



Refugees stories about Health & Disability

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People

- Partnership

“Our intent is to raise awareness of the plight of disabled refugees”

Guillaume Mozumbo

Director, Refugee Orientation Centre, Hamilton



- Funder **IHC FOUNDATION**

- Collaborations: HRC, Health & Disability Commission, Manuanui InCharge, Red Cross Refugee Services, ChangeMakers Forum, Refugees with Disabilities Working Group, IHC, Teachers, [Mendeley Online Research Group](#), [UNESCO](#) Knowledge Information platform

- Researchers

“Statement here” Annick Janson

CACR, VUW and SPARK NZ 2013 Fellow



Research rationale

- Disabled refugees are *invisible* to disability services and to the rest of society compounding an already difficult resettlement experience
- Stories from families that have navigated disability services:
 - a unique source of meaningful help that we can provide
 - have the potential to increase disabled refugees' chances of contributing meaningfully to their new society
- Analysed interviews from disabled refugees and their families to identify the core elements to successful settlement
- Audience:
 - Disabled refugees and families
 - Professionals involved in their experience

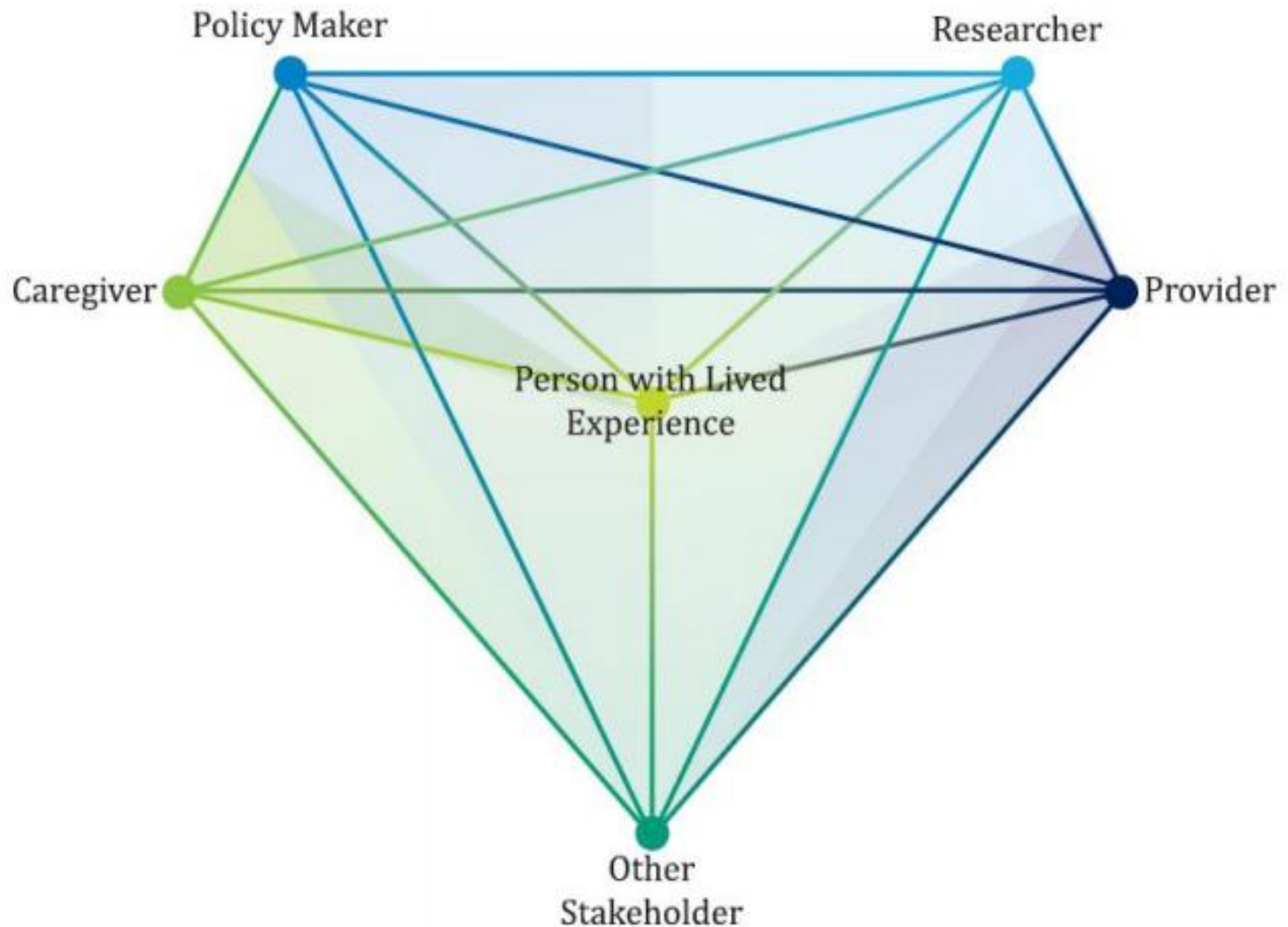
Mortensen, A. (2011). Public Health System Responsiveness to refugee groups in New Zealand: Activation from the bottom up. *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand* June 2011, 37:123-134

Gartrell, A., Edwards, D and Graffam, J. (2006). *Walk with me: Developing employment pathways for refugees with disability*. Deakin University. Women's Commission for refugee women and children (2008). *Disabilities among refugees and conflict-affected populations*.

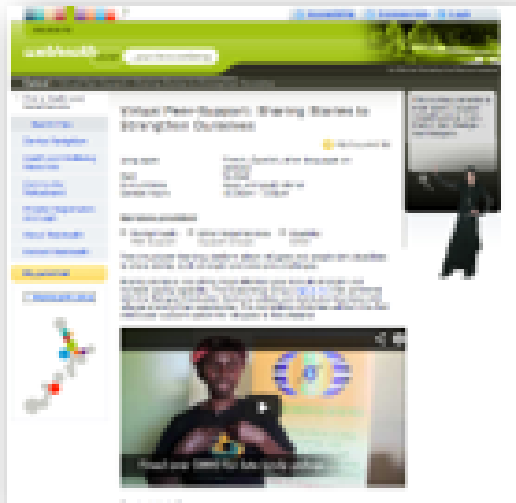
National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA) (2008). *Refugees and migrants with disability and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*

Knowledge Translation

[Specifying Actors and Actions](#)



Research Procedure



- Recruiting interviewees
 - Snowball technique
 - Discussions with professionals
 - Media adds
- Interviews carried nationwide
 - Spanish
 - Arabic
 - Assyrian
 - Somali
 - Farsi
- Analysis
 - Narrative
 - Thematic

What have we found?

- 1. Cultural norms about disability***
- 2. Self-emerging community leadership***
- 3. Work practices***

***Please view a precis from
our interviews [here](#)
Thank you!***

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