



Youth Development Initiative Trust



Creating Positive Change In Youth, Families and Communities, Empowering The Vulnerable and Marginalized in all Facets Of Their Lives



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NEWSLETTER

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TRUST

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Introducing the Amplify Change project, implemented by Youth Development Initiative Trust (YDIT) in collaboration with Tariro Foundation of Zimbabwe Trust!

The 2-year project, titled “Using Research-Based Advocacy in enhancing PWDs, duty-bearer, and civic engagement in advancing SRHR for all PWDs in Zimbabwe,” aims to drive impactful change within the disability rights landscape. Through a series of targeted activities, the project will focus

on research, fostering engagement between Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and duty-bearers, as well as empowering PWDs to actively participate in National Development Initiatives. This initiative seeks to amplify the voices of marginalized communities, promote inclusivity, and advocate for

the sexual and reproductive health and rights of all PWDs in Zimbabwe. Stay tuned for updates on our progress and join us in this transformative journey towards a more inclusive society for all.

#AmplifyChange #YDIT #Tariro-Foundation #PWDs #SRHR #Zimbabwe



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Inception meeting

We are excited to share the latest update from the recent meeting between the Youth Development Initiative Trust and the Southern African Parliamentary Support Trust (SAPST). The focus of the meeting was on the project roadmap, with SAPST taking on a crucial consultant role. They will

be conducting desk research and reviewing essential documents, national plans, legislation, and key programs currently in place in Zimbabwe. The primary goal is to evaluate to what extent these initiatives mainstream Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) for Persons with Disabil-

ities (PWDs) in the country. This collaborative effort highlights the dedication of both organizations to promoting inclusive policies and programs that address the specific needs of PWDs in Zimbabwe. Stay tuned for more updates on this important project!



M&E strategy established & monitoring tools finalized

The partnership successfully hosted an M&E strategy workshop aimed at empowering stakeholders to develop, design, recommend, and evaluate monitoring and evaluation tools for the project. The workshop witnessed 20 enthusiastic participants representing 17 diverse stakeholders collaboratively suggesting various M&E tools such as Kobo Toolbox, Excel, SPSS, and Monkey survey to enhance project effectiveness. Additionally, the workshop covered essential topics like ethical considerations in research involving PWDs, MERL in PWD projects, Existing SRHR gaps for PWDs, and case management. The engaging session fostered knowledge sharing, innovation, and strategic planning, ensuring that the project's M&E framework is robust and impact-

ful. Overall, the workshop proved to be a valuable platform for stakeholders to co-create effective tools and strategies for monitoring and evaluating project's progress. Stakeholders present included City of Mutare, Diamond FM, Epilepsy Support, Everyone's Child, Freedom to the Disabled Persons in Zimbabwe (FDPZ), Freelance Journalist, Institute of Transformational Community Development, Kreative Studios, LZS, Manica Youth Assembly (MAYA), National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (NANGO), Nzeve Deaf Centre, Quadriplegics and Paraplegics Association of Zimbabwe (QUAPAZ), SayWhat, Young People's Network (YPN), and Zimbabwe National Family Planning Council (ZNFPC).



One on one interviews

Using the vibrant monitoring and evaluation strategy and tools developed by our stakeholder in the M & E workshop, the conducted one on one interviews with PWD was to gather insights and information on the gaps, challenges, and weaknesses in the current Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) policies, laws, and frameworks for people with disabilities in the country. So far 30 interviews have been conducted, covering 3 areas that are Zimunya Township, Dangamvura

and Sakubva high density suburbs. Disability type for interviews conducted so far include dwarfism, visual impairment, epilepsy's, albinism, amputates, Poliomyelitis, and Osteogenesis imperfecta. Another aim of conducting one on one interviews was to gain a better understanding of PWDs experiences and needs in relation to SRHR services or products. Questions asked sought to uncover their knowledge on sexual and reproductive health rights, the challenges they encounter in ac-

cessing information or services related to SRHR, SRHR service providers in their community, list of platforms they access SRHR information and strategies or initiatives that would be effective in raising awareness and promoting the SRHR for PWDs. Most of the interviewees were not fully aware of SRHR polices, however they provided valuable insights into the plights and predicaments that PWD's face in accessing SRHR and unraveled areas where improvements can be made.

