

# **REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL WEEK FOR THE DEAF**

**23-28/09/2019**

**07 October 2019**

**DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA**

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

- a. Project title: **International week for the Deaf 2019**
- b. Name of implementing agent(s): **Furaha ya wanawake wajasiriamali kwa Viziwi Tanzania**
- c. Project location: **Dar es Salaam**

- d. Proposed starting date: 23 September 2019
- e. Project duration: One week
- f. Amount fund requested from Voluntary Fund (TZS): **5,450,000**
- g. Government inputs: None
- h. Implementing agent inputs:
- i. Contact person: Secretary General

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## INTRODUCTION

FUWAVITA in collaboration with the Legal Aid Facilities (LSF) succeeded to implement the 2019 International Week for the Deaf. FUWAVITA received funds from LSF and implemented 2019 commemoration of International for the Deaf where the theme was **“The right of use sign Language is a Solution to delivery legal aid for Deaf Women in Tanzania ”**

.The event took place from September 23th to 28<sup>st</sup> September at Mwananyamala ground Kinondoni Dar Es Salaam.. FUWAVITA in cooperation with various stakeholders, partners, academic institutions, civil society, disabled people organizations, private sectors and the government managed to bring 800 people to the event and commemorated together through a number of designed

activities and raised awareness and promoted the rights and perspectives of persons with Disability around the world

### **BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT**

The annual observance of the International Deaf week was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly under resolution number 47/3 in 1992. It aims to promote the rights and well-being of Deaf community in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness on the situation of persons with Hearing impairment in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

The 2018 theme was “With sign language, everyone is Included” and this theme toward International week for the Deaf insisted on including Deaf people in all spheres that is economic, political and socially. Therefore FUWAVITA launched this project through international week for the deaf and offered free hearing assessment examine which was served by special teachers expert and those who founded with hearing impairment were referred to Muhimbili hospital for more treatment. And other were given technical advice on where they can learn sign language, where special school for the Deaf is located, how to live in deafness situation and advised them to join with Organizations which work and advocate for the rights of deaf people example FUWAVITA so that they can continue to learn on Deaf matter and be given assistance that needed.

### **YEAR THEME**

The theme for this year for International Week for the Deaf was “**Sign language Rights for All!**”

## **GOAL OF THE PROJECT**

Our main goals was to provide legal framework and laws services facilities to Deaf women and other women with disabilities who experienced discrimination in the field of socially, political and economic affairs.

**FUWAVITA succeeded to implement the following objectives of project as agreed with LSF**

- (1)FUWAVITA succeeded to give a space for other individual groups to have voice and included in national development programmers .
- (2)FUWAVITA to increase the uses of sign language to the legal frame works so to enable more justice for our member disadvantages groups
- (.3) FUWAVITA succeeded to create platform and collaboration between FUWAVITA Police,. Judicial system and other people in legal service facilities
- (4) FUWAVITA succeeded to solve problems for the legal and human right facing our group.
- (5)FUWAVITA succeeded to build independent mindset among Deaf people.
- (6)FUWAVITA succeeded to mobilize peace in the society among women with disability
- (7)FUWAVITA succeeded to train Deaf women on leadership skills
- (8) FUWAVITA succeeded to get 20 Deaf women who became Ambassador of legal service facilities.
- (9) FUWAVITA succeeded to Increase awareness on legal services accessibility to women with disability.
- (10) LFS and FUWAVITA succeeded build a strong partnership and we expect to continue working together under the field of Deaf Women
- (11) FUWAVITA succeeded to Establish right of protector network so that to safeguard the right and equality of Deaf women in the society .
- (12) FUWAVITA succeeded to increase awareness on the use of sigh language to policy and laws makers.

## **PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS**

## **Activities and Events**

### **I. Commemoration of International Deaf week celebration**

The open day for International Deaf week was officiated by the Ms Emma Kawawa Director of Women CEOs Roundtable on 23/09/2019 and 30 women and men Deaf participated in the event. Ms Aneth Gerana the chairperson of FUWAVITA presented the speech to her which entailed the achievements of FUWAVITA since it started and challenges which hinders the Deaf community especially in communication barriers and Deaf women should be empowered through entrepreneurship. The guest of honor promised to present FUWAVITA's identified issues to the relevant other stakeholders for permanent solutions. Then she officially inaugurated the training on sign language to policy makers, social workers and lawyers and hearing examination. The event, partners, academic institutions, civil society, disabled persons organizations, and the private sector were invited to join with us from Dar es Salaam and neighboring regions such as Coastal and Morogoro.

The project aimed to provide legal framework and laws services facilities to Deaf women and other women with disabilities who experienced discrimination in the field of socially, political and economic affairs.

### **Motivation**

On day two we conducted Sign Language training to Policy maker, Social workers and Lawyers. Facilitator Maona Leonard and Fauster Salakana conducted Sign language training and awareness on Deafness for 3 days from 24/09/2019 to 26/09/2019. They urged Policy maker, lawyers and Social workers to use Sign Language in providing legal framework and laws services to Deaf women hence easy accessibility and full engaging of Deaf women in all sphere of socially, political and economic as well. God created women with Disability in unique special ways with different talents which they can use to bring development in the society. An example of Aneth Gerana was given to show that despite of her disability she has accomplished so much to become a role model to women with Disability. She worked hard and accomplished her degree in sociology from the University of Dar es salaam. Now she is in the last year of her pursuit for her Masters degree. Aneth have been able to implement different programs through FUWAVITA to fight for the rights of people with disability and empower them through entrepreneurship. She has been mobilizing and motivating women with disability in

words and in action and they inspired with her work .Most of the people with disabilities are discouraged, lost hope and feel that there is something missing in their lives. Understanding this essence we incorporated the project with motivation talk from various motivational speaker to instill new hope, encouraged and transformed people to become new again and find their inner power and potential to do anything they desire in this world.

