

### NEURODIVERSITY: Valuing Differences is a Collective Advantage

Being able to embrace diversity in all its forms is a key aspect of life in the 21st century.

#### **PREPARED BY**

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PROPOSAL

NEURODIVERSITY: Valuing Differences is a Collective Advantage

### **OUR VISION**

The Neurodiversity Foundation aims to bridge the gaps for all neurotypes to thrive. We envision a neuroinclusive society that embraces all types of minds.

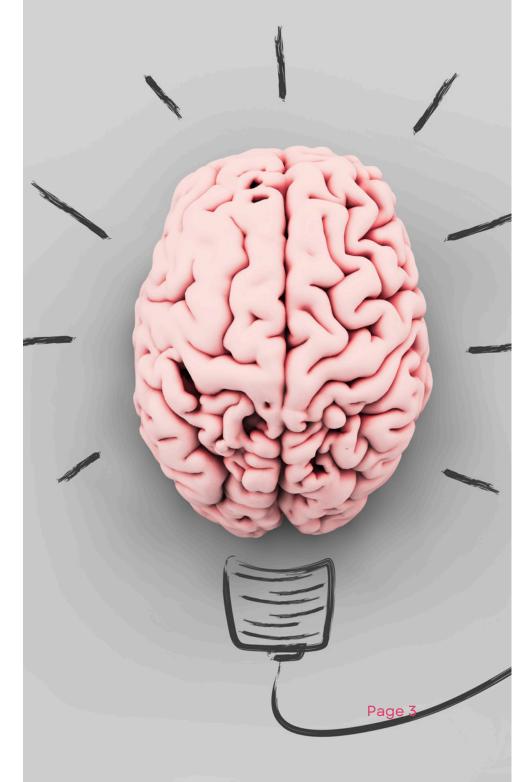
We believe that each brain contributes a unique beauty to this world, and we work to enhance society to enable all neurodivergents to flourish in life.

### **OUR MISSION**

To foster a positive societal impact, we develop projects, tools, and events that support and advocate for neurodiversity in our four key focus areas, positioning ourselves as a leading local organization and a significant global player.

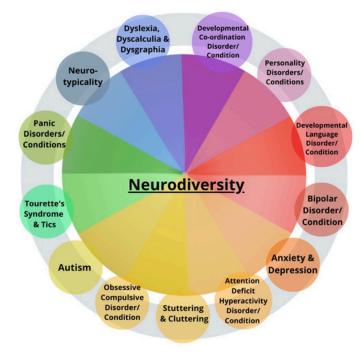
We are on a mission to make Neurodiversity the new pillar of inclusion, in workplaces, in schools, and in our personal lives.

NEURODIVERSITY FOUNDATION



### **OUR CORE BELIEFS**





### We believe that...

Understanding neurodiversity makes a person a better colleague, a better friend, a better partner, a better leader, a better you.

We need all types of minds to solve our problems. And we need friends of all neurotypes in our life and work.

Each unique mind brings useful strengths and talents to the table. And neuroinclusion makes any team stronger.



### Who We Are



#### Tjerk Feitsma, Director Neurodiversity Foundation

Born brazen, Tjerk has 15 years of experience in boldly creating ambitious projects, social impact companies, teams and charitable foundations gravitating around the idea we can make this world a better place, when we utilize ourselves as the catalysts of change. Sociologist by education, autistic by mind, kind by nature, he gets the nickname of "titanium spine", which is fueled with neverending idealism, and a person who is inspired by the love he sees in everyday people.



### **Lana Jelenjev,** Chairperson of the Board NDF, co-founder Neurodiversity Education Academy (NEA)

With more than 20 years experience in the field of educational consultancy, curriculum design and learning experience design, Lana brings her wealth of experience, dedication and passion in creating educational reforms to NEA. Her wish is to see equitable, inclusive and progressive schools that greatly amplify learners' strengths. She loves facilitating spaces for conversations around the themes of giftedness, neurodiversity, strengths-based curriculum design and community building.



