



TCI FELLOWSHIP 2026 RESEARCH FELLOW

1. Background

Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI) is a global Organization of Persons with Disabilities (OPD) led by persons with psychosocial disabilities, working to advance the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). TCI's work emphasizes deinstitutionalization, community inclusion, and the reframing of mental health agendas towards rights-based inclusion.

As part of its Fellowship Program 2026, TCI seeks to appoint a Research Fellow to support and strengthen OPD led and practice based evidence and analysis that can be used for advocacy and policy influence to promote deinstitutionalization.

2. Objective of the Fellowship

2.1 The Research Fellowship aims to:

- ✓ Generate evidence on DI financing by documenting community living/DI models in two TCI member countries and producing a transparent comparative cost analysis against institutional living systems, using mixed methods and clearly stated assumptions and limitations.
- ✓ Produce and disseminate knowledge products that strengthen TCI members' national/regional/global advocacy on deinstitutionalization and community living and support cross member and stakeholder learning on promoting deinstitutionalization.

3. Scope of Work and Key responsibilities:

- ✓ To co-develop research design and documentation plan along with the Secretariat.
- ✓ To develop research tools for the activity (desk research matrix, case study template, Key Informant Interview guides, Focus Group Discussion guides, consent forms, information sheets, note taking templates etc.).
- ✓ To conduct desk research and scoping review (academic and grey literature) on DI/community living models and services in the two selected countries,

institutional living systems and cost drivers, relevant laws/policies, budgets, financing flows and published data relevant to DI financing.

- ✓ To demonstrate experience with basic costing and budget analysis relevant to DI financing, including compiling costs from community living models and triangulating available institutional cost information through desk review and stakeholder consultations.
- ✓ To draft and maintain a literature review matrix and a bibliography citing all resources with their details.
- ✓ To coordinate and support consultations with OPDs and stakeholders through online FGDs and KII, including preparing outreach lists, invitations, schedules, briefing notes and coordination trackers.
- ✓ To conduct/compile session documentation by producing FGD/KII summaries, organizing recordings/notes securely as per ethical considerations.
- ✓ To support data organization, analysis and synthesis by cleaning and compiling qualitative data (notes/transcripts), conducting basic thematic analysis, and supporting comparative insights on cost effectiveness and feasibility across the two countries.
- ✓ To work with the Secretariat and co-draft the research report and dissemination outputs, including development of supplementary materials (policy briefs, advocacy notes, presentations), ensuring accessible formats and CRPD-compliant language, and supporting the online dissemination event and post-launch dissemination.
- ✓ To coordinate review calls with the Secretariat team and relevant members/working group, as and when needed, provide brief monthly progress updates against agreed milestones and deliverables, and flag possible challenges with mitigation steps.
- ✓ To contribute to collaboration and movement learning, by working with TCI members and partners across regions, feeding findings into TCI's regional and global advocacy, and participating in learning exchanges, presentations and dissemination initiatives.
- ✓ To utilize social media platforms for creating awareness about human rights-based approach to psychosocial disability through TCI's #WhatWENeed campaign.
- ✓ The fellowship action plan shall be in-line to the proposed objectives and context laid out in the policy note and shall finalize it in consultation with secretariat after selection for the fellowship.

3.1 Reporting and Supervision

- ✓ *The Fellow will report monthly to the TCI Secretariat*
- ✓ *Ongoing mentoring and technical support will be provided by TCI members and Secretariat*