

Deaf Culture, Accessibility & Advocacy

*Jennifer Kalina-Upah, Executive Director
Sign Language Interpreter(s)*

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P/VP: (319) 531-7719

TEXT: (515) 661-4015

EMAIL: Help@ThriveTogetherToday.org

Pre Test



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Agenda

- Our services
- Understanding Deaf Culture
- Access, Accommodation and Communication needs
- Co-Advocacy
- Crisis Hotline

Thrive Together Services



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About Us

- Federal, State, and Locally Funded
- Certified by IowaCASA and IowaCADV
- Fluent in sign language
- Main office is in Cedar Rapids

Reference: Thrive Together Brochure



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Provided Services

Thrive Together offers direct advocacy and victim services to individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, or have hearing loss, who have experienced violence in Iowa.

Our services include:

- Suicide Prevention
- Safety Planning
- Community Education
- Substance Abuse Program
- Housing Program
- Advocacy and Crisis Hotline
- Legal, Medical, and Housing Advocacy
- Information and Referrals

Reference: Thrive Together Brochure



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Deaf Culture & Terminology



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Terminology (Labels)

DO USE:

- Deaf
- DeafDisabled
- Hard of Hearing
- DeafBlind
- Late Deafened

DON'T USE:

- Deaf and Dumb
- Deaf and Mute
- Disabled
- Handicapped
- Hearing Impaired



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Deaf Culture

- Values
- Traditions
- Specific Behaviors
- Language

Language

- Primary language is ASL (American Sign Language)
- Recognized language with its own rules of grammar & structure
- Visual Language
- Gestures, facial expressions, and body language are VERY IMPORTANT
- English and ASL are NOT the same

Language (continued)

- Not everyone knows ASL. Some use SEE, home signs, PSE
 - Depends on Educational background, childhood/family inclusive, community exposure
- Language Deprivation
 - Identity reading levels
 - Not exposed to Deaf community nor language itself

ASL/English



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ASL

I ago hot sick 2 dies I not dies doctor I yes in home
stay I sick spinal meningitis not going in doctor

ENGLISH

When I was 2 years old, I had a high fever and almost died. I survived, but I stayed at home. I don't recall seeing a doctor. It was spinal meningitis!

Writing Tips

- 5 Ws
- Keep it simple
- Jargon
- One at a time

ASL

Daddy hit many many blood me saw me
afraid ran tell friend call police maybe jail

ENGLISH

Daddy hit mommy many times until I saw blood. I was scared and ran and told a friend about it. My friend called the police and maybe daddy will go to jail.

English vs. ASL - Translation

State your name, home address and phone number

Name, What?

Home address, What?

Phone number, What?

Is anyone injured or in need of medical attention?

Hurt, Who?

Ambulance need?

Doctor need?

Are you at the site where the emergency is occurring?

Emergency – where?

You – there still?

Can you describe the nature of the injury?

Hurt, where?

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Test your Knowledge

You arrive at the scene of an accident. The only witness is a deaf man and you do not know sign language. You know that the man is deaf, uses ASL and at that moment, you are unable to secure an interpreter.

What 5 questions would you ask him (in ASL)?

LIP READING EXERCISE

<https://shorturl.at/udvhE>

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Lip Reading

- 30/70 Rule
- P/B, S/Z, D/T
- What?
- NEVER SAY: Can you read my lips?

Effective Communication Strategies TIPS



Patience
Attention
Gesture
Obstruction
Position

Volume
Mouth Movement
Assumption
Check for understanding
Communication preference

