Greetings:

My name is LaTanya Jones, and I am the Director of the Behavioral Health Interpreting Program (BHI) at the CATIE Center at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, MN. Our goal and vision for the BHI is to "Increase the quantity and improve the quality of sign language interpreters available to work in Mental and Behavioral healthcare settings."

St. Catherine University’s CATIE Center in St. Paul, MN, has an award from the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration to support the increase of interpreters working in behavioral health settings. Our Behavioral Health Interpreting project is collaborating with the Alabama Department of Mental Health, Office of Deaf Services’ 2020 MHIT Institute. We seek to support interpreters working toward their Qualified Mental Health Interpreter (QMHI) credentials. While all interpreters are encouraged to apply for funding, interpreters who identify as a member of the following underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply:

- Men
- Persons of Color
- Trilingual
- Persons who live and work in rural areas
- Deaf

The CATIE Center will provide reimbursement to a limited number of interpreters working towards the QMHI credential. Reimbursable expenses (receipts are required for reimbursement) include:

- **2020 MHIT Registration Fees** for either the Core program or the Alumni track.
- **Travel expenses** (this amount will be determined by the CATIE Center and will be limited).
  - *Airfare* (limited to the cost of economy, round-trip airfare between the individuals home to MHIT)
    - **Baggage fee** (limited to **one paid** bag each way)
  - *Ground transportation* (Should you use your personal vehicle for any part of the trip, mileage can be reimbursed (must provide google maps as proof of miles driven). Should you rent a vehicle, the covered expense is the base fee for the rental car and gas for the rental. Any add-ons, i.e., additional insurance coverage, GPS services, etc., will not be reimbursed.)
  - **Hotel fees** limited to room charges and room taxes. Hotel services, movies, and other incidentals will not be reimbursed (Airbnb or VRBO will be reimbursed if the rate is comparable to reasonable hotel fees)
- **Follow-up support** to develop the competencies needed to pass the QMHI written exam
Funding is limited and requires a commitment to earning the QMHI. The CATIE Center cannot provide funding to individuals who are already sponsored by other entities, including state government or employers.

For more information, please go to www.healthcareinterpreting.org/mental-health-interpreter-training/.

The CATIE Center also provides online training to help interpreters gain skills in behavioral health work, including the areas of mental health, dependency and addiction recovery, and domestic violence and sexual assault work. To get updates on our programs, go to www.healthcareinterpreting.org and sign up for our mailing list (select Healthcare as a topic of interest), and/or follow the CATIE Center on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/catiecenter/] and Twitter [@CatieCenter].

Warmly,

LaTanya

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