



Spoken Language Health Care Interpreter Work Group

Agenda

2:00 - 2:05	Welcome and Housekeeping
2:05- 2:15	Meeting Recap and Project Plan
2:15 - 3:00	Member Discussion
3:00 – 3:15	Voting on Previous Recommendations (if time)
3:15 – 3:20	Discussion of MN's 5 most common languages
3:20 - 3:30	Future Meeting Topic Prep, Next Steps and Closing

Respectful Meeting Guidelines

- When speaking, re-introduce yourself (and member role).
- Speak slowly so everyone can clearly understand what you share.
- Stay present giving your full attention to this discussion; let us know via chat if you need to leave the discussion and when you are back.
- Stay focused on the agenda item being discussed (Jot out notes for reference later).
- Share your main thoughts/key points early when speaking.
- All members have the right to share their ideas and all ideas are valuable.
- Be respectful of other participants - including privacy (avoid sharing private details).

Respectful Meeting Guidelines (continued)

- Listen to other members with an open mind.
- Assume positive intent – embracing a mindset that will lead to something good.
- Focus on the issue, not the person giving input.
- Advocate for all, not individual situations - stories are shared to inform the recommendations.
- Summarize what you heard to ensure understanding before reacting to another's comment.
- Be mindful of the distracting nature of chat messages to both presenters and other members.
- Time has been allotted throughout the meeting for questions and discussion.

Members of the Public

- Invited to listen.
- Submit comments to SLHCIWG.MDH@state.mn.us.

Meeting Recap

- Members reviewed, refined and began to vote on member-drafted rural gap recommendations.
- 4 recommendations were submitted and a fifth was drafted during the meeting:
 - 1) Proposing a searchable database of interpreters – passed with full endorsement.
 - 2) Proposing a standard mileage reimbursement rate – passed with 67% fully supporting and 33% supporting with minor reservations.
 - 3) Proposing increasing fees to join the registry throughout the first 4 years of entry – not voted on.
 - 4) Proposing MN's registry is able to track fraud and ethics violations for interpreters – passed with 89% fully supporting and 11% supporting with minor reservations.
 - 5) Proposing registry enrollment occur every 2 years rather than every year – not voted on.
- Members were reminded that 3 sets of recommendations require additional work/voting.

Work Group Timeline

Date and Tasks	Oct 30 Nov 13*	Nov 25* Dec 9	Dec 18* Jan 13	Jan 29* Feb 10	Feb 26 March 10	March 26 April 14	April 30 May 12	May 28 June 9
Consumer and Provider Survey	X							
Changing Needs/Emerging Standards		X						
Training and Certification			X					
Changes in Telehealth Requirements				X				
Reimbursements					X			
Barriers to Accessing Roster						X		
Rural Gaps							X	
Design Financial Assistance Meeting								X

Recurrence: 2nd Tuesday and last Thursday of the month

* indicates off-cycle meeting

Meeting Structure

- **Meeting 1** = discussion of research/resources on the topic(s), SME presentations, taking in information on the topic(s).
- Deadline to submit proposed recommendations is the **Thursday before topic meeting 2.**
- **Meeting 2** = presentation of proposed recommendations, discussion and consensus from members.
- **Work Group Goal** = The goal of the work group is to recommend improvements to support access to health care interpreting services statewide.

Member Discussion

Topic (from statute): convening a meeting of public and private sector representatives of the spoken language health care interpreter's community to identify ongoing sources of financial assistance to aid individual interpreters in meeting interpreter training and testing registry requirements.

Public Comment 5 Common Language for MN

Previous recommendations on this subject included:

- The 5 most common languages in MN are **not** mentioned in statute.
- MN language demographic data at MN.gov could be a source of defining the five common languages.
- <https://www.mncompass.org/topics/demographics/immigration> is another potential source for this information.
- Suggestion to have interpreters speak rather than write for public comment support, and that interpretation be recorded for reference.

Future Meeting Prep/Next Steps

- **Next meeting** will be Meeting #2 on the topic of convening a group to discuss financial assistance for spoken word health care interpreters; **Tuesday, June 9th 1:00 – 2:30.**
- **Draft recommendations are due** the Thursday before the next meeting – **Thursday, June 4th** to be able to be shared/reviewed by members prior to the meeting.
- Submit Expense Forms **for this meeting** to the SLHCIWG email address and **copy** Rick.Michals@state.mn.us and Julianna.Leintz@state.mn.us.

Thank You!

SLWG Email:

SLHCIWG.MDH@state.mn.us