1

00:00:02,800 --> 00:00:07,800

My family means strength and pillars to me.

2

00:00:07,800 --> 00:00:13,520

I know that they know that I’m appreciative

3

00:00:13,520 --> 00:00:17,640

of what they’ve done.

4

00:00:17,640 --> 00:00:22,600

But I don't think I don't think they understand

5

00:00:22,600 --> 00:00:24,800

the magnitude.

6

00:00:33,280 --> 00:00:37,000

Talofa lava, my name is Ann-Madonna Fasavalu.

7

00:00:37,000 --> 00:00:38,640

I’m the youngest of six kids,

8

00:00:38,640 --> 00:00:40,080

I’m the youngest of six kids, three boys, three girls.

9

00:00:40,080 --> 00:00:43,440

And for the last 24 years out of my 33 years

10

00:00:43,440 --> 00:00:45,560

I was born and raised in Porirua,

11

00:00:45,560 --> 00:00:47,520

and I now reside in Johnsonville.

12

00:00:48,880 --> 00:00:50,920

I fell pregnant at 18.

13

00:00:50,920 --> 00:00:52,320

Had my daughter at 19.

14

00:00:52,320 --> 00:00:55,960

But before I had her, I had pains and they thought

15

00:00:55,960 --> 00:00:57,560

I had kidney stones.

16

00:00:57,560 --> 00:01:01,120

Went for a scan and found out that I was only born with one

17

00:01:01,120 --> 00:01:02,920

kidney and two wombs.

18

00:01:02,920 --> 00:01:05,920

I suffered a strep throat infection, which then killed

19

00:01:05,920 --> 00:01:07,560

my one kidney.

20

00:01:07,560 --> 00:01:10,560

So I was on hemodialysis for about nine years,

21

00:01:10,560 --> 00:01:13,560

and then about year seven I started to

22

00:01:13,560 --> 00:01:15,360

lose my vision.

23

00:01:15,360 --> 00:01:18,920

There’s a term that we use in Samoan that would

24

00:01:18,920 --> 00:01:21,920

describe a disability and that would be ma’i,

25

00:01:21,920 --> 00:01:24,560

which if you translate that to English,

26

00:01:24,560 --> 00:01:26,520

it's sick.

27

00:01:26,520 --> 00:01:30,200

And it has a negative connotation to it.

28

00:01:30,200 --> 00:01:34,320

So I've had comments when I would hold my phone close,

29

00:01:34,320 --> 00:01:36,000

trying to check, like are you blind?

30

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:37,160

Where's your glasses?

31

00:01:37,160 --> 00:01:38,320

Where's your walking stick?

32

00:01:40,280 --> 00:01:44,280

My journey into employment started with a conversation with my

33

00:01:44,280 --> 00:01:45,560

best friend.

34

00:01:45,560 --> 00:01:47,880

I said to her, I don't know what I want to do.

35

00:01:47,880 --> 00:01:49,240

I don't know where I want to do it.

36

00:01:49,240 --> 00:01:50,880

I know that I want to work in the disability

37

00:01:50,880 --> 00:01:52,000

community.

38

00:01:52,440 --> 00:01:56,520

As an employment coordinator, our sole focus is to build

39

00:01:56,520 --> 00:02:00,000

the relationship and then not look at barriers,

40

00:02:00,000 --> 00:02:01,600

but look at your strengths.

41

00:02:01,600 --> 00:02:06,240

And then my role is simply just work side by side with you

42

00:02:06,240 --> 00:02:10,960

until she's in a position where she's ready to make

43

00:02:10,960 --> 00:02:12,400

the next movement.

44

00:02:12,400 --> 00:02:14,600

And yeah, Donna was a driver.

45

00:02:15,280 --> 00:02:18,280

I've been working for a year now, so I had my one year

46

00:02:18,280 --> 00:02:20,800

anniversary, so that was exciting.

47

00:02:20,800 --> 00:02:23,760

But I remember when we had the conversation,

48

00:02:23,760 --> 00:02:27,920

when we first spoke on the phone and then at my pōwhiri

49

00:02:27,920 --> 00:02:30,040

and you reminded me, you were like, make sure you open

50

00:02:30,040 --> 00:02:32,360

the doors for the next people.

51

00:02:32,360 --> 00:02:33,880

So that's what I plan to do.

52

00:02:33,880 --> 00:02:37,720

Every individual is special, regardless of impairment

53

00:02:37,720 --> 00:02:39,400

or disability.

54

00:02:39,400 --> 00:02:42,760

What Donna will bring to the party is the voice, especially

55

00:02:42,760 --> 00:02:45,760

amongst our Pasifika and Māori.

56

00:02:47,760 --> 00:02:51,600

They sit in the background too much, they worry.

