2021

- Engaged in a pivotal consultation led by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to shape the Strategic Plan (SP) for 2022-2025) focusing on adolescent health services
- Collected and analyzed qualitative data to understand the unmet needs of family planning in Lesotho

Actively shaped pivotal Southern African Development Countries (SADC) national policies, strategies, and frameworks focused on SRHR, comprehensive HIV/AIDS responses, and gender equality for adolescent

- Established robust connections between young individuals and critical decision-makers, ensuring rigorous accountability and championing the fulfillment of SRHR/HIV and gender commitments at local, regional, and global scales.
- Integrated both qualitative and quantitative data to drive meaningful youth engagement and advocacy efforts

Southern African AIDS Trust, Lesotho

2021

- Conducted workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to educate individuals about sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV prevention, and gender equality.
- Organized training sessions for healthcare professionals, community leaders, and young people on HIV prevention, comprehensive sexuality education, and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention.
- Collaborated with policymakers and stakeholders to influence the development and implementation of policies that promote SRHR, gender equality, and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

EDUCATION

Post-graduate Diploma in Public Health

University of South Africa - South Africa

01/2021 - 03/2022

- Graduated with distinction

Diploma in General Nursing and Midwifery

Roma College of Nursing

08/2013- 08/2017

- Graduated as a Top 1 student
- Received the best student award in labor and Childbirth

Awards and Honors

- *Bill Gates Heroes in the Field Award 2021*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WatoUcMA37E>
- Fullbright Scholarship
- *Harvard Public Health Magazine: Standout Voices in Africa Public Health 2021*
- *UNFPA Lesotho: Influential Woman in Lesotho 2020*
- *Mandela Washington Fellowship: Leadership Impact Award 2021*
- *A notable milestone in my academic career is the **Suzanne and Ward Chambers Student Summer Global Health Fellowship**, awarded in recognition of my rigorous research on the "Association of Young Maternal Age and Low-Birth Weight Neonates among Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh."*