#### **a) Exhibition**

Women with disability participated in displaying their different products such wine, mango pickle, peanut butter, traditional accessories, and ear and arm rings, traditional glass, tea cups. More than 100 people who came to the exhibitions saw the products and supported them for buying them after a thorough explanation on how they are made and used.

#### **b) Entertainment**

Women with disability showcased their talents in various entertainments such as singing and traditional dancing proving to the society that disability is not inability. Not only that also people with disability used the platform to learning different things from each other.

### **II. Entrepreneurship Training and free hearing assessment/examination**

#### **a) Training**

This project trained about 50 people with disabilities on entrepreneurship skills both theoretical and practical to allow them to participate directly in various economic activities. It was part of the celebration of International week for the deaf and the making of items such as wine, peanut butter and mango pickle products were taught.

#### **b) Free Hearing Assessment**

Through this program FUWAVITA offered free ear examination to 150 people for 3 days from 26/09/2019 to 28/09/2019.

Before people were examined, they got the opportunity to participate in health care information session specifically on how the ears functions .The training was conducted by an ENT specialist MR Nyambo who advised people to examine and investigate their ears every after six months. He said this will help them to avoid unwanted ears problems.

### **c) one day dialogue .**

There was a one day dialogue between Deaf women and Law and policy makers stakeholders which laws enabled the beneficiaries to come with critical issues that affected their lives especially the coming election held in 2019 and 2020.

### **c) Leadership training**

FUWAVITA succeeded to train 20 Deaf women on leadership manual so as to build self confidence in them hence to prepare them to be good future leaders.

## **TARGET GROUP**

200 Deaf community members and 150 other people who were serviced with hearing examination was the target for this celebration. Those people who recognized with hearing problem were given a referral letter for treatment. Deaf members were given specific and customized trainings for 5 days.

Also various dignitaries such as the Country Director of Global Peace Foundation, Director of Dot Tanzania organization, Representative from Voice global Nairobi ,Former District Commission of Masasi and Chamwino and UWT –Dar Es Salaam Chairperson Hon Dorothy Kilave . All these had an opportunity to speak of their work and how they empower people with disabilities on the Climax of International week for the Deaf date 28/09/2019 .

### **Statistics in Summary**

<b>Key Activity</b>	<b>Estimated Reach out</b>	<b>Actuals Reached</b>	<b>Success rate</b>
Ear examination	700	500	120%
Trainings for deaf persons	300	200	300%

Media outreach	1 (ITV)	5 (ITV, Channel 5, Azam TV, TBC ,TBC-RADIO	500%
Coverage (regions)	1 (Dar)	5 (Dar, Coast, Morogoro, )	500%
Calls	0`	Calls from 7 regions requesting ear examination services	
Sign language Trainer to Policy makers ,Social workers and lawyers.	10	8	100%

In view of the above the project realized its objectives. Besides the above success we also experienced the following challenges and we have managed to find a solution for some of the challenges:

1. More education and training to the society on people with disability and their challenges is needed .Due to limited time and resources we couldn't be able to train the society on disability issues, which calls for more support in terms of material and funds so as to reach out to more people in the community. The society need to be aware on disability matters so that they can understand how to live with people with disabilities and including them in all spheres of life.
2. The ministry of health should cooperate with NGOs that work and advocate for disability rights to solve the challenges faced Deaf people. We have communicated with the ministry of health and agreed to work together; they requested us to invite them to the next event or any training we will organize.
3. Empowering deaf women through entrepreneurship-they need support to formulate small industries. FUWAVITA is ready to empower women with disability by offering entrepreneurship skills(practical and theoretical) to all around Tanzania.
4. There is a huge need of hearing aids. We communicated with Dr Possy from the University of Dar Es Salaam so that can plan how to meet with Hon Abdallah Possy who is a Tanzanian Ambassador in German also having Albinism. We are planning to request Hon Possy to

help us connect with stakeholders in German so that they can donate ears aid to those who are found with hearing problems during international week for the deaf. Also we have communicated with Tanzania Deaf Society to help those who found with hearing problem.

5. There is still the need to train more Policy maker, Lawyers and social workers on the use of Sign language to easy communication between Deaf women and policy maker.
6. Deaf women need to be trained on awareness of their rights so that they can full engaging in all sphere of socially, policy making issues, economical and political roles.

There is a need to conduct hearing examine to the people in remote area especially in the villanges where the situation is worse because many people in remote area wished to come in Dar Es Salaam bur failed due to lack of transport cost. A mobile facility is required for this kind of intervention to all regions in Tanzania as onsite results showed that for every 100 people 3 have ear problems.

### **PROJECT BUDGET EXPENDITURE**

The entire program costedTshs 6,496,891.

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### **PICTURES OF EVENT**

