

Communication Access Services Report  
4/9/20

1. CAS Interpreting—

Since the State's emergency declaration on March 12, 2020, the CAS interpreters have been providing interpreting services for State, County, and City press conferences and informational broadcasts, continuing the mentorship program, and developing professional development trainings.

The CAS interpreters have provided interpreting services for 17 press conferences and are scheduled for 4 more this week. In order for them to be ready, the CAS interpreters have to stay informed about the COVID-19 developments at the local, state, and national levels, stay up-to-date on related vocabulary in ASL and English, and hold debrief meetings to discuss areas for improvement. Additionally, we have been reaching out to the different agencies and organizations ensuring they are aware how to access our services and how to effectively provide communication access by including the interpreter in the camera frame.

2. CAS Mentorship—

The mentorship program has continued with little interruption. All mentoring meetings are held through video conference and interpreting practice activities are still being done using GoReact, an online software program designed for ASL and interpreting activities.

3. Workshops—

Before the State's emergency declaration, the CAS program were busy the last few months with planning and providing workshops. The CAS interpreters in the North provided a workshop to the educational interpreters at Washoe, Lyon, Carson City and Douglas School Districts on Emotional Intelligence (EQ) and how their personality traits affect their interpretation and their ability to team. They also focused on how to prepare for an interpreting assignment. The interpreters received wonderful, positive feedback from the workshop. Additionally, the North team went to Elko to work with both Ely and Elko interpreters on foundational interpreting skills. The CAS interpreter in the South presented a workshop in Las Vegas on February 29<sup>th</sup> on interpreting from ASL to spoken English. Many interpreters demonstrate a significant deficit in the requisite skills to perform this type of interpretation effectively. The workshop focused on constructed dialogue, repetition and rhetorical questions. There were 29 participants with 28 people on the wait list. The workshop was a success! When things settle down after the COVID-19 pandemic, this workshop will be provided again for those on the wait list.

As of now, the CAS interpreters are continuing to develop professional development trainings for interpreters so they will be ready to go when we can host in-person workshops again.

#### 4. Update on NAC changes--

We received many comments from the stakeholders at the public workshop that was held on October 1, 2019 for the NAC proposed changes. The minutes from the workshop can be found on the Registry website. The proposed draft has been amended based on these feedbacks and it is currently in the process of being reviewed by our Legislative Council Bureau (LCB). Once we have the LCB's approval, we will hold a public hearing to announce the changes. There will be a 15-day notice for the hearing's date and time. It will be posted on our Registry website. Some of the high-level changes include:

- Requires interpreters to who need professional development and mentoring hours, to submit those yearly
- Limits an apprentice level interpreter (either in community or educational) to 3 years (no renewal)
- Provides an alternative pathway for community interpreters to be registered as an Apprentice level interpreter
- Raises the credential requirements for both Community Skilled (EIPA 4.0) and Educational Intermediate (EIPA 3.5) level interpreters
- Closes loopholes for interpreters to work in specific environments without the proper registration
- Increased the educational requirements for all interpreters (by 2025 – AA degree; by 2030 BA degree)