Activity Report

Autism Awareness & Community Mobilization Initiative

Collaborating with West Point Women for Health and Development Organization to create awareness and collect data on neurodiverse children and their caregivers



Straight From The Heart International and partners leading the Autism Awareness Initiative in the West Point Community

Location: West Point Community, Monrovia, Liberia
Date of Execution: April 29, 2026

Implementing Organization: Straight From The Heart International Inc.
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Website: https://straightfromtheheartinc.com/

Lead Facilitator: Ibrahim Dukuly, Regional Director

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1. Executive Summary

This report details the operational planning, field execution, resource profile, and forward strategic direction of the independent Autism Awareness Activity implemented in the West Point Community. Organized by Straight From The Heart International Inc. (SFTH) in close collaboration with the West Point Women for Health and Development Organization (WPWHDO), this joint initiative successfully advanced community-led awareness, challenged deep-seated social stigma, and promoted dignity for persons living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Executed entirely through independent resources on April 29, 2026, the activity achieved its primary operational milestone by successfully documenting field registry profiles for 35 undiagnosed neurodiverse children and their primary caregivers. This report outlines the field-derived successes, critical logistical asset challenges, and a clear roadmap for next-stage field interventions.

2. Background and Purpose

This localized grassroots initiative was conceived as a direct response to the national multi-sectoral Stakeholders' Meeting hosted at the Ministry of Health on February 16, 2026. A core recommendation from that assembly highlighted an urgent national need for localized, culturally responsive frameworks to increase grassroots awareness and reduce societal stigma surrounding ASD and IDD.

The West Point Community was strategically selected for its dense population and WPWHDO's robust local presence. This field activation was designed to build a trusted community footprint to ground an upcoming collaborative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) intended to govern inclusive learning spaces, specialized teacher training, caregiver skills cohorts, and psychosocial counseling support.

3. Planning and Collaboration Timeline

The field traction of the initiative relied on systematic planning and joint coordination sessions:

- **Initial Engagement & Framework Design (April 7, 2026):** Held at WPWHDO Headquarters, key leadership, including Ibrahim Dukuly (Regional Director, SFTH) and Nelly S. Cooper (Executive Director, WPWHDO), formally committed to the campaign. Initial mobilization parameters, stakeholder invitation lists, media outreach structures with SKY FM, and data intake metrics were established.
- **Logistical Finalization Meeting (April 20, 2026):** The operational date was finalized for April 29, 2026. Responsibilities were allocated for vendor management, public address systems, venue layout, and seating capacity.

- **Community Mobilization Campaign (April 27–29, 2026):** SFTH deployed three dedicated community mobilizers who utilized handheld megaphones and distributed informational flyers over three days to maximize public interest across the neighborhood.



Planning and coordination session for the field mobilization at WPWHDO Headquarters

4. Field Execution Timeline (April 29, 2026)

The awareness initiative was executed in the field according to a strict timeline:

- **09:00 – 09:30 AM | Arrival and Assembly:** Field teams and local volunteers assembled at the main entrance to West Point to distribute educational brochures and flyers.
- **09:30 – 10:00 AM | Community Awareness Walk:** A high-visibility public march proceeded from the community entrance to the Recreation Park, led by township authorities, women leaders, and civil society partners to champion visibility and inclusion.
- **10:00 – 10:15 AM | Arrival & Opening at the Park:** Rented overhead canopies shielded families, guests, and community participants as they settled.
- **10:15 – 10:25 AM | Welcome Remarks:** Delivered by the Township Commissioner, publicly endorsing localized inclusion and civic commitment to disability rights.
- **10:25 – 10:55 AM | Institutional Remarks:** Advocacy and operational statements were delivered by leadership representing WPWHDO, the Alliance on Disability, and the National Commission on Disabilities (NCD).
- **10:55 – 11:25 AM | Outdoor Awareness Engagement:** Interactive messaging sessions managed by SFTH focused on tracking developmental milestones,

demystifying autism myths, and addressing caregiver questions through a public Q&A format.

- **11:25 – 11:40 AM | Closing & Appreciation:** SFTH summarized core takeaways, extended formal gratitude to community structures, and called for sustained neighborhood-level actions.



