

A One Day Workshop (7 Continuing Education Credits)
Friday, July 18, 2008 – 8:30am – 5pm
Room 307 - Consortium Library at
University of Alaska Anchorage

***How do you provide the "talking cure" when you
can't "talk" to your client?
Providing competent Mental Health services to clients from the Deaf and
Limited English Proficient communities.***

Presented by

**Robyn Dean, MA & Robert Pollard, Ph.D.
Faculty of the University of Rochester School of Medicine.**

&

**Karen Ferguson, Ph.D.
State Refugee Coordinator, Catholic Social Services, Anchorage Alaska**

Co-Sponsored by: Alaska Psychological Association (AK-PA), University of Alaska Anchorage- Psychology and Catholic Social Services. In addition, this training is supported in part by a grant from the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority.

AK-PA is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education programs for psychologists. AK-PA maintains responsibility for the program.

Presentation Summary

Goal: To understand the “normal different-ness” of working with the Deaf population and other language minority groups, several dimensions of interpreting work, their unique variants in mental health service settings, and the impact of these dimensions on interpreters, clinicians and, ultimately, the quality of patient care. This is an interactive workshop that promotes information exchange and enhanced comprehension of (and respect for) how interpreters and clinicians *both* contribute to effective interpreting and therefore how each professional bears certain responsibilities for optimal outcomes.

Description: The translation work that interpreters do involves much more than transposing one language for another. The nature of the physical environment, the dynamics and interactions between the people who are present, and even the “inner noise” of the interpreter contribute to the accuracy, or lack thereof, of the resulting translation. In settings such as mental health, the consumers’ (clinicians’ and patients’) perceptions, decisions, and behavior can be differentially impacted by how the interpreter is influenced by these complex language and non-language factors. What makes this problematic is that interpreters and clinicians are mostly unaware that this dynamic is at play and that it has a direct impact on patient care. This workshop is designed to dispel the myths and mis-assumptions clinicians have about deaf consumers and other language minority groups, the interpreting profession in general and presumed methods for working with interpreters. These erroneous assumptions will be replaced with a framework for understanding the realities of these language minorities, the nature of interpreting work itself, and the realities, and strategies, of working with interpreters.

Learning Objectives

1. understand the general realities of interpreting and translation work within signed and spoken languages
2. learn a new framework for understanding interpreting as a “practice profession”
3. understand how the unique variants of mental health service settings impact interpreters, clinicians, the decisions both interpreters and clinicians make, and, ultimately, the quality of patient care
4. understand, through interaction with interpreters, the unique linguistic and cultural factors of interpreters’ socio-linguistic minority groups
 - a. This will be done in parallel with information about sign language interpreting and the deaf community specifically.

Workshop Schedule

8:15 am - registration

8:30 am – 12 – presentation (including break)

12-1 pm - Lunch

1- 5 pm – presentation continues (including breaks)

Coffee/tea and snacks provided

About the Speakers

Robert Pollard, Ph.D., is a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and director of the Deaf Wellness Center (DWC). The DWC is home to numerous initiatives pertaining to mental health, healthcare, sign language interpreting and professional education opportunities for deaf people. Dr. Pollard’s work has been recognized with many national awards and honors. He has been principal investigator on 35 federal, foundation, regional, and local grants totaling over \$3.8M and has published 68 articles and book chapters. He is in frequent demand as a speaker, consultant, and expert on deafness and mental health. Dr. Pollard’s scholarship interests include psychopathology, psychological testing, sign language interpreting, and healthcare in the deaf population. He is active in several national organizations, especially the APA, where he founded a Special Interest Section on Deafness.

Robyn Dean, MA, C.I./C.T., was appointed to the faculty of the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1999, in recognition of her scholarship in the interpreting field and leadership in the education of interpreters, medical students, and other health care professionals. She has been an interpreter for 16 years, with particular service experience in healthcare and mental health settings. Ms. Dean holds a BA in ASL Interpreting and an MA in Theology. Ms. Dean's recent application of demand-control theory to sign language interpreting, as described in the *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education* (Winter, 2001), has been the topic of numerous workshops, publications, and grant projects nationally and internationally. Ms. Dean’s work is funded by several federal grants, one which infuses demand-control schema curricular materials into fifteen interpreter training programs across the US and another which studies the effectiveness of observation-supervision in mental health interpreter training.

Karen Ferguson, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist in Alaska, serves as the State Refugee Coordinator and the Program Director. She has worked with oral language interpreters her entire professional career and has developed local training in Anchorage for spoken language interpreters offered at Catholic Social Services.

Fees and Registration Form

***Please print out this form, fill it in and mail in with your payment to: ***

AK-PA
P.O. Box 241292
Anchorage, AK 99524-1292

Or fax it with credit card information to (907) 344-8878

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Workshop Fees:

AK-PA Members - \$50
Non- AK-PA Members – \$55
Student AK-PA Members - \$15
Non- AK-PA Students - \$25

Registration Information:

Name: _____ Title _____

Mailing Address (including city, state, and zip code):

Contact Phone _____
& e-mail: _____

AK-PA Member Y N Fee: \$ _____

Payment: \$ _____ Check (made out to AK-PA) Visa Mastercard

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

REGISTRATION WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR AT 8:15 AM