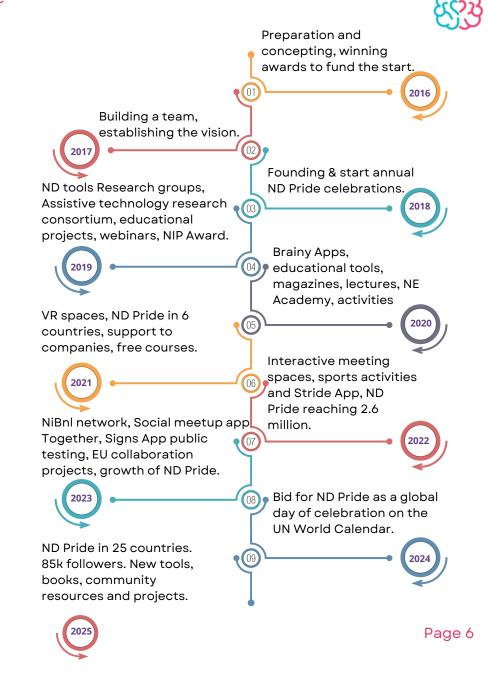
#### Saskia Wenniger Co-founder, Programs and Coaching Lead, NEA

Saskia is a learning designer, a media scholar and Strengths based life coach specializing in ADHD. She adores learning, interacting in communities of practice and collaborating with people who have similar interests and values, especially when it comes to co creating a more (neuro)diversity friendly future that can uplift the next generations into solving the problems of the future together.

### HOW WE STARTED

The Neurodiversity Foundation began as an ambitious dream in 2016, driven by our desire to make the world a better, more inclusive place for all neurodivergent individuals, no matter their specific neurotype. Back then, the terminology and concept of neurodiversity were not widely recognized or understood. Our aim was to foster a kinder world that appreciates our differences and celebrates the beauty they bring.

In 2018, we established a non-profit foundation with a vision that spans both local and international communities.



NEURODIVERSITY: Valuing Differences is a Collective Advantage

### WE ARE PROUD OF OUR NEURODIVERSITY PRIDE DAY!





NOW IN ITS 8TH YEAR OF CELEBRATION! Neurodiversity Pride Day is an international celebration dedicated to all neurodivergent individuals. A variety of events will take place online, in virtual reality, and "in person" during ND Pride week around June 16th.

Celebrated in 15 countries during its 7th edition and reaching over 1.5 million participants, the event aims to expand to 25 countries for its 8th edition. This special day was established by the Neurodiversity Foundation in 2018. Neurodiversity Pride Day 2025 will take place from June 10th to 17th, featuring a variety of activities. This special day celebrates the uniqueness of neurodivergent individuals and highlights the importance of neurodiversity in our society. It is an occasion to honor everyone who is neurologically distinct, celebrated globally by neurodivergents and their supporters, including allies and organizations that promote neuroinclusivity.

The day includes several 'ND Pride traditions,' such as raising the flag, conferences, meetups, sharing a message of pride, and more, with the day maintaining a positive focus. However, the most significant tradition is to take a moment for each neurodivergent individual to reflect on the unique beauty they contribute to the world.



### Why Work with Us?

### The core pillars of our work with educators, teams, schools, companies, organizations and communities.



#### Awareness and Pride

A key aspect of our advocacy involves introducing, promoting, and engaging individuals with the concept of Neurodiversity, integrating it into mainstream society. We aim to reshape perceptions and foster acceptance of neurodiversity as a valuable asset for society. Through our national and international events, we champion self-acceptance, belonging, awareness, and pride.



#### **Education and Belonging**

Enhancing the skills and competencies required by families, schools, businesses, organizations, and communities through various resources such as learning materials, workshops, training sessions, webinars, and online courses. Promoting neuroinclusive families, classrooms, organizations, and communities through the Neurodiversity Education Academy.



#### Research and Innovation

Developing clear call to action in our pathway for change through research and collaborative projects with educational institutions, Erasmus+ and other agencies. We also develop assistive technology for neurodiverse communication.



#### **Network and Collaboration**

We connect and collaborate with different organizations, institutions and communities that are advocating for neuroinclusion. We also support in introducing neurodiversity to organizations.





#### **Neurodiversity Pride Day Celebrations**

Day of Pride celebrating neurodivergent uniqueness and the value of neurodiversity, worldwide.



#### **Neurodiversity Education Academy**

Educational branch creating workshops, magazines and tools supporting schools. Creating a community for late diagnosed NDs.



#### **Athens Research Consortium**

Delivering the first personal sign language AI, translator and messenger, focused on neurodivergent families.



#### **NeuroEmergence**

A 3 day immersive online Summit, with workshops, keynotes and talks about Neurodiversity and Brain Awareness.





#### Neuroinclusive Politician Award/ND Advocacy and Political Lobby

Nomination, evaluation and awarding of the winning most ND Friendly politician. Supporting politicians to make neuroinclusive legislations



#### **Brain Awareness Week Celebrations**

Promoting understanding and awareness of our amazing and creative brains as part of Brain Awareness Week International celebrations.



