

Working With Individuals Who Are Deaf and Blind

April 26, 2008

Overview

Participants will:

- Become aware of some of the issues related to working, socializing and interpreting with Deaf-Blind people
- Understand the roles of interpreters and support service providers
- Learn about various types of communication methods, including tactile communication, and high as well as low technology
- Have a better understanding of what “deaf-blind interpreting” means
- Practice safe sighted guiding techniques
- Become familiar with available resources locally and nationally

A few of the introductory topics are:

The Coppersmith Matrix
What “Deaf-Blind” means
Some common causes and implications of common eye diseases and conditions
“Orientation and mobility”
The emergency “X”
Terminology specifically related to the Deaf-Blind community

And *then*, we’ll learn about interpreting with Deaf-Blind people:

Various methods of interpreting in various modes of communication
Topics such as negation and non-manual markers
Defining and relaying visual information
A discussion of unique situations (i.e. medical, legal...)
Opportunity for questions and answers
A review of available resources both locally and nationally

This exciting workshop will be interactive, incorporating video/DVD clips, handouts, resources, and experiential exercises for a fun-filled day of learning you won’t soon forget.

Some online resources to help you prepare for this workshop:

General: http://asl_interpreting.tripod.com/situational_studies/jg1.htm

General: <http://www.dblink.org/pdf/sign.pdf>

Guidelines online (1992 version): <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/dss/db.htm>

Additional preparation:

Interpreting vs. SSPing: <http://www.dblink.org/lib/topics/what-role.htm>

American Association of the Deaf-blind: <http://www.aadb.org/>

Educational Interpreting: <http://www.dblink.org/lib/topics/edinterp.htm>

Updated book (2002): Guidelines: Practical Tips for Working and Socializing with Deaf-Blind People, Theresa Smith