

# Deaf VR Professionals & Designated Interpreters

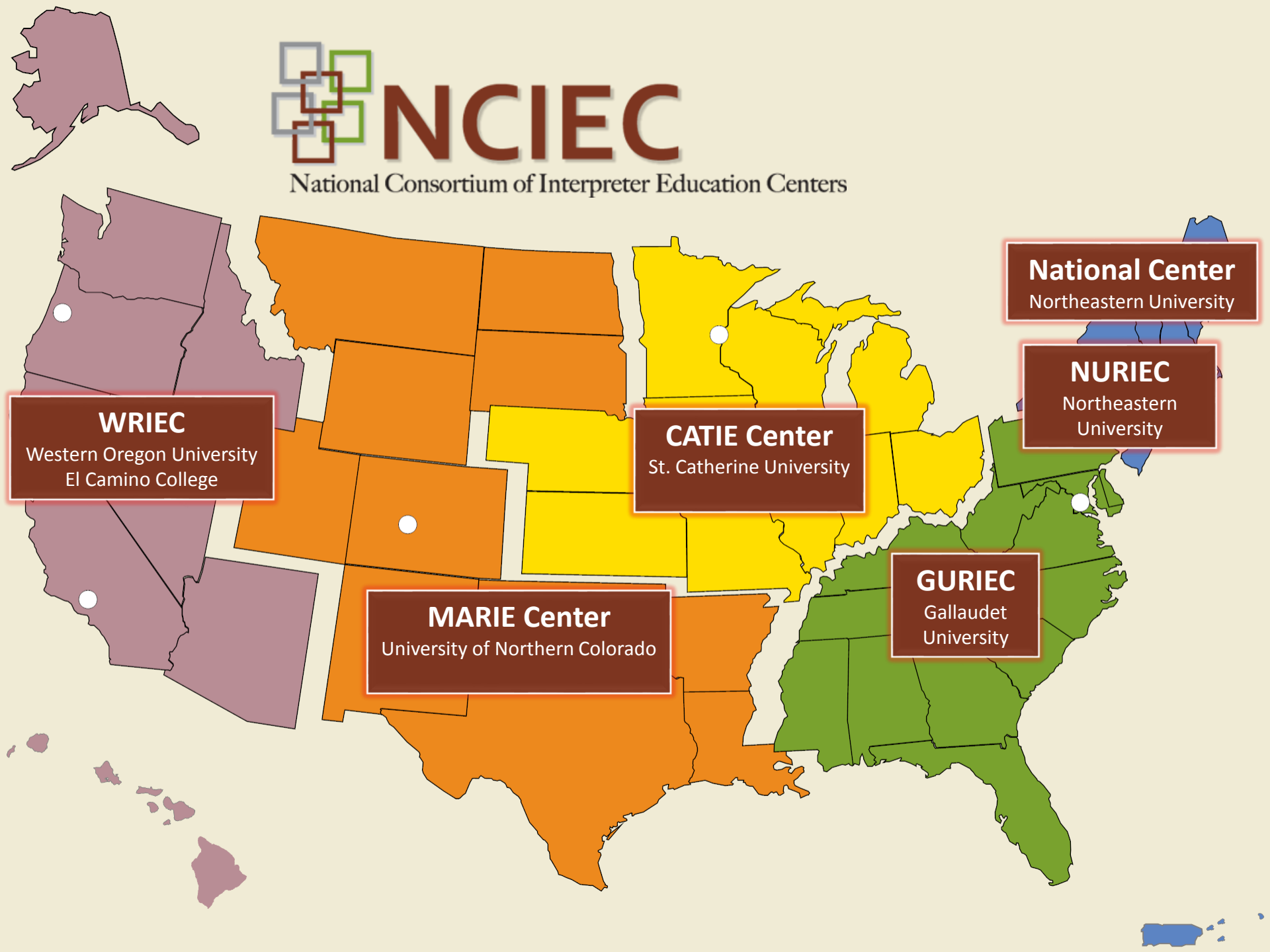
Trudy Schafer, CSC, CI/CT

**NIEC Project Coordinator**



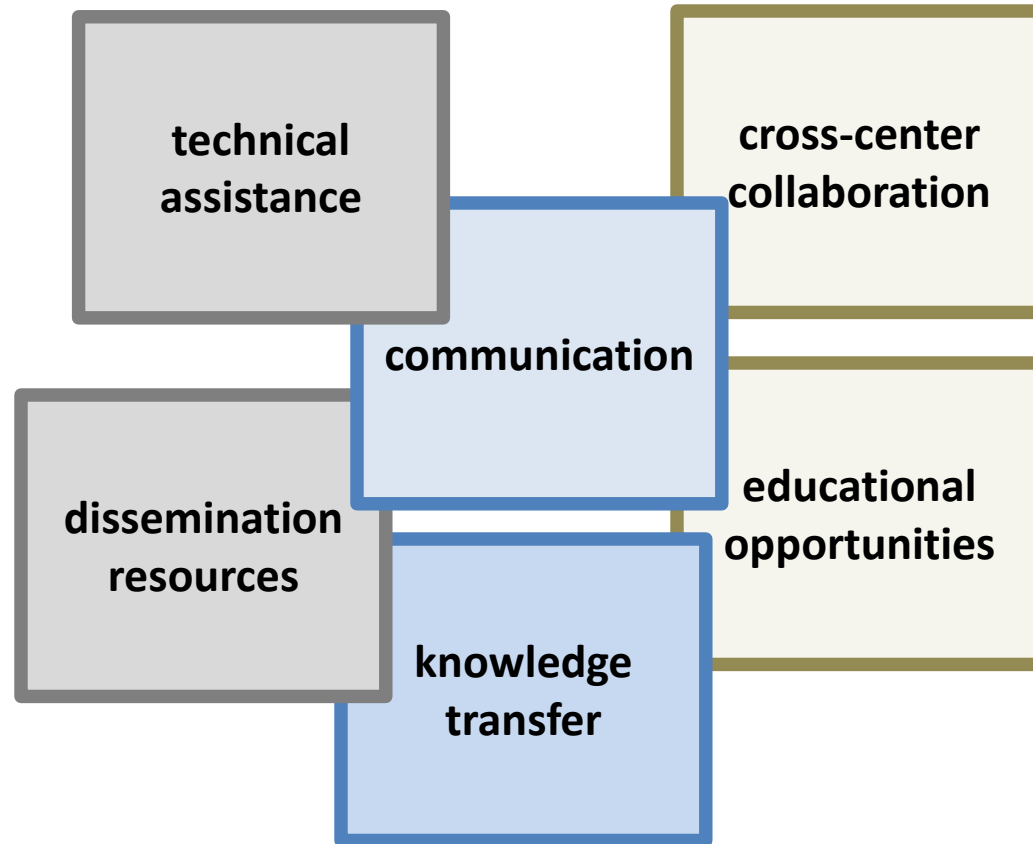
# NCIEC

National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers



