

The Professional Fellows Program on Inclusive Civic Engagement



Fall 2022 Professional Fellow



Fides P Uiso

Founder and CEO

Tanzania Epilepsy Foundation

“This Fellowship Program will build my capacity to advocate for epilepsy. I will increase my confidence, skills, knowledge, and resources and thus enhance my ability to envision and be effective in my epilepsy and disability advocacy.”

Fides is the Founder and CEO of the Tanzania Epilepsy Foundation. She is the mother of a child with epilepsy and a passionate parent advocate. She advocates for ending epilepsy-related discrimination, protecting the rights of people with disabilities, and easy access to quality health care that is affordable, physician-directed, and person-centered. It was her personal experience of facing and combatting stigma and discrimination associated with epilepsy that provided the impetus for Fides to create a foundation. The Tanzania Epilepsy Foundation is affiliated with the International League Against Epilepsy. Fide is certified in seizure recognition from the Epilepsy Foundation of America. She holds a diploma in human resources management.

For her follow-on project, Fides aims to raise awareness of epilepsy, decrease stigma, and improve seizure-related safety protocols in schools by training teachers and engaging students. Fides developed a teacher training that she piloted in four private schools and now seeks to replicate with public schools. With assistance from district level education administrators, Fides plans to train 75 teachers as epilepsy resource persons for their schools.

Fides will complete a 4-week Fellowship placement training with the University of Oklahoma’s [Health Sciences Center](#) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.



UMass
Boston

