

# INGRID MEINTJES

## Public Health Professional

### SUMMARY

---

Public health professional with 13 years of experience in sexual and reproductive health rights advocacy, policy development, and research in South Africa and the United States. Expert gender analyst with a track record in gender-responsive health policy development and implementation through syndemic and reproductive justice frameworks. Proven leader in non-profit management and development committed to facilitating community headship in evidence-based public health innovations for low-income communities. Effective fundraiser focused on sustainability and maximizing efficiency by cultivating strategic partnerships and stakeholder buy-in at the local, national, and global level. Experienced teacher, trainer, mentor, and collaborator in culturally, linguistically, and nationally diverse contexts.

### CORE COMPETENCIES

---

- Organizational development
- Strategic planning & vision
- Fundraising & sustainability
- Stakeholder engagement
- Cross-cultural collaborations
- Negotiation & consensus building
- Budgeting & financial management
- Program management
- Monitoring & evaluation
- Evidence-based practice
- Project management
- Gender analyst
- Social & reproductive justice
- Mentorship
- Research design
- Public speaking
- Web development
- Digital publishing
- Community engagement
- Microsoft Office
- Apple iWork

### SELECTED EXPERIENCE

---

#### 2008-2013 Chief Scientific Officer

*Perinatal Mental Health Project (PMHP), University of Cape Town, South Africa*

- **Organizational development & management:** Part of initial team of 3 staff which campaigned for and developed a health systems approach to integrated mental, sexual, and reproductive health care for pregnant women and girls in under-served communities. Grew organization to 14 salaried staff as part of management team and developed fundraising, advocacy and communications strategies across 4 integrated programs. Assessed program outcomes, impact, and trends in collaboration with Project Manager.
- **Financial management & sustainability:** Collaborated with Director, Project Manager and University financial officer in financial management and budgetary oversight. Grew fundraising strategy from R500,000 in 2009 to R4.5million in 2013, increasing annual program reach from 215 (2002) to 120,000 (2013) pregnant women and girls. Maintained an active fundraising agenda, wrote all funding proposals and represented the PMHP in donor-relations with the Director and independently. Improved long-term sustainability by leveraging organizational expertise to generate income.
- **Strategic planning:** Spearheaded strategic planning processes, developed operational and implementation frameworks and designed routine monitoring, evaluation and assessment protocols across all 4 programs. Collaborated to maximize reach and resources and take integrated maternal mental health services to scale by developing partnerships with service providers, educators, and researchers.

- **Technical leadership:** Directed gender-responsive program development and public health policy submissions. Trained researchers across partner consortia in Africa, India, and Pakistan in gender-mainstreaming and gender-responsive mental health research and program development.
- **Project management:** Oversaw study to design and test a mental health risk screening tool suitable for busy health facilities in low-income communities impacted by high rates of HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence, gang violence, poverty and low health worker morale as well as build a site for the study in partnership with the Department of Health. Produced a documentary on the prevalence and impacts of maternal mental illness during pregnancy as an advocacy and fundraising tool. Organized community outreach campaigns and high-profile donor events.
- **Advocacy & communications:** Developed and implemented evidence-based advocacy and communications strategy. Promoted community-leadership in lobbying for the inclusion of maternal and mental health services into national legislation and policies. Initiated and fostered strategic partnerships with government agencies, service providers, trade unions, academic institutions, and civil society. Produced mid-year and annual reports and communicated progress and challenges to local partners, stakeholders, Board of Advisors, the Development Department at the University of Cape Town, government agencies, and global partners. Researched, designed, wrote and produced extensive portfolio of advocacy materials in multiple languages, policy briefs, training materials and community resources. Point-person for local and global partners and represented the organization at high-level multi-sector stakeholder consultations. Coordinated research presentations at local, national, and global conferences.

### **2007-2012 Program Manager: Linking, Learning, and Lobbying**

*AIDS Response (now The Wellness Foundation) Cape Town, South Africa*

- Developed, established, and consulted to a program aimed at improving conditions for un-paid HIV/AIDS care workers in low-income communities.
- Influenced policy development by designing and leading a participatory ethnographic research project to demonstrate the experiences and concerns of unpaid care workers.
- Mobilized unpaid community care workers to convene the first care workers' policy intervention forum.
- Represented the organization in national policy negotiations.

