



Empower Partnerships for Inclusive Communities

Global Summit on Disability Inclusion
October 29-November 2, 2013 Washington, D.C. USA



Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by Mobility International USA (MIUSA).



United Nations' Disabilities Treaty

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ("Disabilities Treaty") was created to promote, protect, and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities. The Empower Partnerships program will have a particularly strong impact on partner organizations in less developed countries by assisting the efforts of people with disabilities to form alliances and leverage the commitments made by their governments to the Disabilities Treaty to address barriers to inclusion.

Over 130 countries have ratified the treaty and there are 155 signatories working to remove barriers and improve the lives of people with disabilities worldwide.

EMPOWER PARTNERSHIP

The Empower Partnerships program is a prestigious, two-way international exchange program for organizations working on or interested in working on disability-related issues and inclusion as articulated in the United Nations' Disabilities Treaty. This program aims to create sustainable organizational partnerships between organizations in the U.S. and overseas, expanding the capacity of each organization to promote disability inclusive communities, and to advance disability rights.

Empower Partnerships is administered by Mobility International USA and sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

In summer 2013, most American partners traveled overseas to gain an understanding of disability access and inclusion in their partners' country.

In October 2013, a three-week program in the U.S. will provide international partners with tools to foster sustainable partnerships and will establish a common human rights framework for implementation of projects that promote rights and inclusion of people with disabilities in their respective communities. Program activities take place in MIUSA's hometown of Eugene, Oregon, partner host communities across the U.S., and will conclude in Washington, D.C. with the Global Summit on Disability Inclusion.

Learn more about the program at www.miusa.org.

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What is a Disabled People's Organization?

A DPO is an organization that is led by people with disabilities. DPOs are representative organizations or groups of people with disabilities, where people with disabilities constitute a majority of the overall staff and board, and are well-represented in all levels of the organization.

Organizations led by families and other advocates of people with disabilities, with the primary goal of empowerment and the development of self-advocacy of persons with disabilities, may also be considered as DPOs. DPOs work from an understanding of disability from a human rights or social (vs. medical) model perspective.

INTRODUCTION TO PARTNER TEAMS

Nineteen Empower Partnership teams have been formed to work together to promote disability inclusion and advance disability rights globally. Each partnership team includes three organizations:

- U.S. partner organization with expertise in inclusive programming and practices.
- In-country partner that is a Disabled People's Organization (DPO) or disability advocacy organization.
- In-country partner that is a civil society institution for which disability inclusion is a priority.

Empower teams are working on collaborative projects that increase access and promote inclusion of people with disabilities across many professional sectors. Projects range from inclusive education, independent living, healthcare and reproductive rights, law and policy, legal aid, recreation and sports, access to public services, and advocacy for youth, women, and minority disability groups.



ARGENTINA



Association Azul

La Plata, Buenos Aires

A non-governmental organization that supports the independent living of people with disabilities.



www.asociacionazul.org.ar

Hospital Subzonal Especializado José Ramos Mejía

Melchor Romero, Buenos Aires

A hospital, administered by the Ministry of Health, that supports the community integration of women with intellectual disabilities.



www.ms.gba.gov.ar/sitios/hramosmejia

IndependenceFirst, Inc.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

A community-based, non-residential Independent Living Center that facilitates empowerment of people with disabilities through education, advocacy, services, and coalition building.



www.independencefirst.org

Training People with Disabilities to be Community Advocates

Team Argentina is developing a series of trainings for people with disabilities on the principles of independent living and skills for community advocacy. The partners will conduct these trainings for individuals in secondary schools, day centers and other locations serving individuals with disabilities. The team will follow trainees to document outcomes, and will use success stories to support requests for funding and partnership to expand the program.



Bangladesh Early Childhood Inclusive Education Integration Project

Team Bangladesh's project focuses on the inclusion of young children with disabilities in schools. The team will provide training to parents, advocacy professionals, and teachers on theoretical and practical aspects of integration of children with disabilities into mainstream classroom settings. The training curriculum will include content and materials developed during a 10-day exchange with the University of Oregon.



