



## SUPPORTING GLOBAL HEALTH EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

ABIGAIL RUDD – RESILIENT AFRICA NETWORK – UGANDA- 2022

Master of Science in Global Health Equity

DR. RACHEL THOMPSON GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY FUND

Abigail completed her internship focused on informal settlements in Kampala with partner, Resilient Africa Network (RAN) Uganda from May 23 – July 7, 2022. RAN is a partnership of 20 African universities in 13 countries led by Makerere University to “strengthen the resilience of communities against natural and man-made stresses by nurturing and scaling innovations from the different universities”.

Abigail worked to understand the limitations of *Informal Settlements* on residents’ access to clean water, sanitation, hygiene, municipal sewerage, potable water, and waste disposal and how that impacts infectious disease, injury, violence, malnutrition, poor mental health, and substance abuse. Informal settlements are formed differently and responded to differently by governments and each has its own health consequences. Few studies have explored differences in informal settlements in low- and middle-income countries.

“I had a diverse set of experiences visiting the Child and Family Foundation Uganda clinic, RAN Innovation Labs, Luwero District Hospital, and the Katanga informal settlement.”

Key learning takeaways	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizational structure and functions of an international non-governmental organization</li> <li>2. Nurture relationships with partner staff and other faculty</li> <li>3. Practice cultural competency and humility</li> <li>4. Adaptability and resourcefulness</li> <li>5. Self-confidence in an international professional setting</li> </ol>
Next steps	<p>Advancing master’s Thesis Work to develop a causal loop diagram for WASH findings = Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene</p> <p>Qualitative analysis of the maternal and child health outcomes and well-being for those living in Kampala, Uganda’s informal settlements</p>



Visit to Luwero District Hospital with Dr. Stephen Magera, the Luwero Medical Superintendent, and mentor, Agnes Nyabigambo, RAN’s Projects Manager



Katanga Informal Settlement of about 10,000 residents, built on land owned by Makerere University



RAN is a point of technology innovation & commercialization of university research; through them, they attract local and national resources, sustainable funding

“I saw comradery and resiliency in the Ugandan people. They are proud and passionate in addressing challenging health situations with a focus on community. I saw a sense of unity that I don’t feel as much at home.”