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00:00:01,240 --> 00:00:08,120

(Interviewer)

Tedros Markos Tekle, self advocate and accessibility advocate.

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00:00:08,120 --> 00:00:12,970

(Tedros Markos Tekle)

In December 2017 I came here, I didn't know where to start.

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00:00:12,970 --> 00:00:28,660

There was no, you know, the the resettlement agency that was supposed to provide the services, our orientation I deserve.

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00:00:28,660 --> 00:00:35,380

What they just did was nothing different from what they would do to other refugees.

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00:00:35,380 --> 00:00:40,180

You know, they didn't take my disability into account.

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00:00:40,180 --> 00:00:47,770

They didn't, it looks like they didn't have enough training with regards to multicultural.

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00:00:47,770 --> 00:00:52,300

The first thing is, I myself, I'm a refugee, a refugee with a disability.

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00:00:52,300 --> 00:01:01,930

There is some intersectionality in there. This is the community that hasn't gotten the attention it deserves.

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00:01:01,930 --> 00:01:09,520

So, in fact, to the best of my knowledge, there are strong refugee communities and if any,

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00:01:09,520 --> 00:01:16,810

actually their activities are limited by the policies and laws of the government.

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00:01:16,810 --> 00:01:24,140

We really need strong advocacy groups and communities and also individuals, A,

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00:01:24,140 --> 00:01:33,400

that debunk the myths about refugees and B, that advocate for information,

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00:01:33,400 --> 00:01:43,490

accessible information and services in a multicultural, multicultural context.

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00:01:43,490 --> 00:01:57,184

(Interviewer)

A partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago Institute on Disability and Human Development, and Illinois Department of Human Services IDHS.