



Fides Uiso

Tanzania

Founder and CEO of Tanzania Epilepsy Organisation, Fides is the mother of a six-year-old child with epilepsy and a passionate parent advocate.

Her advocacy goals include ending epilepsy discrimination, protecting the rights of people with disabilities, and ensuring access to affordable, physician-directed, and person-centered health care.



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In my country, they think epilepsy is a curse so if you are a parent or a person with epilepsy or if you are related it means you are cursed. I've been discriminated against and I was told to pray so that God can forgive me and my son. Even the father of my child left me.

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After becoming a mother to a child with severe epilepsy I decided to stand for my child and I decided to become a beacon of hope for those who are suffering in silence.

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International
Epilepsy Day



[tanzaniaepilepsy](http://tanzaniaepilepsy.org)

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I decided to register an NGO called Tanzania Epilepsy Organization where we advocate for epilepsy, we empower those with epilepsy, teach about dignity and defend the human rights of those with epilepsy.

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**What can we do to
reduce stigma?**

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More advocacy and engagement with policymakers because in my country there is a marriage law that allows people to separate if one of them develops epilepsy during the marriage so this is bad when you want to raise awareness.

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