



Department of Health and Human Services
Aging and Disability Services Division
**Communication Access Services Program
Interpreter / CART Registry**



Interpreter Mentor List

(updated December 2023)

The interpreter mentors listed are not affiliated with the Communication Access Services (CAS) Mentorship program or the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD). This list of interpreter mentors is provided as a community service. Participation in mentoring services from these mentors will count as required mentoring hours according to [Nevada Revised Statute \(NRS\) 656A](#). Mentoring, including fees for services, are not under the jurisdiction of the CAS program nor ADSD.

If you have questions about required mentoring hours, please contact

InterpreterRegistry@adsd.nv.gov.

If you would like to be added to this list as a mentor, please email InterpreterRegistry@adsd.nv.gov and include answers to the following:

(Please note, this information will be publicly available on the CAS Professional Development website)

1. Your name
2. Your credentials
3. Contact information (email address and/or phone number)
4. Will you provide mentoring in-person or remote/virtually (or both/either)?
5. Which area(s) of the state you are available to provide mentoring – Northern Nevada, Southern Nevada, and/or Rural areas (or all)
6. A short bio about yourself (not more than **200 words**): your interpreting training and/or experience, your mentoring experience, any specialty interpreting settings in which you have credentials and/or training or experience. (This information will help prospective mentees select from the list)



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Name: Alina Duncan

Contact: alina22duncan@gmail.com

Credentials: NIC, EIPA 4.0 (Secondary), EIPA 4.3 (Elementary)

Areas of the state served: Northern, Southern, Rural

Remote or On-site mentoring

I am a freelance community interpreter and California transplant that has been working professionally in this field for 8 years. I hold EIPA scores of 4.0+ for both Post Secondary and Elementary. I recently passed the NIC knowledge and performance exams. I have 5 years of K-12 experience, and I primarily worked with language deprived students. My specialties include post-secondary education, K-12 education, medical, vocational, Social Justice, VRS, VRI and general community interpreting. I was honored to be granted a 22-23 seat with the Nevada State Interpreter Subcommittee under the Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I also hold membership with NVBDA, NVRID and RID. Most importantly, I am a strong believer in what I like to call "the accessibility revolution." Interpreters are nothing without community. That is why I am so passionate about giving back and the role I can play in offering support to fellow interpreters or students interested in fostering a more accessible community.

Name: Kalen Beck

Contact: KalenBeck@gmail.com or 202-213-5852

Credentials: RID CI and CT, EIPA Written Test

Areas of the state served: Northern, Southern, Rural

Remote or On-site mentoring; on-site available in the Reno-Carson area

Kalen Beck brings more than 30 years of language access expertise to the field as an interpreter, instructor, and mentor as well as being a national consultant and speaker on topics of language access, disability access, and cultural readiness. With a degree in Interpreter Education, she has been passionate about educating and mentoring interpreters across the nation. She has spent much of her interpreting career in the healthcare, government, and theatre industries. Kalen currently serves as treasurer on the National Association of Interpreters in Education board. She is excited to share her enthusiasm for interpreting with other interpreters throughout the State.



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Name: **Michael Farner**

Contact: Farnems@nv.ccsd.net

Credentials: RID NIC

Areas of the state served: Northern, Southern, Rural

Remote or On-site mentoring

I have been interpreting professionally since 2009. I have a Masters in Interpreting Pedagogy, a Bachelors in Deaf Studies and the NIC from RID. I have been mentoring interpreters since 2011. I use a deliberate practice approach and use recorded videos to identify patterns in parameter articulation errors and areas in which mentees can improve their work. I work primarily in k-12 now, however I have extensive postsecondary interpreting experience as well as experience in a variety of other settings such as community, health, legal, and video relay interpreting. I look forward to working with you.

Name: **Obioma U. Officer, MA**

Contact: Oofficer.aslinterpreter@gmail.com

Credentials: RID ED: K-12, EIPA 4.0 and Cruise Interpreting Academy trained

Areas of the state served:

Northern, Southern, Rural

Remote or On-site mentoring; on-site available in the Southern area

Obioma Officer, born and raised in the East Bay Area of California, growing up in a mainstream setting with hearing loss. Diagnosed at the age of 8 with Auditory Processing Disorder, Obioma didn't began signing until she was a freshman in High School. Obioma went on to Ohlone College in Fremont, CA to pursue a degree in Deaf Studies.

Currently the President and Co-Founder of Nevada's Black Deaf Advocates chapter, Obioma strives to see greater attention and acknowledgement of the current needs for diversity and Black/African American (B/AA) representation in our state as leaders and Interpreters. Being a promoter of Deaf advocacy and awareness, and interpreting for over two decades, Obioma seeks equitable treatment and access for all within the Deaf community while prioritizing communication access and allyship. As a Transformational Leader at heart, Obioma finds it to be imperative to empower the next generation of BIPOC Interpreters and the interpreting community at large. Having additional challenges with Auditory Processing, Obioma has found ways to ally with her team, providers, and consumers to assure the best communication outcomes possible.

Obioma has a Bachelor's degree in psychology and a Master's degree in Strategic leadership. Though Obioma did not complete an ITP Program, Obioma actively utilizes her degrees, skills, and experience as a Consultant for Deaf Ministry/ Religious Interpreting and non-profit development while continuing to interpret throughout the communities of Southern Nevada, Northern California, Video Relay Services, and Video Remote Interpreting.