

Neurxtend Foundation – Epilepsy Awareness Programs in Northern Uganda and Uganda

1. Background

Epilepsy is a common neurological disorder affecting thousands of children and adults in Northern Uganda and across the country. Many individuals and families face:

- **Limited awareness and understanding** of epilepsy.
- **Stigmatization and social exclusion** in communities.
- **Limited access to diagnosis, treatment, and support services.**

The **Neurxtend Foundation** seeks to address these challenges through comprehensive **epilepsy awareness programs**, targeting communities, families, schools, and healthcare providers.

2. Objectives of the Epilepsy Awareness Programs

1. **Increase community understanding** of epilepsy and its causes.
2. **Reduce stigma and discrimination** against people living with epilepsy.
3. **Promote early diagnosis and treatment** through health education.
4. **Empower caregivers and families** with skills to support individuals with epilepsy.
5. **Integrate epilepsy awareness** into schools, community groups, and local health programs.

3. Key Initiatives

A. Community Sensitization Campaigns

- Organize **community meetings, radio talk shows, and public forums** to educate about epilepsy.
- Distribute **educational materials** in local languages, including flyers, posters, and brochures.
- Partner with local leaders and community influencers to **increase reach and acceptance.**

B. School-Based Awareness Programs

- Conduct **educational sessions in primary and secondary schools** on epilepsy.
- Train teachers and school health staff on **identifying seizures and providing first aid.**
- Establish **peer support clubs** for students affected by epilepsy.

C. Caregiver and Family Training

- Organize **workshops for caregivers and parents** on seizure management, safety measures, and psychosocial support.
- Provide guidance on **nutrition, medication adherence, and home care**.

D. Health Worker Capacity Building

- Train **community health workers, nurses, and clinical officers** on epilepsy diagnosis, treatment, and referral pathways.
- Support integration of epilepsy awareness into **primary healthcare programs**.

E. Epilepsy Advocacy

- Collaborate with government agencies and NGOs to **advocate for policies supporting people with epilepsy**.
- Promote **social inclusion and access to education and healthcare services**.

F. Media and Digital Outreach

- Use **radio, social media, and mobile platforms** to disseminate accurate information about epilepsy.
- Share **success stories and testimonials** to reduce stigma and encourage treatment-seeking behavior.

4. Target Beneficiaries

- Children and adults living with epilepsy in Northern Uganda and other regions.
- Caregivers, parents, and family members.
- Schools, community leaders, and local organizations.
- Community health workers and local healthcare providers.

5. Expected Outcomes

- Increased **knowledge and awareness** of epilepsy in targeted communities.
- Reduced **stigma, discrimination, and myths** associated with epilepsy.
- Improved **access to diagnosis, treatment, and care services**.
- Empowered **caregivers and families** to provide effective support.
- Strengthened **community and health system capacity** to manage epilepsy.

6. Sustainability

- Train **local epilepsy champions and peer educators** to continue awareness activities.
- Integrate epilepsy awareness into **existing health outreach programs**.
- Collaborate with **government health offices and NGOs** to ensure long-term support.

Neurxtend Foundation's epilepsy awareness programs aim to **transform perceptions, improve care, and empower communities** across Northern Uganda and Uganda, ensuring that people living with epilepsy can lead **safe, productive, and dignified lives**.