Cross-section of neurodiverse children and caregivers listening to awareness messaging from the Regional Director

5. Operational Analysis: Successes and Challenges

Field-Derived Successes

- **Targeted Data Collection Achieved:** Data personnel completed secure intake registries for **35 undiagnosed neurodiverse children** and their caregivers, providing a verified community baseline for immediate intervention.
- **Multi-Sector Stakeholder Alignment:** The activity secured active, visible, on-site endorsement from grassroots leadership (Township Commissioner), civil society networks (Alliance on Disability), and national regulatory bodies (National Commission on Disabilities).
- **High-Impact Visibility Footprint:** The combined deployment of multi-day megaphone mobilizers and a mass public march generated deep neighborhood penetration and strong local engagement inside West Point.

Operational Constraints & Funding Challenges

- **Severe Lack of Internal Logistical Assets:** The organization lacks essential event equipment, creating a total dependency on rented infrastructure. Canopies were used to shield vulnerable children from the sun, and 30 of the 50 participant chairs had to be rented, draining resources into recurring operational overhead.

- **Lack of Dedicated Field Mobility:** The total absence of an organizational utility or field vehicle severely constrained operations. Moving the awareness team, data-tracking personnel, standing public address systems, and outreach materials required extensive, ad hoc logistics.
- **Substantial Venue Cost Overhead:** Securing the centrally located West Point Recreation Park required a rigid facility fee of **$100.00 USD**. Because this activity was funded entirely out of pocket by individual sources rather than through a grant, the single-venue charge accounted for over 34% of the activity budget.

6. Resource and Financial Overview

The activity was sustained by a lean, completely transparent operational budget totaling **$286.83 USD**. Financial deployment comprised three core categories:

- **Venue and Seating Infrastructure ($145.00):** Park usage fees ($100.00), overhead canopy rentals ($40.00), and participant chair rentals ($5.00). (Note: WPWHDO provided 20 internal office chairs to mitigate rental costs.
- **Field Awareness & Public Address ($111.00):** Multi-day field stipends for three community mobilizers ($90.00) and replacement alkaline batteries for the mobilization megaphones ($21.00). (Note: Standing public address speakers and microphones were supplied from SFTH's existing internal inventory.
- **Field Hydration & Refreshments ($30.83):** Bulk procurement of 10 sacks of bottled mineral water ($22.50) and 10 sacks of cooled sachet water ($8.33) for public distribution.

7. Recommendations and Next Steps

Logistical and Structural Recommendations

1. **Procure Permanent Logistical Assets:** Prioritize specialized resource mobilization or dedicated corporate sponsorship to purchase permanent organizational canopies and folding chairs, eliminating recurring infrastructure hire costs for future community work.
2. **Secure Institutional Field Mobility:** Seek targeted utility vehicle donations or transport-specific funding to allow the safe, rapid deployment of field tracking personnel and equipment into neighboring expansion zones (such as Clara Town, District 7, and Duala).
3. **Formalize the Collaborative MOU:** Promptly execute the formal Memorandum of Understanding with WPWHDO to solidify permanent, non-rental mechanisms for local space acquisition, community mapping, and continuous peer support.

Core Programmatic Next Steps

Moving beyond general community awareness, the 35 registered families will be transitioned into an active, case-managed support track:

- **Database Systematization:** Consolidate the 35 field-derived registries into a secure, centralized database for active case tracking.
- **Clinical Diagnostic Referral:** Coordinate and seek partnerships for professional clinical deployments to move these suspected, undiagnosed cases into definitive medical evaluations.
- **Caregiver Skills & Psychosocial Cohorts:** Deploy tailored training modules and mental health counseling to mitigate care-related stresses and build specialized home-care capacities.
- **Direct Service Linkages:** Build active bridges with existing medical networks, inclusive primary classrooms, and broader social safety net systems to ensure long-term coverage.



Cross-section of neurodiverse children and caregivers listening to awareness messaging from the Regional Director



Field data personnel conducting intake registries and capturing family demographics

Activity Photo Annex