

Dear Members of the "Because Health" Network,

I am writing on behalf of **Child-Help**, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus in project countries in the Global South, to formally apply for membership within the **Because Health** network. We believe that our shared goals in improving global health outcomes and ensuring access to quality healthcare for vulnerable populations make Child-Help a valuable partner to your network.

Child-Help's mission is to enable a generation where children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus become thriving adults in an inclusive society working with parties worldwide. Our organization works to ensure that these children receive timely medical treatment, follow-up care, rehabilitation services, and access to education. We collaborate with local healthcare providers, governments, and other NGOs to create sustainable healthcare solutions that empower communities to care for their children. To date, we have established partnerships across several countries in Africa, Latin-America and Asia, and we aim to expand our reach to ensure no child is left behind.

We believe that our **core areas of expertise** would greatly contribute to the goals of the "Because Health" network, particularly in the following ways:

- 1. **Specialized Care for Vulnerable Children**: Child-Help has developed expertise in providing life-saving treatments for children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus. By working with local hospitals, training healthcare professionals, and advocating for early diagnosis and care, we are improving the quality of life for children and families.
- Community Empowerment: Our work is built around sustainable models of care, where local communities are educated and empowered to manage these conditions. Through local capacity-building and education programs, we have been successful in creating awareness, reducing stigma, and improving access to care for children with disabilities.
- 3. Innovative Solutions in Low-Resource Settings: We are proud to have pioneered affordable solutions, such as low-cost shunts for the treatment of hydrocephalus, making treatment more accessible in low-resource environments. These innovations align with the "Because Health" network's goal of improving health outcomes in underserved communities.

Our vision is closely aligned with the mission of the "Because Health" network. Like you, we are committed to fostering global partnerships that address critical health challenges, promote inclusivity, and seek long-term solutions to health inequities. We see great potential

in collaborating with the network's diverse members to **exchange knowledge**, **develop best practices**, and **accelerate impact** in global health. Joining the "Because Health" network would enable us to scale our initiatives, contribute to shared learning, and work towards a more equitable health landscape for all children, especially those living with disabilities.

In return, we are eager to contribute to the collective efforts of the network by offering our **expertise in pediatric care**, **disability inclusion**, and **community health strategies**. Our specialized knowledge in addressing complex health challenges in resource-limited settings could provide valuable insights and complement the network's existing efforts.

We are excited about the opportunity to collaborate with passionate and like-minded organizations and believe that Child-Help's inclusion in the network will foster meaningful partnerships that will strengthen our collective efforts to improve global health outcomes for all.

Thank you for considering our application. We are eager to participate in your dynamic network and look forward to the opportunity to contribute our experience and learn from other members. Please feel free to contact us for any additional information or clarification.

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