#### **Neurodiversity In Business**

Founding members of Neurodiversity in Business-The Netherlands. Aimed at promoting Neuroinclusion in the workplace.



#### ND Alliance & Advisory in workplaces

Creation of endorsed social support systems in organizations for ND workers. Adivising organizations to become more Neuroinclusive.



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#### Stride Sports Program

Shared sports achievement action for neurodivergents, tracked with Stride App



#### **Neurodance & Neurodive**

Event for neurodivergents to dance and meet each other socially



#### **Brainy App**

The Brainy App allows you to become more aware of your own 'Brain Strengths' and the activities you do to promote it. This was created as part of the Brain Awareness Week Celebration.



#### **Neurodiversity Friendly Schools Program**

This program is for teachers and schools that are interested in improving their learning environment to suit more children and support them to grow.





#### **Autvinder Awards**

New innovative project to find and award the best autistic inventor of the nation.

## Together

#### **Together**

Social meetup for neurodivergents to make inviting another neurodivergent to do something together in a safe way.



#### DesignYour Life (Toolkit for Young Autistics)

Solution driven toolkit for young autistics and translations. This is done in collaboration with Design Your Life Consortium



### Lobbying for Neurodiversity in the EU

Promoting Neurodiversity as one of the pillars of diversity in the European Union.



#### **ND Hacks**

Online Platform dedicated to neurodivergent inventors generating solutions for daily issues they face.



#### **Mikel Rijsdijk Grant**

The 4th edition of the Mikel Rijsdijk Memorial Grant enables neurodivergents with a financial barrier with free coaching, support and products





#### Publications & Video Presentations

We create training and

educational tools for schools and organizations. Our publications include My Amazing Brain, My Creative Brain, and What's STRONG With You? We also have a rich library of video presentations from prominent speakers.



#### **Brain Strengths Card Deck**

Tool for facilitators, trainers, coaches, teachers and team leaders to use in naming and identifying strengths in their environments.



#### Strengths-Based Questions Card Deck

40 Strengths-Based Questions to help you get into strengths- based conversations with your family, team, students, and members of the community.



#### What's STRONG With You? From Deficits to Strengths

20+ tools, reflection and activity

worksheets, and resource cards that you can use to notice how you use your strengths, recognize patterns in leading and engaging with your strengths and make your strengths visible in your day-to-day life

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#### What's ALIVE in You? From Camouflage to Courage

Our second book, focussing on the importance of emotional regulation.



#### What's STRONG With You? (teens)

A workbook for neurodivergent teens to help boost their confidence.



#### **Growth Mindset Question Cards**

Deck of 24 questions that you can use for schools to promote growth mindset.



### Our Community and Collaborative Projects



ND Online Community Gatherings Powered by HyHyve

Monthly online community gatherings hosted in HyHyve platform.



Research Projects and Research Fellows Program

Multiple research consortia, including non-verbal signs language interpreter tool, student groups & a annual cohort of researchers producing new insights.



Erasmus+

Collaborations with other NGOs on Erasmust+ Projects

We are partner in multiple european projects, like "Hopeland", "Limbo" and lead "the Barefoot Coaching Program" in partnerships with organisations in other European countries.



### **Our Dream**

Our vision is a society that recognizes the importance of neurodiversity, amplifies strengths and provides accessibility to all neurotypes.

We believe that it is crucial for society to create neurodiverse friendly homes, schools and workplaces that support all neurotypes. We envision a world where representation is everywhere.

A place where neurodivergent individuals can discover and engage with inspiring role models-people who have embraced their unique differences and achieved success.

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### What We Offer

We are an educational and training platform focused on awareness, advocacy and capacity building for parents, schools, companies, and organizations. We support schools, businesses, and organisations to develop their capacity to promote neuroinclusive environments. Broadly, we address three key areas:

- Amplifying Strengths
- Emotional and Relational Agility
- Fostering Deeper Resilience

We've worked internationally with varied organisations over the past years and have provided in-house trainings, introductory and deep dive sessions, and consultancy services.





### **Our Offerings**



#### Workshops and Learning Labs

We offer public workshops and learning sessions on various topics ranging from Brain Awareness, Strengths-Based Practices, Designing Neuroinclusive Spaces, and also Social and Emotional Awareness and Support.