BANGLADESH



Bangladesh Protibandhi Kallyan Somity (BPKS)

Dakkhin, Uttara

A Disabled People's Organization (DPO) committed to empowering people with disabilities to be self-reliant and active in the development of a non-discriminatory society.



www.bpkssbd.org

Protibandhi Shishu Shiekkha O Paricharja Samity (PROSHIPS), *a BRAC Pre Primary School*

Islampur, Jamalpur District

A non-governmental school that provides educational support to underprivileged children.



www.brac.net

University of Oregon, College of Education, Family and Human Services Program, Early Childhood CARES

Eugene, Oregon

A university affiliated program that provides early intervention and early childhood special education to infants, toddlers, and preschool age children with developmental delays or disabilities.



earlychildhoodcares.uoregon.edu

BRAZIL



Association of Friends of the Sao Rafael Institute (AAISR)

Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais

A non-governmental organization that builds the capacity of professionals across many sectors to ensure the participation of people with disabilities in society.



(55) 318-7623675

State Secretariat of Sports and Youth (SEEJ)

Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais

A government agency that coordinates public policies aimed at training young people and promoting sport, physical activity, and social integration.



www.esportes.mg.gov.br

Wheelchair Athletics Program at the University of Illinois Champaign, Illinois

A division of the University's disability resources and educational services that provides opportunities to students with disabilities to enhance their goals for athletic, recreational, leisure, and personal well-being within a supportive and stimulating environment.



www.disability.illinois.edu

Capacity Building for Sports Training in Paralympic Athletics and Swimming

Team Brazil will design and conduct four training courses on Paralympic swimming and athletics for physical education students and professionals, including specific assessments for determining intensive training regimens for athletes with disabilities. The team will focus on the use of sport as an effective strategy for inclusion, as articulated in the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



Partnering for Disability Inclusive Aquatics

Team China is collaborating to develop inclusive community aquatic programs and to expand opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in aquatic sports. The team is providing workshops on adapted aquatics to university students, educators and community members, and will use an Empower Partnerships grant to establish an inclusive aquatic training program at Guangzhou Sports University.



CHINA



Guangzhou English Training Center for the Handicapped (GETCH)

Guangzhou

A Disabled People's Organization (DPO) that aims to provide equal higher education, employment, and recreation opportunities for youth with disabilities.



www.getch.org.cn

Guangzhou Sports University (GZSU)

Guangzhou

An educational institution that educates creative, ethical, and socially responsible professionals in the sport, recreation, and health fields.



www.at0086.com/GZSPU/

Special Needs Aquatic Program (SNAP) at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

Stevens Point, Wisconsin

A university-based program that implements aquatic programs for under-represented populations in an inclusive environment and provides adapted physical education training for university students.



www.uwsp.edu/peat/Pages/SNAP.aspx

COLOMBIA



Arcangeles Foundation for Integral Rehabilitation

Bogota

A non-governmental organization that works toward an inclusive and sustainable world for future generations by empowering people with disabilities and other vulnerable communities.



www.arcangeles.org

Human Rights Research Group at Rosario University Law School

Bogota

An academic institution that works to provide education in the human rights arena, including researching, participating in, and teaching technical support.



www.urosario.edu.co

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Chicago, Illinois

An independent living center that fosters the dignity, pride, and self-esteem of people with disabilities and enhances the options available to them so they may choose and maintain individualized and satisfying lifestyles.



www.accessliving.org

Action Coalition: Community Building, Empowerment and Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Team Colombia will build leadership and promote advocacy among men and women with diverse disabilities in Bogotá by developing a plan of action to implement current legislation. Team members will conduct research and develop guidelines and strategies for advocacy for other emerging disability rights groups.



Inclusion and Empowerment of People with Disabilities

Team Dominican Republic launched a campaign to educate community and government members on enforcement of the national Law for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The project trains self-advocates in the disability community, who in turn will train other people with disabilities about their rights under domestic legislation and the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Read the
project's blog
ablesc.wordpress.com

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



Circle of Women with Disability (CIMUDIS)

Santo Domingo

A non-governmental organization that brings together women with physical, visual, and hearing disabilities to promote and strengthen the rights of women with disabilities.



(18) 296-797437

Research Center for Feminist Action (CIPAF)

Santo Domingo

A non-governmental feminist organization that defends the rights of women and girls through advocacy, research, and training.



www.cipaf.org.do

Able South Carolina

Columbia, South Carolina

An independent living center that empowers people with disabilities to live active, self-determined lives through advocacy, service, and support.



www.able-sc.org

ETHIOPIA



Ethiopian Women with Disabilities National Association

Addis Ababa

A Disabled People's Organization (DPO) that builds the capacity of women with disabilities and advocates for their right to participate in government and civil society.



