1
00:00:01,660 --> 00:00:09,020
(Interviewer)
Tedros Markos Tekle self advocate and accessibility advocate.

2
00:00:09,020 --> 00:00:14,660
(Tedros Markos Tekle)
The first point that comes to my mind is the humanitarian perspective.

3
00:00:14,660 --> 00:00:23,960
So, you know, as US agencies working with communities, so when we talk
about community, we are talking about diversity.

4
00:00:23,960 --> 00:00:33,140
We are talking about multicultural context. So there are people with
diverse backgrounds.

5
00:00:33,140 --> 00:00:40,340
And a disability, as we all know, is of course, it can be visible as
well as it can be invisible.

6
00:00:40,340 --> 00:00:43,280
We don't really know who our clients are.

7
00:00:43,280 --> 00:00:54,650
We don't really know what types of services they really need to get
and what type of accessibility needs to be to be addressed.

8
00:00:54,650 --> 00:01:01,820
So if we are working on these things from scratch, then it's quite
easier to address.

9
00:01:01,820 --> 00:01:06,350
Even if issues arise later, it's easier to address them easily.

10
00:01:06,350 --> 00:01:18,320
But, you know, if we are trying to address accessibility, disability
issues, once justice issues crop up, then it can it can cost them a
lot.

11

00:01:18,320 --> 00:01:29,390
You know, if we are trying to address accessibility, disability issues, once, you know, justice issues crop up, then it can it can cost them a lot.

12
00:01:29,390 --> 00:01:34,730
I mean, not only the community, US is a land of diversity.

13
00:01:34,730 --> 00:01:43,370
This is a land of diversity. So it's always good to plan to be inclusive for everyone.

14
00:01:43,370 --> 00:01:47,120
You know, Americans who were born and raised here.

15
00:01:47,120 --> 00:01:58,760
If we empower people with the right tools and resources, they can be more productive and they can contribute a lot to the economy of the country.

16
00:01:58,760 --> 00:02:09,260
And looks like we're not we're not having enough training centers and enough attention is not being provided in this regard.

17
00:02:09,260 --> 00:02:16,430
So, you know, you still see so many issues, even with government websites, with the government services,

18
00:02:16,430 --> 00:02:25,820
and in improving accessibility as well as expanding assistive technology can minimize,

19
00:02:25,820 --> 00:02:34,440
you know, it can reduce the barriers and also enhance productivity.

20
00:02:34,440 --> 00:02:48,426
(Interviewer)
A partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago Institute on Disability and Human Development, and Illinois Department of Human Services IDHS.