

NARRATOR:

The Disability & Philanthropy Forum presents Joan Morris, Amazon Worker and Leader at United for Respect.

JOAN MORRIS:

As an African American woman, I look at my experience as I've had to learn every lesson the hard way. With disabilities especially, one of the hardest things I've had to learn is that you have to be your own advocate. For example, I saw my mother not being able to speak for herself and work very long hours as a housekeeper. And when her body finally gave out and broke down, they fired her instead of giving her a better alternative, and she struggled to make ends meet until she died in April of 2023. So I've had to learn you have to be your own advocate and you have to speak up for yourself because if you do not, you will be taken advantage of.

NARRATOR:

To continue your learning journey, visit DisabilityPhilanthropy.org.