(25) 191-1451717

Ethiopian Human Rights Commission

Addis Ababa

A government agency that works to protect human rights through awareness building, monitoring, research, and government advising.



www.ehrc.org.et

Disability Rights Clinic at Syracuse University, College of Law, Office of Clinical Legal Education

Syracuse, New York

A law school clinic that assists individuals with disabilities who are denied their rights because of their disability and helps advocacy groups representing the disabled community.



www.law.syr.edu/academics/clinical-legal-education/disability-rights-clinic.aspx

Providing Access to Justice for Women with Disabilities

Team Ethiopia will provide free legal aid services, psychosocial support and follow-up for Ethiopian women with disabilities who experience assault and violence. The project seeks to enhance their capacity to access police, defense attorneys, prosecutors and the courts in order to obtain justice from the legal system.

Read the
project's blog
michaelschwartz53.wordpress.com

Gender-Based Violence Prevention

Team India is developing and delivering trainings to disability and women's rights groups on the eradication of violence against women and girls with disabilities. The team will also utilize diverse mass media platforms to educate women with and without disabilities, the public and the government on violence prevention, and to build a constituency for joint strategic action to address this widespread problem.



Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy

Kolkata, West Bengal

A non-governmental organization that seeks to bring about positive changes in the lives of all people with cerebral palsy, through a range of policies and service provisions.



www.iicpindia.org

SWAYAM

Kolkata, West Bengal

A non-governmental, non-profit women's rights organization committed to ending violence against women and children.



www.swayam.info

Women Enabled, Inc.

Washington, D.C.

A non-governmental organization that advocates and educates for the human rights of all women and girls, with an emphasis on women and girls with disabilities, to include them in international resolutions, policies, and programs addressing women's rights and development.



www.womenenabled.org

ISRAEL



The Israel Human Rights Center for People with Disabilities (Bizchut)

Jerusalem

A disability rights advocacy organization that monitors, challenges, and changes discriminatory policies and practices.



www.bizchut.org.il/en

Research Institute for the Health and Medical Professions at Ono Academic College, Occupational Therapy Program

Kiryat Ono

An academic institute that works to change the face of Israeli society by addressing social issues, striving for academic excellence, and promoting access to higher education for all sectors.



www.ono.ac.il/?lang=en

Full Access

Eugene, Oregon

A non-governmental organization that works to ensure that all people live, work, and recreate in their community, consistent with their preferences and choices.



www.fullaccess.org

Independent Advocacy for People with Intellectual Disabilities

Team Israel is working to create an infrastructure that will support and encourage independent advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities in Israel. The partners are developing a core forum of activists, outreaching to people with intellectual disabilities through social media activity and providing guidelines for external audiences to support independent advocacy.

Read the
project's blog
[sblumtravels.
blogspot.co.il](http://sblumtravels.blogspot.co.il)

Stop Gender-Based Violence Against Women and Girls with Disabilities

Team Kenya is conducting a campaign to end violence against girls and women with disabilities through trainings, outreach and straight talks, and ensuring that authorities serve and protect females with disabilities. Their vision is a safe, just environment where women and girls with disabilities live to reach their full potential.

KENYA



Disability and Women Development Strategies (DWDS)

Kisumu

A non-governmental organization that works to improve the status and quality of life of women and girls with disabilities in rural African communities.



www.dwds-online.org

Pambazuko La Wanawake Magharibi

Kisumu

A non-governmental organization that works to empower women and vulnerable youth to demand their rights.



(25) 472-3425163

SafePlace - Travis County Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Survival Center

Austin, Texas

An inclusive program that aims to end sexual and domestic violence through safety, healing, prevention, and social change.



www.SafePlace.org



MACEDONIA



Mobility Challenge (MC)

Skopje

A non-profit organization that empowers people with disabilities, especially women with disabilities, to achieve full integration into society.



www.mobilitychallenge.weebly.com

Health Education and Research Association (HERA)

Skopje

A non-governmental organization that works toward the achievement of sexual and reproductive rights for all people and access to high quality and confidential healthcare services, including prevention and care for sexually transmittable infections and HIV.



www.hera.org.mk

Center for Research on Women with Disabilities (CROWD) at Baylor College of Medicine

Houston, Texas

A university affiliated center that promotes, develops, and disseminates information to improve health and expand the life choices of women with disabilities.



www.BCM.edu/crowd

Woman Within: Awareness of Sexual Health & Reproductive Rights for Women with Disabilities

Team Macedonia will initiate a comprehensive program for education about sexual and reproductive health rights for young women with physical or sensory disabilities in Macedonia. The partners aim to transform a girl with disabilities from an object of exploitation to an informed woman, able to reach her own decisions and make responsible choices regarding her own sexuality, reproductive rights, and plans for motherhood.

