

From Arkansas Children's Research Institute

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Selects Rosemary Nabaweesi as Culture of Health Leader

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has selected Rosemary Nabaweesi, DrPH, MBChB, for its Culture of Health Leaders program. The program aims to develop a generation of leaders to build a national culture of health that provides everyone in America a fair and just opportunity for health and well-being.

The Culture of Health Leaders program is a structured, three-year curriculum and participant experience for leaders who are highly motivated and ready to learn, lead, and achieve mastery of self, relationships, environment, and change. Dr. Nabaweesi will be developing skills from the program to create a program focused on advancing the built and social environment in the Arkansas Delta. She will lead a multidisciplinary, cross-sector collaboration including stakeholders from local communities, businesses, and private and government organizations to co-create a bold strategic initiative focused on creating a culture of health in Arkansas's Delta communities by addressing structural discrimination (the root cause of poverty, adverse childhood experiences and crosscutting inequities).

Dr. Nabaweesi looks forward to developing and establishing an initiative to create an optimal culture of health alongside multiple stakeholders at the community, local, state, and national levels using a collective impact to address the challenges of health inequity. During the last year of the program, Dr. Nabaweesi and her collaborating partners will seek future funding to achieve the vision of their initiative.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will provide a stipend and project funds for activities related to the planning and development of a community-based strategic initiative of \$98,000 over the three-year period. Dr. Nabaweesi is an Assistant Professor in the Community Pediatrics section of the UAMS Department of Pediatrics and is the Senior Director of Research and Evaluation for the UAMS Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Her research has been funded through a Marion B. Lyon New Scientist Development Award and the Children's University Medical Group intramural programs at ACRI. In addition, Dr. Nabaweesi was a KL2 Career Development Scholar of the UAMS Translational Research Institute (U54TR001629 and UL1TR003107).