

Hello, my name is Fatima Kalima. I'm a young lady with physical disability here in Malawi. I'm a founder of Forum for the Development of Youth with Disabilities.

At first, I was not thinking about my disability. I was taking my life as normal. But as I'm growing, it's when I discovered that I have a disability.

So my disability to me is a stepping stone, just because whenever I come across a challenge, I do it as a thing which can improve the life of people with disability, most especially the youth with disabilities. So I'm urging all youth and girls with disabilities that they should not take their disability as a challenge, but they should take it as a stepping stone to do anything in the world. And in our organization, we work with children and youth with disabilities, most especially in education.

At our center, we have three activities. We do special needs classes whereby children who have special needs challenges, they come for the classes. We also offer physiotherapy to the children who need some visual activities.

And we have also a computer app whereby it's inclusive to youth with disabilities. They learn how to use computer. And those who have visual impairment, they have also a chance of using those computers.

And apart from that, we also work with parents of children with disabilities to find out challenges and whatever they come across in their community. We also work with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Gender, Ministry of Disability, and many other activities. And we also work with projects funded by Disability Rights Fund and other donors who come to find us.

Thank you.