



International Conference For Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

On 2nd & 3rd December 2023

**Venue : Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**

A Unique Autism Conference **For Parents & Professionals**

A special opportunity for parents to connect with medical professionals
dealing with Autism and speak to them on one to one basis

Our Keynote Speaker

Temple Grandin

Author, Speaker and
Autism Rights Activist



ICAN

International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

A Unique Conference For Parents and Professionals

 **2nd & 3rd December, 2023**

 **Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**

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About Autism Connect

Autism Connect is an association of parents and professionals formed to disseminate scientifically validated information about therapies and treatments for autism. We at Autism Connect have a single goal that is to help millions of parents and caregivers of children with Autism, with the right information, so that they can make the right informed choices to build a better life for their children.

About ICAN

ICAN - International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopment Disorders is a unique conference for parents and professionals. It serves as a vital platform for experts to exchange knowledge, fostering enhanced care and support. We've chosen Tanzania as the hub for this conference because Africa faces unique challenges in dealing with Autism. Our vision is clear—to establish Tanzania as the center of expertise in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders for the entire African continent.

The rising incidence of Autism is a pressing concern, with the latest research from the USA's CDC revealing a startling 1 in 36 children diagnosed in 2023. In Tanzania and across Africa, cases have surged over the last two decades, presenting significant challenges. Children affected by autism encounter hurdles in communication, lack speech, face barriers in education, and often exhibit hyperactive and aggressive behaviors. The challenges are exacerbated in Africa due to a lack of awareness and cultural beliefs, leading to these children being confined within their homes. Importantly, satisfactory treatments are currently lacking across Africa, leaving many children without the care they need or forcing them to seek advanced treatments abroad. The conference also opens doors for foreign companies to invest in Tanzania, establishing Autism rehabilitation centers, providing expertise, and bridging the resource gap through training and capacity building for Tanzanians.

In the heart of this conference lies hope for our children. ICAN is not just an event; it's a catalyst for change, a beacon illuminating the path toward a brighter future for individuals on the Autism Spectrum. Together, let us embrace this opportunity, working hand in hand to bring hope, support, and expertise to those who need it most.

Our Keynote Speaker

Temple Grandin

Author, Speaker and Autism Rights Activist
USA



AJ Cullen Langell

USA

LICSW, C-AAIS
Founder, Autism Barks



ENG. Shangwe Isaac Mgaya

Tanzania

Registered Behavior Technician (RBT)
Founder and Executive Director of Living
Together Autistic Foundation



Eleonora Palmieri

Italy

Clinical Psychologist, Itard Therapist,
Director Victor Center



Dr. Nageena Akhtar

Dubai

Doctor of Chiropractic (UK)
Chiropractic Practitioner (UAE)



Hope Kizito

Uganda

Occupational Therapist at SCAU
(Save Children with Autism Uganda)



Dr. John Onala

Kenya

Psycho-educational Assessments
and Early Intervention Consultant



Daniele Webster

UK

Neurofeedback Consultant



**Dr. Emile Gouws &
Sammi Gouws**, South Africa

Dr. Emile Gouws is a Doctor of Philosophy,
Specialist Educator and International
Disability Activist & Sammi Gouws is a
Alexic autistic self-advocate from South Africa



Chantelle Shangare

Zimbabwe

Founder and Managing Director MOSH



Danielle Terrell

USA

Autism Advocate



Nadia Ahmed

Tanzania

Clinical Psychologist



Jovan Walukagga

Uganda

Occupational Therapist and a
Reproductive Health Personnel





Malaika Fernandes

UK



Psychologist



Mr. Shaban

Tanzania



Founder & Owner of Autism Therapy and Behaviours Learning Centre (Atblc) & Autism Dad



Wamaratu Chege

USA



Director of Public Policy & Special Projects
Autism Lights Inc



William Arope

Tanzania



Co-Founder & Co-director Maishabora Centre,
Occupational Therapist



Dr. Kaviarasu Balakrishnan

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Ph.D Director, Manushyaa Blossom Pvt Ltd



Dr. Saraswatee Rajiah

Mauritius



Psychologist Specializing in Autism



Dennis Omari

Kenya



Special Needs Educator / Speech and
Language Pathologist.
Director of Rainbow Therapies



Aika Ombeni Wilfred

Tanzania



Occupational Therapist, Vice secretary
of Tanzania Occupational Therapy
Association (TOTA)



Philip Wanguncha

Uganda



Occupational Therapist at
Autism Care Uganda



Billy Boston

Kenya



Special Needs Educator
Founder & Director of Blooming Bud Centre
for special needs children



