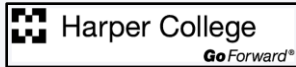




An Introduction to:

Interpreting for Deaf-Blind Consumers

HARRIS COMMUNICATIONS



Interpreting with individuals who are deaf-blind can be a challenging and rewarding experience due to the unique diversity within the population. The interpreter is required to possess a multitude of skills to meet the individual needs of each consumer. This awareness workshop will focus on the Deaf-blind community, common eye conditions, communication modalities used within the community, assistive technology, interpreting strategies for visual and tactile communicators, human guide techniques, and cultural awareness. This workshop will allow participants to apply the fundamental knowledge and beginning level skills to hands-on experiences. Participants will also strengthen their teaming skills while working in groups.

Mindy Joy Mayer is a Chicago native, who is deaf with Usher Syndrome. She graduated from Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, IL. In 1995, moved to Seattle, Washington having accepted a job at Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind and to gain experience living among a large Deaf-Blind community. Living in Seattle for 9 years and working at Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind where her job responsibility was a part of the Boeing Department as a Set-Up machinist to build airplanes. Mindy Joy works with the Helen Keller National Center Representative doing presentations about Deaf-Blind topics. Mindy Joy started working with The Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired on February 6, 2006 as a Deaf-Blind Community Outreach Specialist in the Deaf-Blind Program. She teaches at Columbia College instructing interpreting students how to become an SSP.

Laura J. Thomas is the North Central Regional Representative for the Helen Keller National Center, based in E. Moline, IL. In this position since 1995, Ms. Thomas' region covers six states – Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Ms. Thomas' position includes providing information and referral, conducting assessments, providing assistance and linkages, consultation and collaboration with other entities. Ms. Thomas has extensive experience working with individuals who are Deaf-Blind, state and national agencies/organizations, academic programs and consumer groups. Ms. Thomas is a co-presenter, workshop trainer, and consultant to individuals who are Deaf-Blind, agencies, rehabilitation and academic programs. Ms. Thomas received her BA from Gallaudet University, Washington, DC, MA from New York University, NY, NY, and completed post-graduate coursework at San Diego State University and Northern Illinois University.

Julie E. Somers is an experienced professional who has worked in several related fields in the deaf and deaf-blind communities. Having lived in the Chicago area most of her life, Mrs. Somers is deaf with Usher Syndrome. She teaches an introductory class in deaf-blindness to interpreter students at Columbia College and is currently the SSP Coordinator of the Illinois Deaf-Blind Retreat held at the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired and in that role, coordinates SSP volunteers for the deaf-blind campers and ensures that each camper has as positive an experience as possible. She serves as a co-presenter on topics related to deaf-blindness with the Chicago Lighthouse and the Helen Keller National Center's North Central office. In a previous job, Mrs. Somers has served as the manager of Chicago Hearing Society's Domestic Violence Awareness Project. Mrs. Somers is a graduate of Hinsdale South High School, earned her B.A. from Gallaudet University, and her M.S. Ed. from Illinois State University.

Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired
1850 W Roosevelt Rd, Chicago, IL 60608
Saturday, April 25, 2009 * 9a – 4p



Any STATE RID Chapter: \$50
ITP Students: \$35
Non-Members: \$60
Member / ITP * MUST SHOW PROOF



RID CEU – 0.6 PS



Workshops will be taught in ASL
*** No Interpreters Provided ***
Deaf & Hearing Interpreters * VRS Interpreters
Students * Freelancers * Educational
Mental Health * Religious * Community

*** You must attend entire workshop to earn CEUs ***

Seating is limited to 40 people. REGISTER EARLY. Workshop Date: April 25, 2009. No refunds after: April 20, 2009
Send checks payable to: Illinois RID: (mail to) Tim Mahoney - Secretary, 1635 W. Pratt Blvd, # 2-South, Chicago, IL 60626-4131
Questions? WWW.ILRID.ORG or E-mail: Tim Mahoney: AustinCop@aol.com

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____