



Concept Note for Memorial Lecture and Tribute to Professor Sally Hartley

Theme

“Celebrating a Legacy: Inspiring Inclusive Development.”

Date

10th April 2026

Venue

Sally Diane Hartley Lecture Room
Department of Community and Disability Studies, Faculty of Special Needs and
Rehabilitation, Kyambogo University/Online

Time

9:00 am

Organisers

The Department of Community and Disability Studies , Faculty of Special
Needs and Rehabilitation, Kyambogo University and the CBR Africa Network
(CAN)

Background

The Department of Community and Disability Studies (DCDS), together with the CBR Africa Network (CAN) have organized a memorial lecture in honor of the late Professor Sally Diane Hartley. The lecture, under the theme “*Celebrating a Legacy: Inspiring Inclusive Development*” is scheduled for 10th April 2026 starting at 9:00 am, in the Department of Community and Disability Studies, Faculty of Special Needs and Rehabilitation, Kyambogo University. The occasion will also provide opportunity to Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)/Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) stakeholders across Africa to pay tribute to Professor Sally Diane Hartley. The event will be physical and online.

Professor Sally Diane Hartley committed her life to improving wellbeing of vulnerable persons, particularly persons with disabilities in Africa and world over. Sally made significant contribution in promoting CBR/CBID education, training and practice. She was instrumental in advancing disability responsive policy development and their implementation, research, documentation, and disability information sharing globally. Sally founded the CBR Africa Network and until her death, served as a patron of the Network. Through her networks, Sally financed several other development initiatives and organizations in various countries in Africa and Asia. She directly and indirectly touched lives of many individuals, families and communities. She valued participation, dignity, equity and inclusive development for all. Her vision was to have persons with disabilities and their families fully included, empowered and supported within their communities.

Purpose of the Memorial Lecture

The event will provide opportunity for the CBR/CBID fraternity to:

1. Pay gratitude to God for Professor Sally Hartley’s life and her work with vulnerable persons and communities.
2. Reflect on Professor Hartley’s commitment and contribution to CBR/CBID policy development and implementation, education, training, practice, research, documentation and information sharing.
3. Honour Professor Hartley for her service to humanity and inclusive development in Africa and world over.
4. Renew commitment to CBR/CBID and advance Sally Hartley’s values and work she started in Africa and beyond.

Expected Outcomes

1. Understanding of Sally Hartley's legacy and commitment to champion community-based inclusive approaches across Africa and globally.
2. Commitment to Sally's vision on human diversity and inclusive development.
3. Resolve to advance and sustain CBR/CBID policy and practice, education, training, research, documentation and information sharing.

Expected Participants

The lecture will bring together a diverse range of stakeholders including persons with disabilities, carers, CBR/CBID students, academicians, practitioners and researchers. Also, government officials, actors in Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) and other civil society, development partners, and the CBR/CBID fraternity will attend.

Conclusion

Professor Hartley's legacy is deeply intertwined with lives and aspirations of many individuals and organizations including the CBR Africa Network (CAN) and the Department of Community and Disability Studies, Faculty of Special Needs and Rehabilitation, Kyambogo University. Her unwavering dedication to community engagement, capacity building, and inclusive development will ever leave a lasting positive impact in the lives of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable persons across Africa and beyond. Members of the CBR/CBID fraternity are encouraged to support and to participate in this noble event.