



KFF Entrepreneur Challenge

Supporting Innovations that impact lives of persons with disabilities in Africa

The KFF Entrepreneur Challenge is a competition managed by US-based charity Kadiwaku Family Foundation. The aim of this challenge is to support business ideas of persons with disabilities and innovations that help people with disabilities to main a sustainable level of income and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

About Kadiwaku Family Foundation

Kadiwaku Family Foundation is dedicated to eradicating poverty and inequalities for people with disabilities by applying entrepreneurial approach and increasing DPO capacity to participate in advocacy and decision-making for fully implementation of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at all levels (community, local, and national).

The problem

According to the World Health Organization, 15 percent of the world's population are estimated to live with a disability. Available data indicate that persons with disabilities are at higher risk of poverty than their counterparts without disabilities in both developed and developing world. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) requires that State parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to work on an equal basis with others, including their right to gain a living by work freely chosen or accepted in a labor market and work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible. Unfortunately, in many African countries, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia, where over 15 percent of the population are estimated to live with a disability, no such measures have been taken to help them maintain a sustainable level of income and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Solution

Kadiwaku Family Foundation is committed to enabling young people with disabilities to participate in the market either as an employee or an entrepreneur by providing them with information, tools, training, business support and networking opportunities, alongside the financial award.

The KFF Entrepreneur Challenge

What is KFF Entrepreneur Challenge?

The challenge supports individuals with disabilities who face a range of barriers (such as the presence of stairs and absence of a ramp/elevator, communication barriers, negative perceptions of people with disabilities, and institutional barriers or policies that lead to discrimination against people with disabilities) when it comes to business ownership, and need entrepreneurial skills and/or assistive devices to start and manage their small business successfully, and young entrepreneurs who have business ideas or innovations that can provide employment opportunities to people with disabilities, especially girls and women, in rural areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Program benefits



A place where you can go to co-work and forge relationship, and access to our online platforms.



Networking and business opportunities, and connections with experts for the opportunity to receive advices and ongoing support from experts that can help you bring your businesses to the next level.



3-months of non-residential/online program to improve your entrepreneurial and management skills and to receive tools you need to launch or expand your business.



One-year of free translation services and grant writing assistance



One-year of membership allowing them to receive tax-deductible gifts or soliciting contributions from donors based in the United States, and the opportunity to fundraise on the international platforms



The opportunity to attend our skill-building and networking event in Kindu city, Maniema(DRC)

Timeline

March 2020: Applications open

May 2020: Applications due

June 2019: Finalists announced

June 2020: Winners announced, and Program starts

Theory of change