Call for a certified interpreter if requested

Quick Break Q & A



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Sign Language Interpreters



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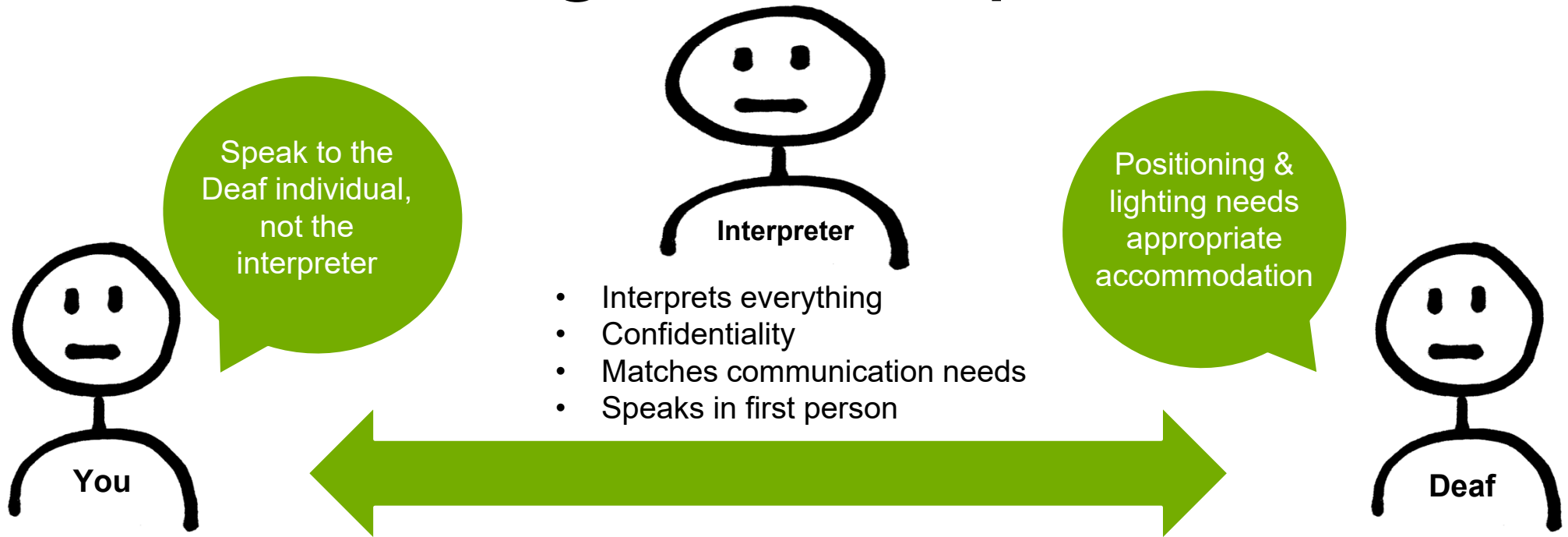
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Sign Language Interpreting

- Most commonly requested
- License
- Specialized training
- Code of Professional Conduct
- Communication facilitator
- Who provides interpreters?
- 332 permanent interpreters

Using an Interpreter



When Requesting a Sign Language Interpreter

- Encourage at least 5-7 days advance notice
- Have information ready
 - Date/Time of interview/meeting
 - Name of interviewer and company
 - Address in detail
 - Telephone number
 - Event title (victim witness interview, victim interview, jail intake etc.)
 - Include special accommodation/needs (ASL/SEE/Oral etc.)
 - Provide at least 24-48 hour cancellation notice
 - Check interpreting company's policy on this

How to contact a Certified Sign Language Interpreter?

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Interpreters

<https://www.iowastaterid.org/search>

IOWA STATE REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF

Contact Us

IOWA STATE REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF

ISRID

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ISRID Interpreter Search

There are benefits to hiring an interpreter directly AND to employing agencies to do the work for you.

Below, is a link to a list of state licensed interpreters whom you can contact directly AND a link to a list of supporting agencies that can arrange an interpreter for you.