Read the
project's blog
pelvichealthmacedonia.blogspot.com

Improving Students with Disabilities' Access to Written English as a Second Language

Team Malaysia's goal is to ensure that school children with learning disabilities acquire the skills to read and spell English at an average age of nine years old, as determined by screening under the LINUS Program (Literacy and Numeracy Screening). The project will establish intensive remedial lessons with a phonics-based and structured reading program to equip children with disabilities to learn English, and will promote disability access in education for learning disabled children.



MALAYSIA



Dyslexia Association of Sarawak *Kuching, Sarawak*

A non-governmental organization that works to advance the education and general welfare of children and others who are affected by dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities.



www.dyslexia-swk.com

SK Laksamana *Kuching, Sarawak*

A primary school for children ages 6 – 12 with and without disabilities, administered by the government.



(60) 165-761340

Center for the Development of Language and Literacy (CDLL) *at the University of Michigan* *Ann Arbor, Michigan*

A university affiliated center that provides innovative speech-language therapy for individuals of all ages with a variety of communication needs.



www.iha.umich.edu/language-literacy-services

MONGOLIA



Association of Parents with Disabled Children

Ulaanbaatar

A non-governmental organization of parents with disabled children that works to protect the rights of children with disabilities and encourages their development and full integration into society.



www.apdc.mn

All for Education! National Civil Society Coalition

Ulaanbaatar

A non-governmental coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to improving education access and quality for all marginalized groups in Mongolia.



(97) 6-9-9129020

TASH

Washington, D.C.

A professional association that promotes the full inclusion and participation of children and adults with significant disabilities in every aspect of their community, and works to eliminate the social injustices that diminish human rights.



www.tash.org

Building Capacity to Advocate for Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities

Team Mongolia will plan and conduct training on advocacy for the inclusion of children with disabilities in education. The team will develop new training materials, conduct a train-the-trainer workshop to test and refine materials and training methods, and produce an advocacy briefing kit.



Building Capacity of Women with Disabilities to Advocate for Access and Community Inclusion

Team Nepal is supporting women with disabilities in local communities to form cross-disability self-help groups that use peer support to empower the women as self-advocates and agents for change. Through these groups, women with disabilities learn about their rights and are united as advocates for inclusion based on Nepal's laws and the UNCRPD.



Nepal Disabled Women Association (NDWA)

Kathmandu

A Disabled People's Organization (DPO) that organizes and empowers women with disabilities to initiate provisions to utilize their rights.



www.ndwa.org.np

Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO)

Lalitpur

The first national level non-government organization to strive to create a movement against caste and gender-based discrimination in order to protect and promote civil and political rights of Dalit women and to support their socio-economic empowerment.



www.fedonepal.org

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)

Berkeley, California

A national civil rights law and policy center that works to advance and protect the civil and human rights of people with disabilities through legal advocacy, training, education, public policy, and legislative development.



www.dredf.org

NIGERIA



Disability Policy Advocacy Initiative (DPAI)

Ikeja, Lagos State

A non-governmental organization established to pursue inclusive practices, legislative framework, policies, and a broad commitment to the social model of disability.



www.disabilitypolicyadvocacy.org

Treasureland Health Builders Initiative

Lagos, Lagos State

A non-governmental organization that works to improve the quality of life of vulnerable groups by strengthening communities and empowering families.



www.treasurelandhealthbuilders.org

Initiative for Women with Disabilities (IWD) at New York University Medical Center, Elly and Steve Hammerman Health and Wellness Center

New York, New York

A non-profit, multidisciplinary center committed to providing respectful, high quality medical and wellness services for women and adolescent girls with physical disabilities.



www.iwdwellness.org

Advocating for Inclusive and Accessible Healthcare Services for People with Disabilities

Team Nigeria will share best practices and organize trainings for healthcare professionals on strategies for accommodating patients with disabilities and providing quality and accessible healthcare services. The partners will also conduct workshops that educate patients with disabilities to advocate for their rights, and will create a tool to assess, monitor and evaluate accessibility in healthcare facilities in Lagos.