Claudius Chepkemoi

Kenya



Occupational therapist practitioner /
clinical instructor /Trainer



Elius William

Tanzania



ABA Therapist from Victorious Centre of
Excellence Rehabilitation Center



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Chairman at Autism society of Uganda
and Autism Advocate



Arya Chitra

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Head of Nikon Youth & Kids School



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Behavioral Analyst



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The founder of UCDLC
(Uzayr's Child Development and Learning Center)



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Behaviour Therapist



Shalu Anstey

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Occupational Therapist



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Psychologist



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Founder of 3 Zones Autism Center



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Speaker / Trainer / Educator
PhD Researcher (Inclusive Education / Autism)



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Tanzania

Special Needs Educator



Duncan Musasizi

Kenya

Speech and Language Therapist



Maiko Jimson

Tanzania

ABA Therapist and The first QABA
Certificated in Tanzania



Dr. Prossy Nakanwagi

Uganda

Executive Director Advancing Autism
Family Support Organisation Uganda
Parent and Advocate



Francine Asamba

Kenya

Speech Therapist



Dr. Sylvia Mochabo Akinsiku

Kenya

Founder at Andy Speaks 4 Special Needs
Persons Africa, Board Director at the National
Council for Persons with Disabilities - Ke &
chair of its Finance & Procurement committee



TJ Larum

USA

BCBA and Musician





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Tanzania

Principal at Al Muntazir School
Special Education Needs



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Special Education Consultant and
Speech and Language Therapist



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Kenya

Music & Movement Therapist



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Practicing Clinical Psychologist
School Counselor - ALMIS



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Occupational Therapist.
Muhimbili National Hospital President,
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Pediatric Occupational Therapist



Cecylia Meshy

Tanzania

B A . P & L , MBA, LSSGB Cert
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Clinical Dietician



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MBBS, MSC, MBA, FWACP, FRCP (Edin), Consultant
Neurologist and Sectional Head of Neurology
(Aga Khan Hospital)



Tamara Chansa Kabali

Zambia

Child Psychologist



Diana Ayoo

Kenya

Neurodiversity Advocate, Behavior Analyst
(QBA, IBA), Restaurant Owner.



Debora Maboya

Tanzania

Head of Operation and Programs at Tai





End Keynote Speaker

Tom Iland

Award-Winning Author with Autism
USA



Amar Sonawale

India

Art Curator & Artist



Dr. Rabab Kothari

UAE

Occupational Therapist



Mr. Joseph John Msaka

Tanzania

Physiotherapist at Antonia Verna Community
Based Rehabilitation Centre



Hilda Byemelwa Nkabe

Tanzania

Founder and Executive Director of Lukiza
Autism Foundation Tanzania and
Run 4 Autism Tanzania Half Marathon



Dr. Lekhni Pashine

Tanzania

PhD Nut. BPT, Director - Revive
Physiotherapy Limited



Mukta Singh

Tanzania

Pediatric Occupational Therapist



Dr. Aleya Zulfikar Remtulla

Tanzania

Developmental Paediatrician



Nicholas Ndung'u Irung'u

Kenya

Mr. Autism Kenya 2023 and Founder of
Nichosville Dyslexia_ Shamba Village and
Nicholas Dyslexic Community Ability TV



Ms. Lois Sygfrid Saweru

Tanzania

Physiotherapist at Antonia Verna
Community-Based Rehabilitation Centre



Minal Potnis

India

Face Yoga Therapist



Noelah Godrey Msuya

Tanzania

Special Needs Educator
Founder and Executive Director of
Child Support Tanzania



Anthony Ephraimand

Tanzania

Director of Gabriella Children
Rehabilitation Centre





Deogratias Rweyemamu
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Management Consultant
for St. Joseph School



Lucia Ngigi
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Senior Special Needs Education
Specialist from Victorious Centre of
Excellence - Rehabilitation Centre



Angela Michelle
Kenya

Autism Advocate



Dr. Zohraida Karim
USA

PhD in Early Childhood Education



Dr. Olivia Namusisi Kasenge
Uganda

Medical Epidemiologist and Autism Advocate



Mr. Jonathan Cheruiyot Metet
Kenya

Disability Mainstreaming Champion
Technical University of Mombasa



Yasmeen Alqallaf
Oman

Autism Specialist and Autism Mom



Zainab Mchomvu
Tanzania

Occupational Therapist from Victorious
Centre of Excellence Rehabilitation Center



Emmah Muchoki
Kenya

Psychologist



Hussein Mshunga
Tanzania

Child Psychologist



Isaac Maro
Tanzania

MD, MPH, PhD, Public Health Specialist,
Senior Research Scientist



Deewakarsingh Authelsingh
Mauritius

The Director of SENA



Glimpse of ICAN Dubai 2023



International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

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