- [Interpreter Search](#)
- [Agency Interpreter Search](#)

Supporting Organizations

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Interpreters:

2024-2025 Interpreter Search List ISRID : Sheet1

Name	City	State	Zipcode	email	phone number	Iowa License Number
Ryan Peterson	Altoona	IA	50009	rpinterpreting@gmail.com	515-360-2084	00508
Carrie Wood	Ames	IA	50010	schedule@lifeinterpreter.com	515-265-5433	00189
Tara R von Walden	Ankeny	IA	50021	tvonterp@gmail.com	515-954-0584	00162
Lauren Mills	Ankeny	IA	50023	ljmills14@ole.augie.edu	641-485-5562	091667
Paul Toth	Ankeny	IA	50021	pauljuliatt@yahoo.com	515-721-7646	00045
Jeff/reyn Reese	Ankeny	IA	50023	schedule@lifeinterpreter.com	515-265-5433	00107
Heidi Parrow	Bondurant	IA	50035	heidilynnparrow@gmail.com	507-384-8258	000502
Meghann Cassidy	Council Bluffs	IA	51501	meghannmcassidy@gmail.com	402-639-7714	00325
Holly Shannon	Davenport	IA	52806	holly.e.shannon@gmail.com	605-310-2235	000424
Rebecca Marks	West Des Moines	IA	50266	Rebeccasmrks@gmail.com	402-651-6224	00676
Amber Tucker	Des Moines	IA	50317	artucker2930@gmail.com	563-210-5672	00090
David Theobald	Dubuque	IA	52001	signlangboy@mac.com	563-663-4910	00120

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Video remote interpreting (VRI)



Video remote interpreting (VRI) is a service that uses devices such as web cameras or videophones to provide sign language or spoken language interpreting services.

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Video remote interpreting (VRI)

Highly dependent on meeting technical standards for delivery

- Bandwidth
- Internet Speed
- Size of Screen
- Clear View of Interpreter/Client
- Interpreter Language Match
- Regional Interpreting

Situations that Require Interpreting

- Interaction
- Meetings
- Intake/orientation process
- Reports
- Hearings
- Classes
- Arrest (Miranda Rights, OWI, DV, SA etc.)
- When a Deaf person requests one

Rights of Deaf Victims In Choosing Interpreters

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- Rights to Choose Interpreters
- Agency Selection
- Importance of Qualified Interpreters
- Legal Protections
- Empowerment and Agency



The Role of Interpreters

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- Facilitating Effective Communication
- Legal Rights and Access
- Enhancing Understanding
- Building Trust
- Promoting Advocacy



Violence of Crime, Sexual and Domestic Violence in the Deaf, HOH and DB Community

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Vulnerability in the Deaf Community

Small Community
& Support System

Language/Cultural
Differences

Isolation

Incidental
Learning

Access to
Communication
ADA Accessibility

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Deaf Trauma Rate

- 2-3x more likely to experience trauma compared to hearing individuals
- 69% have experienced child abuse or maltreatment
- Deaf prisoners are abused at 3 times the rate of Hearing prisoners.
- 50-54% experienced sexual abuse compared to 10-25% of hearing children
 - 50% of Deaf girls compared to 25% of hearing girls
 - 54% of Deaf boys compared to 10% of hearing boys
- 3-5 times greater chance of serious mental illness and emotional disturbances compared to hearing population
- Higher rate of depression and PTSD
- Deaf Fatigue
- Less breaks from learning

Cultural and Communication Barrier

National Institutes of Health

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Deaf, HOH & Hearing Loss Statewide

Hearing Loss:	396,027
Hard of Hearing:	112,709
Deaf:	11,571
 Total:	 520,307

ADA Accommodation



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ADA of 1990

- Title II: Prohibits State and local government from discriminating against an individual with a disability.
- Title III: prohibits discrimination in public accommodations (i.e., private entities that own, operate, lease, or lease to places of public accommodation), commercial facilities, and private entities that offer certain examinations and courses related to educational and occupational certification.
- Spirit of the law says entity should ask the person requesting the accommodation which one is most appropriate, as that individual is most aware of their needs.

Co-Advocacy



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- The Importance of Co-Advocacy
- Benefits of Collaboration
- Empowerment
- Promoting Awareness



Thrive Together Crisis Hotline M – F 8 am – 5 pm



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1. Deaf user signs to the interpreter

1

2. Interpreter speaks to the hearing user

2



4. Interpreter signs to deaf user

4

3. Hearing user speaks to interpreter

3

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If Time allows

Basic Sign Language

Questions?

Pre Test Answers Evaluation Form



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