



#WhatWENeed 2022

Spotlight interview with Karen Muriuki

Transcript

Richa, TCI: Hello and welcome to the TCI #WhatWENeed Spotlight Interview Series. We sincerely thank you for being available for this session and giving us your time. I would now request you to please tell us your name, where do you live and what do you do?

Karen M: Hi, my name is Karen Muriuki. I live in Nairobi, Kenya. I am the organising secretary for Differently Talented Society of Kenya, which is an organization for parents of autistic children. I am an International Disability Alliance BRIDGE Kenya CRPD SDG fellow. I am also the disability inclusion facilitator for Sense International, which is an international organisation that works with individuals with severe disabilities in particular deaf blindness.

Richa, TCI: Thank you for that introduction, Karen. Moving on to the second question. In our movement, we always start our conversations with and around personal identity. We started out by saying that we are a movement of persons with psychosocial disabilities and we wish to ask you if you relate to that identity. Also, if you want to share any reflections on identity positions that can support our advocacy and our movement.

Karen M: What I can say about the identity issues in relation to persons with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities is that it is a very noble move. Autistic people in particular have not been fully recognised because of the perceptions of society. But, I believe that autistic people should be a part of the movement, especially in terms of psychosocial and intellectual disabilities. I believe that if more autistic people could be a part of this movement, this could be a life changing experience for them.

Richa, TCI: Thank you for sharing your reflections, Karen. Would you like to please tell us what you find promising in this movement led by TCI Global?

Karen M: What I find promising is that the TCI movement reaches to a wider majority of persons with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities, and especially to autistic people. I am

very thrilled to be a part of the TCI movement, because I think that that is the way it should be. I find this very promising, especially in broadening the approach towards encouraging more people, more persons with psychosocial intellectual disabilities, especially autistic people from the globe.

Richa, TCI: Thank you so much for all your responses. We thank you again for giving us the time for this interview and telling us about your work. We wish you all the very best for all your tasks ahead. Thank you.

Karen M: Thank you. Thank you so much.