## Consortium Mission

- to connect and collaborate with diverse stakeholders in order to create excellence in interpreting



# Outcomes

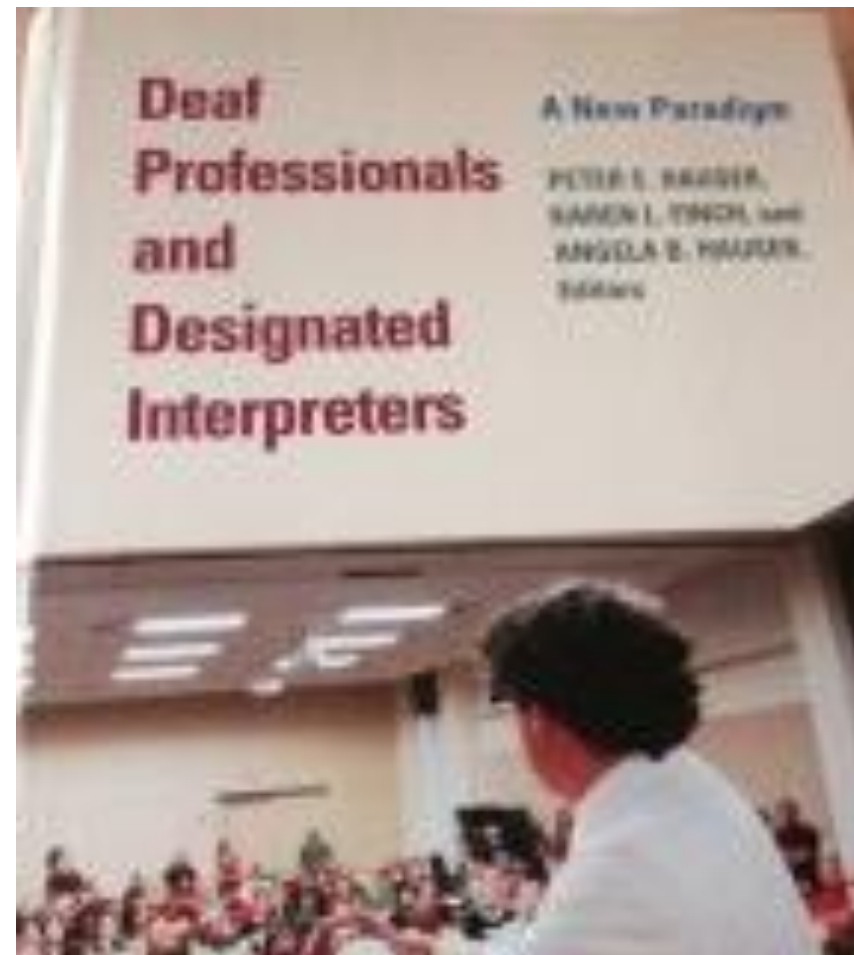
- Designated Interpreting:
  - Define
  - Identify Issues
  - Explore Techniques
- Listen to a Deaf VR Professional and Designated Interpreter discuss their work

