**Transcript – NDIS Participant: Esther Simbi.**

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| Esther Simbi | Hi, my name is Esther Simbi, I live in Adelaide.  And I contracted polio when I was 4 years old.  Now I live with post-polio syndrome, late effects of polio.  Having lived in refugee camps for 19 years and also contracting polio and surviving that, I walk even though with difficulties I walk a little bit even though now I'm using the wheelchair a lot.  Before the NDIS I felt like I didn't belong anywhere because I was mainly in the house with my children, I didn't even have a break.  That did impact on my mental health being in the house by myself, but now I go to the park with my children and support worker.  I feel like part of the community, I feel like I belong, and I am able to attend events, and that was after 5 years of staying at home, not employed.  I started working with Purple Orange and my role there is a project officer skilled for CALD communities. So, I link the organisation with CALD communities.  But during that time that I was at home unemployed, I finished writing my first book.  So being able to share my story, not only with my children, but with other people and I want people to feel that strength when they are reading the books, and I want my children to be able to know their stories, so that those stories are not lost.  So now I have a voice, I have a choice, I belong, and all that happened because of the NDIS, before that I was not belonging anywhere, and life is good. (laughter)  Find out more at ndis.gov.au/translations or phone 1800 800 110 for TIS national direct phone 131 450 |
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