

Suter Science Seminars 2017-18

Keeping Informal Settlements Safe and Clean

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Baltimore, Maryland



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4 p.m. Science Center, room 106

Mennonite Central Committee and The Waterloo Foundation under Jhpiego work to empower urban slum communities in Kenya to take responsibility for their environment as a way of preventing common illnesses. Activities focus on using the community SBM-R approach, to ensure communities monitor their own achievements using the standards they developed; supporting youth to develop innovative ideas that will lead to a clean environment and income generation; encouraging of regular clean-up activities to leading to safe and clean environments; reaching schools with health programs and support community radio spots where the communities are educated on the benefits of keeping a safe and clean environment.

Jane Otai is an Adolescent Health Advisor with Jhpiego, an affiliate of the Johns Hopkins University. Ms. Otai has vast experience working with communities living in the urban informal settlements in Kenya and now internationally. Jane has worked with the family planning, WASH, Adolescent Health and HIV programs in the last 12 years. During this time, she witnessed the challenges faced by women and girls in accessing health services. As the Adolescent Health Advisor, Jane has supported women and girls living in Nairobi informal settlements to access health services and information which enables them to make informed decisions about their health. Ms. Otai has written a number of articles featured in the Huffington post, the New York Times and shared on various international platforms.



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