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# Valuable Resource

Deaf Professionals and Designated Interpreters: A New Paradigm. Peter C. Hauser, Karen L. Finch and Angela B. Hauser, Editors



# Poll Question

- Are you currently, or have you previously served as, a Designated Interpreter?

# Definition

Designated Interpreting is the “marriage between the field of interpreting and the deaf professional’s discipline or work environment”.

(Hauser & Hauser)

# Designated Interpreter

- Highly skilled
- Understands role of Deaf professional
- Knows roles of others in the workplace
- Knows the workplace culture
- Knows the jargon of the field
- Unlimited availability
- Member of a team



# Designated Interpreter Con't.

- Passionate about interpreting
- And, passionate about VR
- Commitment to teamwork
- Cognizant of dress & demeanor
- Can balance invisibility & participation

# Deaf Professional

Deaf Individuals achieving professional positions where their contributions outweigh the cost of interpreting services.

(Hauser & Hauser)

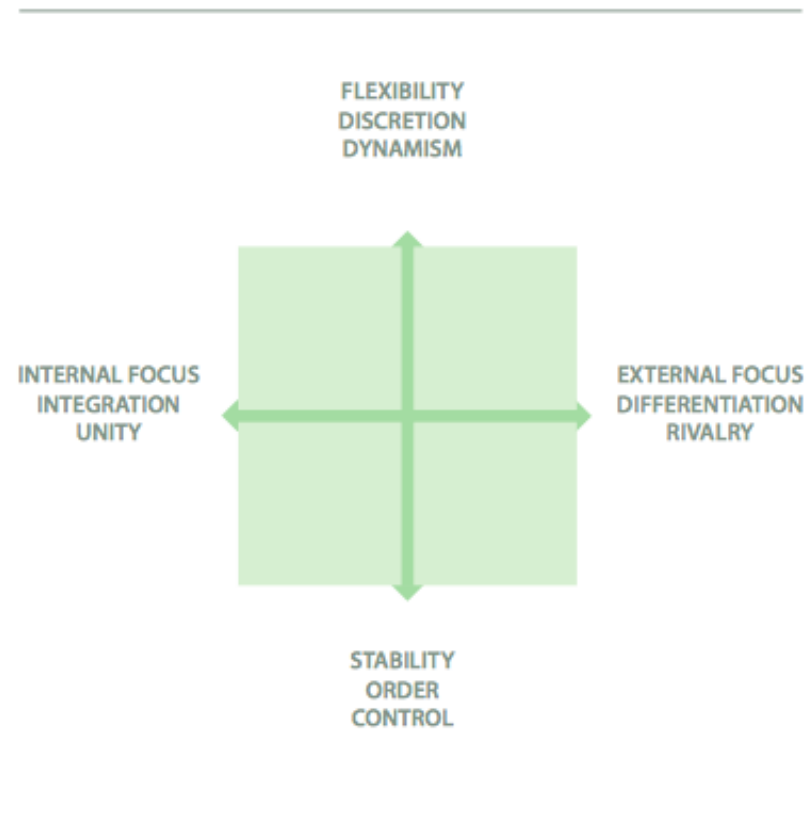
# Deaf Professional Con't.