### **2005-2007 Assistant to the General Secretary**

*Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), Cape Town, South Africa*

- Managed the office of the nationally elected leader of the Treatment Action Campaign.
- Managed communication with executive and national leadership, as well as government and civil society leaders.
- Implemented national projects initiated by the General Secretary, including the Women in Leadership training program and the HIV/AIDS and Gender-Based Violence Poster Campaign.
- Updated research agenda on relevant health and policy issues and wrote the first evidence-based policy brief on gender-specific impacts of HIV/AIDS.
- Assisted national managers in monitoring, evaluation, grant writing, and advocacy campaigns.

### **2017-2018 Research Assistant**

*Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Emory University, Atlanta, GA*

- Selected to manage a National Science Foundation research project titled *The Co-production of knowledge between reproductive justice advocates and molecular biologists*. (PI: Prof. Deboleena Roy, Ph.D.)
- Identified and coordinated with community-based research participants in Atlanta, GA. (e.g. SisterSong and SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW!)
- Developed interview questions as well as transcription and analysis protocols.
- Led a multi-disciplinary team based at Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology to translate research into an interactive website aimed at building partnerships between reproductive health scientists and reproductive justice advocates.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT

---

- 2013 Code for Patient-Centered Maternity Care. South African Department of Health.
- 2012 National HIV/AIDS Strategic 2012-2016. South African Department of Health.
- 2010 Community Care Worker Management Policy Framework. South African Department of Social Development.
- 2009 National Mental Health Policy. South African Department of Health.
- 2006 National HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan 2007-2011. South African Department of Health.

## SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

---

- 2017 Synthesizing global and local knowledge for the development of maternal mental health care: Two cases from South Africa. Co-author. *Palgrave Handbook of Socio-cultural Perspectives on Global Mental Health*.
- 2015 Creating Capabilities through Maternal Mental Health Interventions: A Case Study at Hanover Park, Cape Town. First author. *Journal of International Development*.
- 2014 Maternal mental health care: Refining the components in a South African setting. Co-author. *Essentials of Global Mental Health*. Cambridge University Press.
- 2010 Improving child outcomes through maternal mental health interventions. First author. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health*.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

---

- 2017 An (in)sensible machine: The unpaid care worker in the Global South. Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S) Conference. Boston, MA.
- 2014 Caring for the caregiver: A framework for support. *The South African Child Gauge*.
- 2013 Maternal Mental Health Handbook for Facility-based Health Workers in South Africa. Health worker resource.
- 2013 Gender Mainstreaming in Public Mental Health. Capacity Building Workshop for Primary Investigators and Researchers. Program for Improving Mental Health Care (PRiME) Annual Meeting. Ethiopia.
- 2012 Integrating maternal mental health into existing health and development programs: A way to achieve the cross-cutting goals of health and development policies. Policy brief.
- 2012 Addressing the crisis of Maternal Mental Illness among Economically Disadvantaged Women. Policy Brief.
- 2011 Structural violence, refugee status & maternal mental health. World Federation for Mental Health Conference.
- 2011 Mental health considerations for women living in extreme adversity: Lessons from the Perinatal Mental Health Project. Presentation to the National Advocates for Pregnant Women, New York.
- 2010 Colliding epidemics: HIV & maternal mental illness. *Equal Treatment: Journal of the Treatment Action Campaign*.
- 2010 Community Care Workers: Changing the face of primary health care. Presentation to the Networking HIV/AIDS Community of South Africa (NACOSA) Consultative Forum. Johannesburg.
- 2010 Caring from the Margins: The Invisible Labor at the Heart of South Africa's HIV/AIDS Policy. Presentation to the World Bank (Margaret McNamara Education Grants). University of Cape Town.

## EDUCATION

---

- 2019 Ph.D. (ABD) in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Emory University  
George W. Woodruff Fellow; Fellow at the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry
- 2012 MSoc.Sc. in Gender and Transformation, University of Cape Town (*magna cum laude*)
- 2008 BSoc.Sc. in Gender and Transformation, University of Cape Town (*magna cum laude*)
- 1999 BA in Government and International Studies, University of Notre Dame (*cum laude*)  
Minor in African Politics and International Peace Studies at the Kroc Institute

## LANGUAGES

---

English	●●●●●	Afrikaans	●●●●●
Xhosa	●●○○○	Spanish	●○○○○