#### **Personal and Leadership Coaching**

We partner with qualified coaches who offer support for team members, leaders, HR, managers, teachers, and other members of schools, companies, or organizations.



#### In-House Trainings and Consultancy (Bespoke)

We provide tailored training for schools, organizations, and companies that addresses current needs. Additionally, we offer comprehensive support in designing, assessing, and implementing neuroinclusive practices.



#### **Keynote Speeches and Presentations**

We hold the conviction that fostering neurodiverse-friendly environments-homes, schools, and workplaces-is essential for society to support all neurotypes. To promote and inspire action towards greater neuroinclusivity, we offer presentations, talks, and keynote speeches for events, summits, or gatherings.



### Topics for Talks/Presentations

During the scoping and co-designing phase, we will figure out together what topic/s will best suit your organization. To give you an idea of what we can offer, here are **some** of the topics that we can give presentations, keynote address, or workshops on:

#### **INTRODUCTORY SESSIONS (60-90 minute sessions)**

- From Disability to Divergence: Why Understanding Neurodiversity is Important For All
- The Power of Neurodiversity in the Workplace/ Schools
- Fostering a Culture of Empathy, Belonging and Neuroinclusion

#### FULL-DAY SESSIONS (2-3 hour sessions per topic)

- Bridging the Gap: Designing Neuroinclusive Spaces Where All Neurotypes Thrive
- What's Strong With You? From Deficits to Strengths
- Making Your Executive Functioning Skills Work For You
- Trauma-informed and Healing-centered Leadership

#### **MULTI-DAY SESSIONS (RETREATS)**

We also offer multi-day sessions as a stand-alone retreat or as part of an existing programme.



### How to Support Us

Creating a better world comes with significant costs. To continue our efforts and expand our impact, we rely on financial support. We sincerely hope for your assistance.

We are looking for corporate 'friends' who are willing to partner with us or provide sponsorships. This generous support will help cover the expenses of our ongoing initiatives while allowing our ambitions and influence to flourish.



**Sponsorships** help us organize specific activities as a one-time donation.

**Partnerships** enable us with ongoing funds to grow our organization.

Connect with us for sponsorship or partnership opportunities.



### SPONSORSHIPS

In sponsorship, we value generosity to enhance the world. For events like Neurodiversity Pride Day, we seek sponsors to cover costs, acknowledging their support with logo placement on our website and marketing materials. Currently, we are looking for sponsorships for:



#### Support Neurodiversity Pride Day

Neurodiversity Pride Day celebrations are the worlds only day of pride celebrating the uniqueness of all neurodivergent individuals, and their value to society at large.



#### Support Neurodiversity Foundation

The Neurodiversity Foundation jumpstarts the move towards a society that embraces all types of minds.



#### Support Neurodiversity Education Academy

Neurodiversity Education Academy supports teachers, facilitators, coaches, parents, and professionals in fostering and designing for neuroinclusive systems and societies.



### Talk to Us

Let us support you and your family, school, business, organization, or community.



#### Websites:

https://neurodiversiteit.nl https://neurodiversityeducationacademy.org https://neurodiversityprideday.com https://autvinder.nl



#### E-mail

info@neurodiversiteit.nl hello@neurodiversityeducationacademy.org



### **Telephone number** +31 614034299

#### Address:

Tiengemeten 131, 1181CS, Amstelveen, The Netherlands



#### Bank IBAN:

NL41INGB0008401131

#### NEURODIVERSITY FOUNDATION

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# The world needs all types of minds.



### PARTNERSHIPS

In partnership we want to help our "friends" to move forward. In partnerships we accept donations and offer services as gifts to the partner, that contribute, enhance or support the organization in matters specific to neurodiversity. The partner can choose which 'annual gift' suits their needs best during their partnership. Each partner will be offered a partnership conversation to explore the best option. The level of the partnership influences the amount or type of support and/or services we provide.

#### GOLD

#### **BENEFITS**

A keynote address by the founder or the chair for a company event.

Supporting the creation of a ND network in the organization.

Workshop, online or offline, on neurodiversity or related topics.

#### PLATINUM

#### **BENEFITS**

Multi session training, online or offline, on neurodiversity and/or related topics.

Management coaching on neurodiversity, individually or as a group.

Conflict mediation and career/life coaching

#### GRAPHENE

#### **BENEFITS**

All of Gold and Platinum perks plus: Feedback and/or revision on job hiring policies and/or recruitment materials.

Policy evaluation or suggestions

Services custom to the needs of the partner