Read the
project's blog
shurwitznyc.tumblr.com

I Speak for Myself: People with Disabilities in Serbia Self- Advocating through Media

Team Serbia will train people with disabilities in Serbia on media and self-advocacy as well as create a television show by and for people with disabilities. The partners will educate journalists and university journalism students on how to report on disability issues and develop a media monitoring scheme.



SERBIA



Center Living Upright

Novi Sad, Vojvodina

A non-governmental organization that works to create an environment where the human rights of people with disabilities are respected and fully implemented.



www.czuns.org

Novi Sad School of Journalism (NSSJ)

Novi Sad, Vojvodina

A non-governmental, educational institution that fosters tolerant, well-balanced journalism that demonstrates respect for the values of truth, learning, and critical approach in multifaceted environments.



www.novinarska-skola.org.rs/sr

Towson University, Department of Mass Communication and Communication Studies

Towson, Maryland

A university department that focuses on the study of the structure, processes, aesthetics, functions, ethics, and criticism of mass media and human communication.



www.towson.edu/mccs

SOUTH KOREA



Korea Differently Abled Federation (KODAF)

Seoul

A non-governmental organization that works toward a society that supports the equal participation of people with disabilities.



www.kodaf.or.kr/english/kodaf.asp

GongGam Human Rights Law Foundation

Seoul

A non-governmental organization that aims to develop and nurture a culture of human rights by protecting the rights of minorities and underprivileged persons and addressing systemic discrimination in all sectors of society.



www.kpil.org/eng/index.php

Resources for Independence Central Valley (RICV)

Fresno, California

An independent living center that encourages people with disabilities to be in control of their lives and live independently through a diverse range of choices and opportunities.



www.ricv.org

Community Leadership Academy of Asia and the Pacific

Team South Korea will establish a sustainable training program to build the capacity of people with disabilities, particularly women, for effective leadership in government and disabled people's organizations. The team will leverage the 3rd Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled People to expand leadership training opportunities for individuals with disabilities throughout the Asia and Pacific region.



Equal Rights with Equal Opportunities

Team Tajikistan's project aims to expand programs to support people with disabilities through two mechanisms:

1) engaging agencies and institutions that are working directly with people with disabilities, and
2) promoting the interests of people with disabilities through public events and activities.

The project is being implemented through a partnership of organizations that are active in human rights advocacy and supporting people with disabilities.



TAJIKISTAN



Parents of Children with Autism Initiative (IRODA)

Dushanbe

A Disabled People's Organization (DPO) that promotes disability rights and equality, and raises awareness about the needs of children with Autism and other disabilities.



(99)293-5670040

Equal Opportunities

Dushanbe

A non-governmental organization that protects the rights and interests of vulnerable populations and groups.



(99) 291-9029689

Developmental Disabilities Institute (DDI)

at Wayne State University

Detroit, Michigan

A university affiliated program that contributes to the development of inclusive communities and quality of life for people with disabilities and their families through education, community support and services, research, and dissemination of information.



www.ddi.wayne.edu

UKRAINE



Lugansk Regional Social Youth Organization

Lugansk

A non-governmental organization that works toward the integration of children and young people with disabilities into society.



ami-cxid.org.ua/en

Volodymyr Dahl East-Ukrainian National University (EUNU), Philology Department

Lugansk

A department of one of the leading public higher educational establishments of Ukraine that emphasizes inclusion, researches Deaf education, investigates communicative skills of Deaf and hard of hearing children, and is home to a school for the Deaf.



www.en.snu.edu.ua

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)

with the University of Arizona

Huntersville, North Carolina

& Tucson, Arizona

A professional association committed to equity and inclusion of persons with disabilities in postsecondary education.



