

Interpreters as Agents of Change: Soft Skills and Ethics

Presented by Amanda Tuite

Monday, September 18, 2023 +
Wednesday, September 20, 2023
6:00pm-8:00pm ET via Zoom

0.4 PS RID CEUs (M/MH in MI)
FREE for Michigan Interpreters
RSVP at cwoodpd.com

This workshop is made possible by a grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and is sponsored by DEAF C.A.N.! in cooperation with CWoodPD.



DESCRIPTION

Have you ever been in a situation as an interpreter where you wanted to speak up but you couldn't because you didn't know how? This workshop will analyze our understanding of ethical behavior and inclusive practices in mental health settings. We will discuss how interpersonal communication skills such as listening, empathy, conflict resolution, and respect for others are crucial to the foundation of effective communication and inclusion. This can be achieved by learning more about one of the deaf perspectives on how to change one's behavior as a part of the interpreter's professional responsibility.

Throughout this interactive workshop, participants will work together on different mental health related scenarios where deaf people are being treated unfairly and discuss how the interpreter can respond within their boundaries. Discussion and group activities will be used to adapt and apply soft skill techniques using mental health scenarios.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

- Examine how the interpreter's own bias impacts the interpreting work in the mental health field.
- Identify three different interpersonal communication styles as well as which style of communication needs improvement.
- Evaluate different perspectives, and navigate the complexity that comes with a variety of perspectives.
- List the soft and hard skills that interpreters already have.
- Explain how certain behaviors are forms of unethical action.

DETAILS

- **Workshop approved for 0.4 PS RID CEUs (or M/MH in Michigan).**
- This workshop will be presented in ASL.
- This workshop is based in the Eastern Time Zone.
- Target Audience: This workshop is intended for certified interpreters, advocates and allies who work with Deaf and hearing professionals in the Mental Health arena, as well as for people who are deaf and hard of hearing.
- IRID is an Approved RID CMP Sponsor for continuing education activities. This Professional Studies program is offered for 0.4 CEUs at the Extensive Content Knowledge Level.



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ABOUT THE PRESENTER

In 2020, Amanda realized a lifelong dream to provide access and training on a variety of subjects that would provide an impact on the deaf and hard of hearing community. With this in mind, she founded Access Vine which currently holds a variety of contracts to provide a service array of various services including advising on communication access, technology as it pertains to individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing as well as spotlighting Deaf professionals to provide examples of real-world role models.

Prior to founding Access Vine, Amanda was an account executive for various Video Relay Service (VRS) companies, capitalizing on her sales experience.

In addition to her work in the VRS industry, Amanda was a trainer for the Texas Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services where she trained & provided technical assistance to agency program staff and stakeholders on a variety of topics. Amanda also served as the Camp Sign Director, a state-wide camp geared toward Deaf children.

Currently, Amanda lives in Austin where she is married to a Deaf husband, along with her two adult CODA children and two dogs, both of which like to sit in her Zoom meetings.



POLICIES

- **Attendance is required on both days. Partial CEUs will not be given.**
- This workshop will be offered at no charge. If you need to cancel please contact Cindy at cwoodpd@gmail.com as soon as possible.
- Please contact Cindy at cwoodpd@gmail.com at least 14 days in advance of the event with any ADA accommodation requests.
- CWood Professional Development promotes a learning environment free from discrimination and bias, and encourages mutual respect for all participants.

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