

## NCD Lab on People Living with NCDs Overview

### Description

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the existing link between NCDs, communicable diseases and health emergencies, and the need to stop addressing health issues in siloes. Both COVID-19 and NCDs are indiscriminate killers, reinforcing one another and disproportionately impacting the poorest communities around the world and the most vulnerable people in every country.

Amidst the profound social inequities exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the world is now working together to find novel ways to tackle the evolving challenge of ensuring inclusive, resilient, and sustainable health care systems. Considering that the NCD response was already at a disadvantage from the lack of investment in the prevention, early diagnosis, screening and appropriate treatment of NCDs, the disruption of health care systems threatens to unwind decades of progress. Particular focus should be accorded to PLWNCDs as they are not only more vulnerable to co-morbidities and exposed to the disruption of health services, but also more likely to develop a serious illness potentially leading to mortality. COVID-19 has revealed the extent of exclusion that the most marginalized communities experience, and the negative impacts they are likely to bear due to the links between COVID-19 and NCDs, including mental health conditions.

The vision for the NCD Lab on PLWNCDs stream is to promote an understanding of the ways in which PLWNCDs can and are being meaningfully involved across various sectors, including government, inter-government organisations and civil society. Through community-led and locally driven projects, the NCD Labs PLWNCDs stream can offer a collaborative platform to nurture and promote ideas, advocacy and solutions that are led by PLWNCDs.

### Co-Chairs – WHO and NCD Alliance

#### Steering Group Members

- **Alex Kwok**, Research Assistant, Arthritis Research Canada
- **Bruno Helman**, Program Coordinator / Founder, International Diabetes Foundation / Running for Diabetes
- **Casja Lindberg**, Consultant, University of Gothenburg Centre for Person-Centred Care
- **Chantelle Booyesen**, Independent Consultant/Advisor, Independent Consultant/Advisor
- **Joab Wako**, Executive Director, Transplant Education Kenya ,
- **Kate Armstrong**, President and Founder, Caring & Living as Neighbours
- **Kate Swaffer**, CEO, Dementia Alliance International
- **Liliana Tieri**, Founder and Director, CUI.D.AR Association for Diabetes Care in Argentina
- **Mark Thomaz Ugliara Barone**, Founder / General Manager, Vice-president Intersectoral Forum to Fight NCDs in Brazil (ForumDCNTs) / International Diabetes Federation (IDF)
- **Michael Uchunor**, Founder, Michael and Francisca Foundation
- **Patrick Browne**, Registered Advanced Nurse Practitioner / Adjunct Lecturer in Nursing Health Service Executive / National University of Ireland Galway/ ICN NP/APN Network
- **Sita Ratna Devi Duddi**, CEO / Chair, Dakshayani and Amaravati Health and Education / International Alliance Of Patients' Organizations (IAPO)
- **Shanthi Mendis**, Senior Consultant, Geneva Learning Foundation
- **Vivienne Sserumaga Mulema**, Senior Manager, Clinton Health Access Initiative
- **Mychelle Farmer**, Immediate Past Chair, NCD Child