57

00:02:51,600 --> 00:02:55,240

But yet at home, they are able to function normally.

58

00:02:55,240 --> 00:02:58,880

It's about bringing the normality out into the workforce.

59

00:02:58,880 --> 00:03:02,400

So Your Way provided that for Donna.

60

00:03:03,560 --> 00:03:09,680

So Anthony, how do I change the contrast on the text?

61

00:03:09,680 --> 00:03:16,440

It's when you need to activate with left-shift, left-alt

62

00:03:16,440 --> 00:03:19,360

and the print screen key.

63

00:03:19,360 --> 00:03:23,880

Donna wanted to look for work and she just really wanted to

64

00:03:23,880 --> 00:03:26,000

know what technology was out there.

65

00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:30,360

Having access to the technology gives you that confidence and

66

00:03:30,360 --> 00:03:31,880

you know that you can do things.

67

00:03:31,880 --> 00:03:33,480

You know that you can hold down a job.

68

00:03:33,480 --> 00:03:35,440

You can go into the office and check your emails,

69

00:03:35,440 --> 00:03:39,160

you can access your calendar, work on documents,

70

00:03:39,160 --> 00:03:40,480

write reports.

71

00:03:40,480 --> 00:03:42,000

It's all about independence.

72

00:03:43,880 --> 00:03:48,960

My role at Your Way Kia Roha is the Inati Facilitator for the

73

00:03:48,960 --> 00:03:51,320

Tupu Aotearoa Disability Programme.

74

00:03:51,320 --> 00:03:54,320

For me, I'm a huge advocate for wanting our people

75

00:03:54,320 --> 00:03:55,720

to be successful.

76

00:03:55,720 --> 00:03:57,800

However they envision and define success for

77

00:03:57,800 --> 00:03:58,600

themselves.

78

00:03:59,160 --> 00:04:01,680

So we have the guess who baby edition

79

00:04:01,680 --> 00:04:02,880

photo wall.

80

00:04:02,880 --> 00:04:03,640

Number two.

81

00:04:03,640 --> 00:04:05,000

Who do we think number two is?

82

00:04:05,000 --> 00:04:06,920

If this photo belongs to you, can you say I?

83

00:04:11,560 --> 00:04:15,320

Work has been very supportive in terms of equipment

84

00:04:15,320 --> 00:04:18,160

and anything I've needed or I've asked for

85

00:04:18,160 --> 00:04:22,480

or I've wanted to support me and my role with my disability,

86

00:04:22,480 --> 00:04:24,160

they've come through.

87

00:04:24,160 --> 00:04:26,840

I'm also part of the newly established

88

00:04:26,840 --> 00:04:30,040

National Disability Advisory Group for Oranga Tamariki.

89

00:04:30,040 --> 00:04:31,640

Talofa Lava everyone.

90

00:04:31,640 --> 00:04:33,000

How are you?

91

00:04:33,000 --> 00:04:37,080

I'm accountable to the Pasifika communities that I serve

92

00:04:37,080 --> 00:04:38,240

and that I represent.

93

00:04:38,240 --> 00:04:39,280

It's exciting.

94

00:04:39,280 --> 00:04:40,760

Don't get me wrong, it is exciting.

95

00:04:40,760 --> 00:04:46,480

But it is a feeling that kind of makes you step

96

00:04:46,480 --> 00:04:48,200

back a bit.

97

00:04:48,200 --> 00:04:50,440

There’s weight, there’s weight behind this.

98

00:04:52,240 --> 00:04:53,360

Are we ready?

99

00:04:53,360 --> 00:04:54,840

Everyone do prayer.

100

00:04:54,840 --> 00:04:57,840

Thank you Jesus, for giving this food, to provide your children

101

00:04:57,840 --> 00:04:59,400

with nourishment.

102

00:04:59,400 --> 00:05:00,920

Amen.

103

00:05:00,920 --> 00:05:06,600

In five years time I want to be at least a senior advisor,

104

00:05:06,600 --> 00:05:10,920

principal advisor, impacting and opening doors

105

00:05:10,920 --> 00:05:13,920

for others with lived experience to enter that

106

00:05:13,920 --> 00:05:14,880

employment space.

107

00:05:15,320 --> 00:05:17,040

I did everything backwards.

108

00:05:17,040 --> 00:05:19,480

I had a child.

109

00:05:19,480 --> 00:05:20,640

I built all my family.

110

00:05:20,640 --> 00:05:23,720

I had the medical condition and now I’m working on my career.

111

00:05:23,720 --> 00:05:27,720

But I'm hopeful that we get to a place that

112

00:05:27,720 --> 00:05:29,920

New Zealand is accessible.