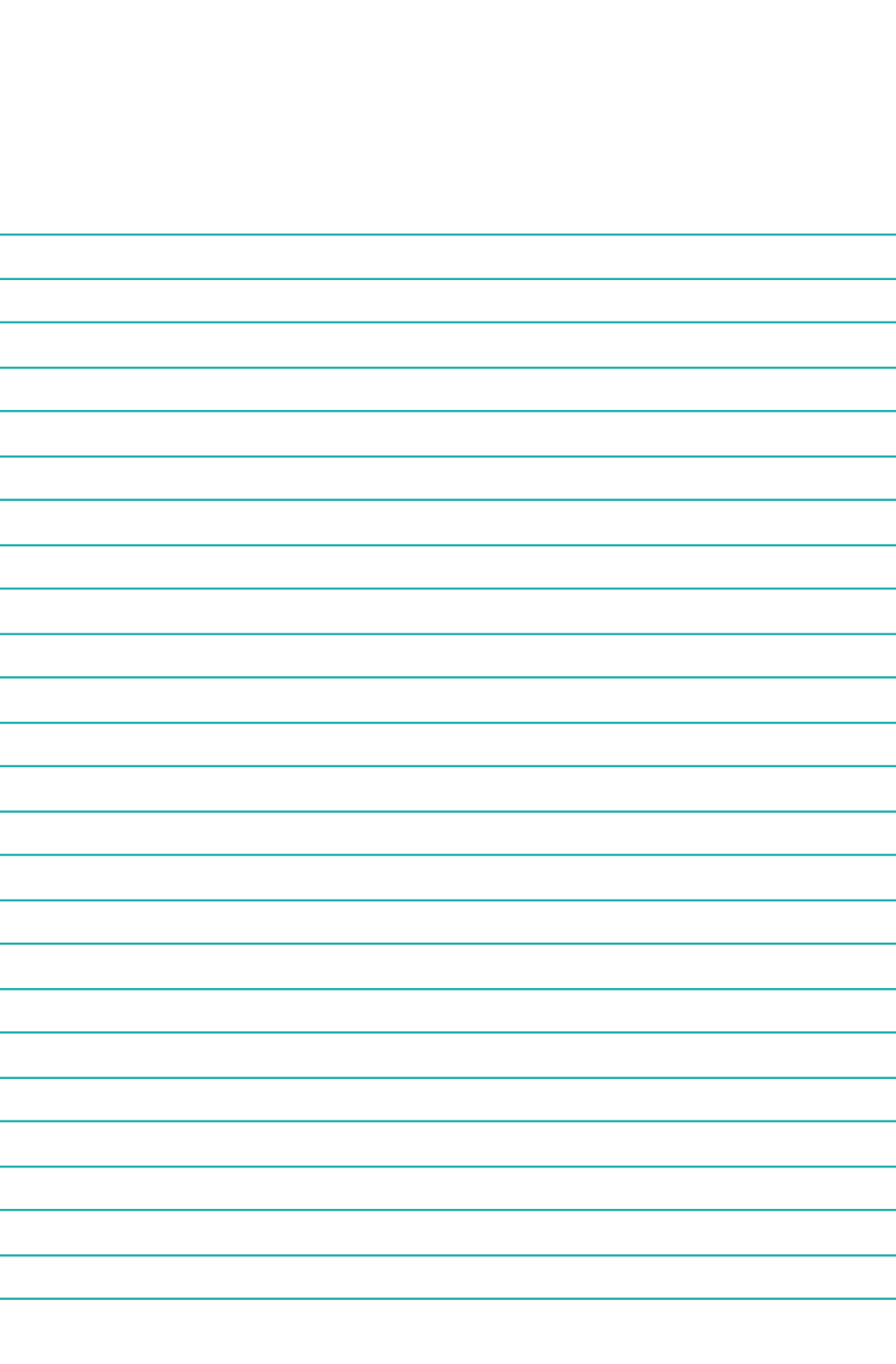
www.ahead.org

Inclusion in Higher Education: Enhancing Opportunities and Experiences for Deaf Students

Team Ukraine will establish a center offering services, resources and support for Deaf university students and faculty. The U.S./ Ukraine partnership will enhance higher education opportunities for Deaf students who are accepted and enrolled in universities but face restricted access, and will transform the goal of inclusion into practice.



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Notes...

HOW TO CONNECT WITH MIUSA



www.miusa.org



www.miusablog.org/



www.facebook.com/mobilityinternational



www.twitter.com/mobilityINTL



<http://www.youtube.com/user/miusa1981>

HOW TO CONTACT MIUSA



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general information or questions
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ABOUT MOBILITY INTERNATIONAL USA

MIUSA is a U.S.-based non-profit organization, whose goal is to empower people with disabilities around the world to achieve their human rights through international exchange and international development. MIUSA is a cross-disability organization serving people with hearing, learning, mental health, physical, systemic, vision and other disabilities.

WHAT WE DO

Facilitate short-term international disability leadership programs in the U.S. and countries around the world.

Answer your questions about how people with disabilities can study, intern, volunteer (and more!) in the U.S. through the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange

Work towards disability inclusion in policy and practice all over the world through training and technical assistance.

Host the Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD) to bring together grassroots women leaders with disabilities from around the world.

Provide free publications, journals, tip sheets and more at www.miusa.org/publications.

