## **The Professional Fellows Program on Inclusive Civic Engagement**









**Spring 2024 Professional Fellow** 



## **Shadrack Thomson** Manyogote **Director** Child in Protection and **Disabilities Foundation**

"Through this Fellowship program, I expect to learn many new things that will be very helpful to me and the entire community I'm serving. Also, I'll learn better ways of civic engagement from other Fellows."

Shadrack is a dedicated professional serving as the Director of Child Protection and Disabilities Foundation. a non-profit organization committed to championing the rights of children in Tanzania. With a strong focus on protection and promotion of children's rights, Shadrack leads the organization in its mission to ensure inclusivity and equality for all children.

In his role, Shadrack oversees the development and management of various programs aimed at fostering inclusive communities, particularly through inclusive education initiatives. Currently, he is spearheading inclusive education programs in Mwanza and the Four Lakes regions, striving to create environments where every child, regardless of ability, has access to quality education.

Before assuming his current position, Shadrack served as a Project Coordinator at Tusaidiane Disability Resources Organization, where he advocated for the rights of individuals with disabilities, striving for their full participation in developmental endeavors. His experience in this role provided him with invaluable insights into the challenges faced by marginalized communities, particularly in accessing education and opportunities for growth.

Shadrack holds diplomas in both special education and theology, reflecting his commitment to both academic excellence and serving his community.

His passion for inclusive education is evident in his follow-on project, "Mwalimu mmoja darasa moja" (one teacher, one classroom), which seeks to address the alarming dropout rates among youth with disabilities in primary schools. Drawing from his experience as an inclusive education teacher. Shadrack aims to equip teachers with the necessary skills to support students with diverse needs throughout their primary school journey. He plans to develop supplementary materials to enhance existing teacher training programs, collaborating with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education Science and Technology, regional education authorities, and disability advocacy organizations.

Shadrack's pilot project will involve ten schools, where teachers will receive training and support to implement inclusive practices effectively. Additionally, he intends to distribute the supplementary materials to 120 schools, facilitating discussions among teachers led by Head Teachers. Facilitators will be available to provide ongoing support, ensuring the successful implementation of inclusive education strategies across various school settings.