- Primarily educators and RCDs until civil rights legislation
- More educational and vocational opportunities beginning in late 70's
- VR as role model
- Now more senior managers in VR

# The Organization

- Culture
- Four Variables:
  - Dynamism
  - Rivalry
  - Control
  - Unity
- VR Agencies
  - Control/Hierarchy Culture

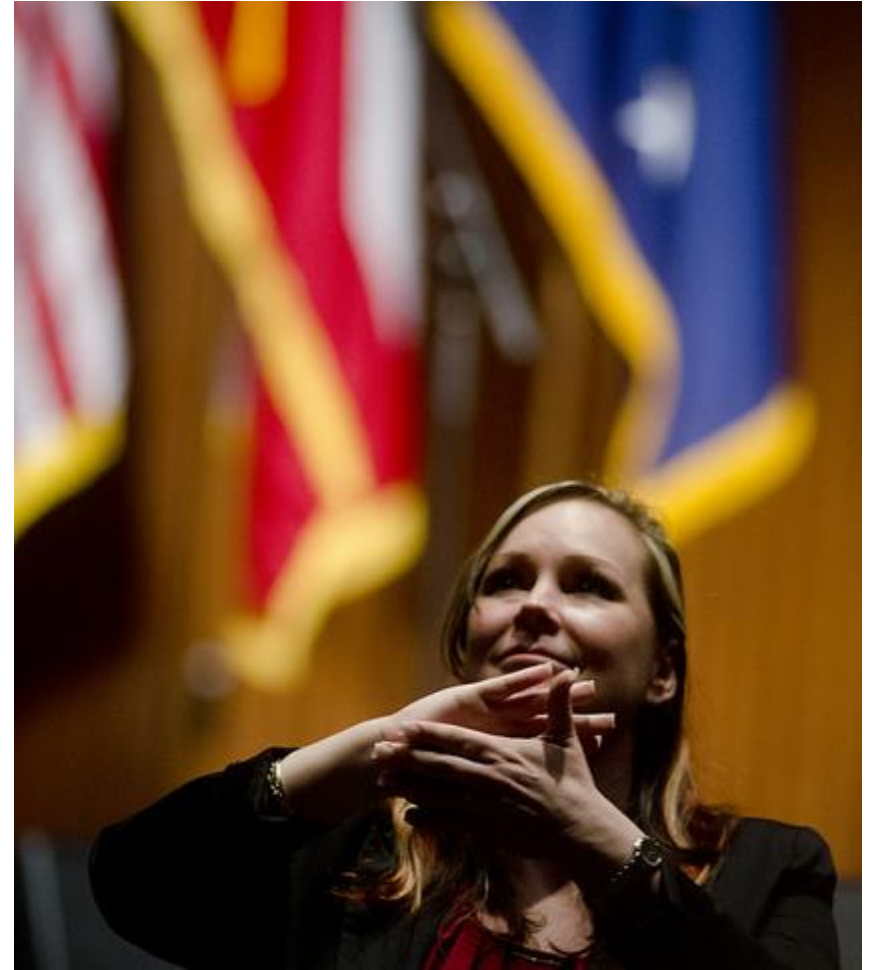
Competing Values Framework



# Are they compatible?



Eri Mowmow Heryawan



LBJ Foundation

# What is Interpreted?



Wikimedia



NCIEC *terptalks*

# Conversational Style



# Interpreting Considerations

- Social Settings
- Working with non-designated Interpreters
- Deaf Professional fatigue in long meetings
- Dual Roles
- Interacting with co-workers
- Fostering rapport between Deaf Profession and consumer.



# Social Interpreting

- Facilitate Deaf Professional's participation
- Office Parties: Attend or Interpret?
- Eat or not?



