

PARENTS AS ADVOCATES – KEEPING UP THE MOMENTUM AND ENTHUSIASM !

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Parents as Advocates: keeping up the momentum and enthusiasm

The enemy of hearing loss

Why parents

Challenges

Opportunities



THE GREATEST ENEMY OF HL?

Lack of awareness

Hearing loss as an invisible disability

The burden of unaddressed HL borne by the community – Family as the basic unity of a community

Parents are working 24/7 without rest and recreation allowance; no change of shifts
Emotionally exhausting to the parents and family.

In order to circumvent the social stigma,
Parents need: emotional and social support through parents' groups; Education support for professional intervention



Why Parents as advocates

- Parents have the stories: They do what they do, putting in all their worth hoping to harness the future of their children.
- Without budget targets they sacrifice resources to the cultivate the success stories which are the basis advocacy.
- They are not motivated by statistics; their motivation is the transformation in their children's lives
- Parents are the **real deal**.



Challenges and opportunities

Challenges

- More than 90% of deaf children are born to hearing parents
- Financial strain on the family
- Navigating the healthcare system for timely services
- Family relation strains and emotional stress
- Stigma
- Balancing responsibilities: The success of intervention is dependent upon family support

Opportunities

- Early Intervention and Newborn screening
- Empowerment and Advocacy
- Community Support
- Advancements in Technology
- Education and innovation

MY Story: We need to keep up the momentum!

- Hear His Voice Uganda
- World Hearing day
- Tax waivers on hearing technologies
- Partnerships with the University Hospital and Rotary
- Capacity Building: Parents and Professionals

