Image one: **My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled People’s Experiences of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand** Key Findings and Recommendations 1/22

Image two: Aotearoa New Zealand is a signatory of the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (UNCRPD). This means the New Zealand Government has agreed to implement the Convention’s provisions, monitor progress, and report back to the Convention’s Committee on **various issues affecting disabled people** (Article 33). In 2018, the Donald Beasley Institute (DBI) was commissioned by the Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs) Coalition to **independently monitor access to housing for disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand.**

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Image three: **Articles 19 and 28 of UNCRPD recognise that disabled people have the “right to live in the community with choices equal to others” and the “right to an adequate standard of living.”**

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Image four: **Key Finding 1:**

Many disabled people experience financial barriers to housing, created by unaffordable rents and house prices, and lack of funding for housing modifications.

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Image five: **Key Finding 2:**

Negative attitudes towards disability held by people
in positions of power, such as real estate agents and landlords, create additional barriers to housing for disabled people.

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Image six: **Key Finding 3:**

Disabled people often experience a lack of physical safety in and around their homes due to limited physical access, insufficient or inappropriate modifications, lack of heating, hazards,
and the absence of ongoing maintenance.

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Image seven: **Key Finding 4:**

Some disabled people lack of control over their living situations, leading to inappropriate or substandard living conditions.

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Image eight: **Key Finding 5:**

Many disabled people experience stress, anxiety and depression because they cannot access adequate housing, or because they live in inadequate housing.

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Image nine: **Key Finding 6:**

Living in inadequate, unhealthy and inaccessible homes impacts on disabled people’s sense
of belonging within their communities.

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Image ten: **Key Finding 7:**

Disabled people are often unaware of their housing- related rights under the Convention and other housing concepts such as Universal Design.

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Image eleven: **Key Finding 8:**

Many disabled people feel that their “right to live in the community with choices equal to others” and the “right to an adequate standard of living” is not being upheld.

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Image twelve: **Recommendation 1:**

Prioritise disabled peoples’ rights when developing or updating all housing-related policies, programmes and legislation.

My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled People’s Experiences of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand 12/22

Image thirteen: **Recommendation 2:**

Employ disabled people in relevant positions to ensure the housing needs of the disability community are understood and met.

My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled People’s Experiences of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand 13/22

Image fourteen: **Recommendation 3:**

Acknowledge the impact of the housing crisis on disabled people and address the barriers through rights-based housing policies.

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Image fifteen: **Recommendation 4:**

Increase funding for services that support and facilitate access to adequate housing for disabled people.

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Image sixteen: **Recommendation 5:**

Improve access to justice to ensure that disabled people’s housing rights can be met.

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Image seventeen: **Recommendation 6:**

Update the Building Code and other regulations to ensure that all new builds and the retrofitting of existing buildings are universally designed.

My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled People’s Experiences of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand 17/22

Image eighteen: **Recommendation 7:**

Implement cross-sector co-design to ensure disabled people can enjoy their right to an adequate standard of living.

My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled People’s Experiences of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand 18/22

Image nineteen: **Recommendation 8:**

Incentivise the implementation of Universal Design standards for property developers.

My Experiences, My Rights: A Monitoring Report on Disabled People’s Experiences of Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand 19/22

Image twenty: **Recommendation 9:**

Enact a “Disability and Accessibility Act” that guarantees disabled people’s rights and the enforcement of relevant laws and regulations.

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Image twenty-one: **Recommendation 10:**

Promote disability rights and awareness in the housing sector through education, consultation, advocacy and face-to- face engagement with the disability community.

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Image twenty-two: **Recommendation 11:**

Increase public awareness of disability rights.

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