# Dual Roles



Quinn Dumbrowski

- Define each role
- Downtime management
- Interaction:
  - With Supervisor(s)
  - With Co-Workers
- Socialization

# Some Techniques

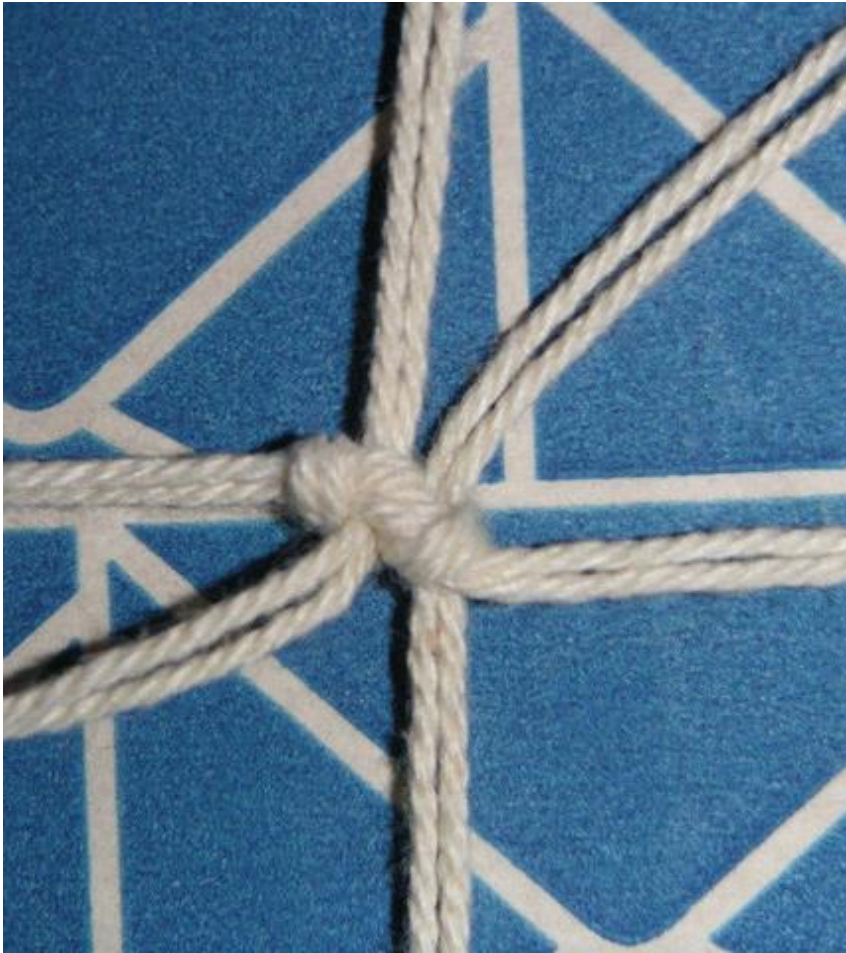
- When Deaf Professional is presenting:
  - Pause
  - Nod
  - Eye contact
- When Deaf Professional is fatigued:
  - Confer in advance
  - “Clarification” strategy
  - Summarize for Deaf Professional

# Interpreting Considerations

- Register:
  - Flexible when interpreting with consumers, peers & superiors
  - Comfortable with public speaking/platform interpreting
  - Strategically places oneself for each setting
- Ethics:
  - Not “neutral”

## Working with Freelance Interpreters

- Be cognizant of dynamics
- Advance preparation
- Establish rapport
- Include Deaf Professional



meknits

- Always be aware of connections between Deaf Professional and others:
  - Peers
  - Supervisor
  - Consumers

# More Resources!

- NCIEC Resources for Interpreting in VR Settings
  - Glossary
  - Bibliography
  - DVD 6-pack
  - And More!
- <http://www.interpretereducation.org/specialization/vocational-rehabilitation/>

# Poll Question

- If you have not been a Designated Interpreter, would you consider becoming one?



# A DI-DP Team

- Mark Dore, Area Director, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) & Statewide Coordinator of Deaf and HH Services (SCD)
- Mary Jo Schwie, Designated Interpreter, MRC

# Questions and Answers

Use the chat function to state your question. Trudy will facilitate.

# Training Opportunities

- Next webinar:
  - **Topic:** Skills Development for VR Interpreters: Models and Resources
  - **Presenter:** Anna Witter-Merithew
  - **Date:** 11.24.2014
  - **Time:** 7-8:30 pm Eastern, 6-7:30 pm Central, 5-6:30 pm Mountain, 4-5:30 pm Pacific
  - **For more information:** [www.unco.edu/marie](http://www.unco.edu/marie)

**The Consortium Centers are funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, Training of Interpreters Program CFDA 84.160A and 84.160B.**



# Connect with us on



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