

Rural Sexual Violence Response National Conference

Transforming—Ourselves. Our Community. Our Response.

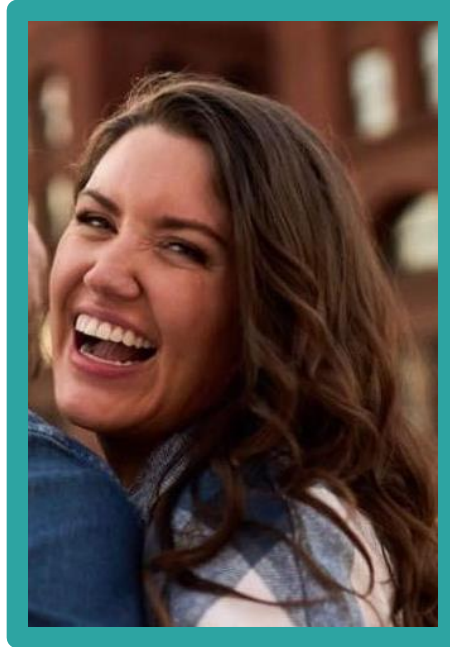


Working Toward Language Equity: How SARTs can Expand Language Access for Survivors

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Presenter



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About MNCASA

MNCASA is a statewide coalition driving transformative culture change to address sexual violence through advocacy, prevention, racial justice, and systems change.

We envision a world free of sexual violence in which all human beings are treated with dignity and respect and communities are transformed through safety, healing, and partnerships.



Our Work



ADVOCACY

We provide leadership and resources to advocates in providing services to all victims/survivors in their communities.



PREVENTION

We work to prevent harm and address root causes of sexual violence using an anti-oppression lens.



RACIAL JUSTICE

We work toward a Minnesota where BIPOC survivors have access to safety, affirmation, and systems they can trust and use.



SYSTEM CHANGE & POLICY

We invest in community-focused work alongside our efforts to transform systems, prioritizing underserved communities.

Our Values



What We Offer



Training

- Webinars
- Workshops
- Conferences
- Special Topics



Technical Assistance

- Brainstorming
- Meeting Facilitation
- Problem Solving



Resources

- Templates
- Fact Sheets
- Blog
- Tool Kits & Guidebooks



Connections

- Experts
- Technical Assistance Providers
- Peers
- Mentors

Objectives

- Identify key language access requirements mandated by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Executive Order 13166.
- Differentiate between translation and interpretation services and identify situations where each service is most appropriate.
- Develop collaborative language access plans among SART team members to facilitate referrals and improve language services coordination.

Why Language Access?

- Ensures equal access to services.
- Facilitates effective communication for survivors to receive the support and assistance they need.
- Respects cultural and linguistic diversity.
- Enhances the safety and well-being of survivors.
- Compliance with legal requirements.

**Title VI of the
Civil Rights Act of 1964
&
Executive Order 13166**

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

“No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” [42 U.S.C. § 2000d](#)

Executive Order 13166

Recipients of federal funds **MUST** take reasonable steps to provide language assistance services, such as interpretation or translation services, to ensure that LEP individuals have **meaningful access** to their programs and activities.

E.O. 13166 of Aug 11, 2000

Meaningful Access

Meaningful access means requiring recipients of federal funds to actively remove language barriers and create environments where limited English proficiency (LEP) individuals can fully participate and benefit on an equal basis with others.

Interpretation vs. Translation

Mentimeter

What do you know about working with interpreters and translators?

Instructions:

1. Go to Menti.com and enter in the code 4560 6435.
2. Answer the quiz questions as they appear.





Interpreters

We interpret spoken or sign language.



medical appointments



court proceedings



conferences

[Translator vs. Interpreter - American Translators Association \(ATA\) \(atanet.org\)](https://www.atanet.org)



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Developing a Language Access Plan

Sections of a Language Access Plan

Section 1: Needs Assessment & Goal Setting

Section 2: Language Protocols

Section 3: Outreach Materials

Section 4: Training

Section 5: Evaluation & Feedback

Section 1: Needs Assessment

- Identify demographics and languages in the community you serve.
- Assess points of contacts with survivors.
- Determine the level of interaction with survivors.
- Gauge how stakeholders engage with language access efforts.

Section 1: Goal Setting

- Create specific and measurable language access goals that reflect the needs of your community.
- Define a timeline.
- Determine resources and funding required to achieve these goals.
- Engage stakeholders in the goal setting process.

Section 2: Language Protocols

- Develop language access protocols.
- Create a process for the translation of SART materials.
- Create a process for providing interpretation services.



Section 3: Outreach Materials

- Develop culturally specific outreach materials and “I speak” cards.
- Create multilingual online resources.

HELLO! I NEED AN INTERPRETER.

I speak _____

Please provide me with an interpreter or bilingual staff member to help me communicate during any scheduled appointments at this office. Thank you.

**See the back of this card for more information*

Section 4: Training

- Relevant laws and policies related to language access.
- Culturally specific considerations.
- Effective communication techniques.
- Use of interpreters and translators.
- Continuous learning and improvement opportunities.

Section 5: Evaluation

- Stay current with community demographics and language needs.
- Create a process for complaints or suggestions.
- Seek feedback from survivors.



Language Service Referrals

Developing Referral Pathways

- Establish clear pathways for referring LEP individuals to language services.
- Identify and coordinate with community-based organizations.
- Establish formal partnerships.
- Engage with cultural advisors.
- Foster ongoing collaboration.
- Coordinate referral networks.
- Co-develop language access resources.

The Importance of Collaborating with Culturally Specific Groups

- Deep knowledge and understanding of cultural norms, values, and traditions.
- Established trust and rapport.
- Range of support services and resources.
- Tailored outreach and education initiatives.
- Community engagement and empowerment.

References

- <https://www.nsvrc.org/sarts/toolkit/6-3#lap>
- https://www.lep.gov/sites/lep/files/resources/2011_Language_Access_Assessment_and_Planning_Tool.pdf

Questions?



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