



**Uganda Trainers & Trainees**

## **Clinicians Connect and Continue Support**

In 2018, the Uganda Peoples’ Defense Force invited Trauma Recovery/HAP to provide EMDR Basic Trainings in Kampala to equip their therapists to treat trauma and PTSD in their staff as well as the broader Ugandan community. Amani Psychotherapy Center of Uganda co-sponsored the training.

We reported on the tremendous effort of the TR training team, including Leslie Brown, Sushma Mehrotra, Deborah

Silveria and Janet Wright, along with several experienced EMDR clinicians from the Ugandan EMDR community, in early 2019. Twenty-nine local clinicians, all with master’s degrees, participated in these trainings.

Several Trauma Recovery faculty who trained the Uganda group realized that many of their international colleagues have limited access to the broader community of EMDR-trained therapists, and difficulty funding attendance to EMDRIA conferences. They created a fund to enable Lois Ochieng, Psychologist and President of EMDR Uganda and Ruth Matoya, Psychologist and PhD candidate, who each helped with the Uganda training, to attend the 2020 EMDRIA conference. Though the 2020 conference will be virtual, Trauma Recovery has assisted the clinicians with registering for the virtual event.



**Breakout Session**

“Returning home, we could leave the trainings behind, but we couldn’t forget the trainees and their desire to grow their competencies. No matter where clinicians come from, attendance at an EMDRIA conference is key to the advancement of their skills and to connecting with the larger EMDR world.” said one of the trip donors.

Two other clinician who assisted with the 2018 trainings, Dismas Bwesigye and Femke Bannink, have co-authored a paper with other African colleagues entitled, ***Cultural Adaptations of the Standard EMDR Protocol in Five African Countries***. Their paper has been accepted for publication in the ***Journal of EMDR Practice and Research***, and for presentation at the **2021 EMDRIA** conference, which they hope to attend in-person.



**Uganda Partner**

Uganda is one of the few African countries who have a national registered association. Led by Lois Ochieng, EMDR Uganda was established and registered as both an NGO and CBO (Community Based Organization) in Uganda. Currently there are 50 registered members of EMDR Uganda and of these, 35 use EMDR regularly in their practice.