The Professional Fellows Program on Inclusive Civic Engagement



Spring 2024 Professional Fellow



Denis Ouma Chief Executive Officer Embellish Consults Limited

"I aspire to leverage the Fellowship to enhance my professional skills, cultivate a deeper understanding of inclusive civic practices, acquire innovative strategies, broaden my professional network, and catalyze positive transformations for the disability community in my region."

Denis, serving as the Chief Executive Officer at Embellish Consults Limited in Kampala, Uganda, has built a team of disability inclusion experts who are proficient in delivering comprehensive training modules to university students. These modules cover important topics, such as leadership ethics, effective communication, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and employability soft skills. They give students a competitive edge in the job market, enhancing their self-esteem and enabling them to advocate effectively for disability inclusion in both academic and non-academic realms.

He holds a bachelor's degree in commerce from Makerere University and a certificate in entrepreneurship and business studies from AVODA Institute of Entrepreneurship for Africa, both located in Kampala, Uganda.

Denis' follow-on project aims to enhance disability support in higher education by recruiting students and mentors, providing customized training, and improving policies. The goal is to empower students with disabilities for educational and career success.

Partnering with a university's disability support center, Denis will recruit incoming students with disabilities for a mentorship and training program. Utilizing his network, he will enlist successful graduates with disabilities as mentors. Mentors will provide ongoing support, emphasizing advocacy for reasonable accommodations and career guidance. Denis and inclusion experts at Embellish Consults Limited will enhance the mentorship with training modules.

Additionally, Denis will collaborate with the university's administrators and staff responsible for support of students with disabilities to review current policies and propose necessary modifications to ensure they are disability inclusive.



The Professional Fellows Program on Inclusive Civic Engagement is a joint project of the Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts Boston and Humanity & Inclusion (HI) with funding support from the US Department of State.