We are committed to change public attitudes toward people with disabilities.

Diana Zghereea
Advocate
Twenty years of living in institution

Have stolen my childhood

Limited my choices

Blown my dreams
My memories from the institution are about...

fear, violence, discrimination, bulling, obedience...
In the institution, I was afraid to say what I think.

In the community I’m the master of my life.
Article 12 of the CRPD

In the institution, the law did not protect me.

I was deprived by my legal capacity.
Article 16 of the CRPD

In institution I was humiliated and ignored.

In the community, I’m treated with respect and dignity.
Article 17 of the CRPD

In the institution, I wasn’t call by my name, everyone told me - ZGHEREA

In community, everyone calls me – Diana, and that fact makes me feel loved.
In the institution, I was not allowed to go outside of the institution gate.

In the community, I'm free to go where I want.

Article 19 of the CRPD
Article 24 of the CRPD

In the institution I had no chance to benefit of vocational education.

In the community, I have learn how to prepare the food and serve the meal to others.
Article 26 of the CRPD

In the institution my work was not paid.

In community, my work is respected and I’m paid for the work I do.
Article 29 of the CRPD

In the institution, I felt alone.

In the community I’ve got a lot of friends.
Article 29 of the CRPD

In the institution, I had no opportunity to invite guests.

Since I live in the community, I often have guests and always serve them something.
Article 25 of the CRPD

The persons with intellectual disabilities from institutions are not informed about the purpose of their medication and have no opportunity to choose treatment.

In the community I use the mainstream health services. I know what kind of medication I take and for what.
Article 25 of the CRPD

Persons in institutions have poor mental health and in many cases, they need counselling and therapies provided by psychologists and behavioural specialists.

These personnel are not in the staff structure of the institutions.
Article 6 of the CRPD

In Moldova, the sexual activity of persons with intellectual disabilities in institutions are discouraged and sometimes not allowed.
Article 25 of the CRPD

The staff from institutions do not offer regular sexual health education and information.

They have no skills and knowledge to be engaged with issues of sexual rights.
Articles 6, 15, 16 of the CRPD

Women with intellectual disabilities who are still living in institutions are cases of neglect, violence, forced contraceptive and abortion, forced medication, restraint and sexual abuse.
Ways to achieve deinstitutionalization

Being part of the community, I do not think only of myself.

I started to advocate for other 2000 persons with intellectual disabilities who live in institutions.

I want to change their life!
Ways to achieve deinstitutionalization

I became a member of advocacy group established at community level.

Being part of advocacy group, we are promoting the rights of the people with intellectual disabilities.
Ways to achieve deinstitutionalization

I know that Moldova ratified the CRPD.

The CRPD requires to our state to ensure the right to be included in the community.
Ways to achieve deinstitutionalization

Moldova has good policy for deinstitutionalization, but

Why the persons with intellectual disabilities continue to live in big long-term institutions?

We require to Moldova Government to advance deinstitutionalization and close all big institutions.
We count on the support of UN Committee to convince Moldovan Government to implement deinstitutionalization policies.

We as advocacy group, will continue the empowerment of the people with intellectual disabilities from residential institutions to defend their rights. We will talk them about community living.
Ways to achieve deinstitutionalization

We are committed to contribute to change the public attitudes towards persons with intellectual disabilities.

Do not be afraid of us, we are human and we have equal rights.
Ways to achieve deinstitutionalization

The people with intellectual disabilities need our support in a respectful manner.

They don’t know how is to live a full life in the community. They need our support right now, no later.
To advance community living of people with intellectual disabilities, last week I have participated in New York at the COSP which ratified the CRPD.
At the COSP I have discussed about the rights of the people with intellectual disabilities with many important people: Cătălina, Allana, Sue, Robert, Galina.

All of them support my idea on deinstitutionalization and community living of persons with intellectual disabilities.
Advocacy at International level

My participation in New York at the COSP and in these Summit is very important to enable my peers to promote their rights and to make choices on how and where to live.

I hope that my personal story will empower people with intellectual disabilities around the world to defend their rights.
Thank you for your attention!