



Deaf-Hearing Teaming

Myths

VS.

Facts

The hearing interpreter's skills are not good enough

The hearing interpreter is not proficient in ASL

The Deaf consumer is not smart

The Deaf consumer has a lot of serious issues

Deaf interpreters are just mirroring what the hearing interpreter is signing

Deaf interpreters can only do interpreting jobs with a hearing interpreter

Top notch interpreters recognize better interpretation happens when they team with Deaf interpreters

DI-HI teaming enables the two interpreters to work together to assess and better match the linguistic need of the Deaf consumer

DI-HI teaming has proven to be the most effective way to handle complex situations especially when the communication skills of the Deaf person are unknown

Deaf consumers more quickly process information presented by a native signer with all conversational cues naturally integrated

Language ability does not indicate intelligence – many Deaf people are language deprived due to limited access to language in their early years and an ineffective educational system but they are still highly capable of understanding complex concepts

As part of the interpreter processing happening on a team level, the Deaf interpreter will build up on and further the interpretation presented by the hearing team. Deaf consumers can more quickly and comfortably process information presented by a native signer with all conversational cues naturally integrated

Some jobs only require use of a Deaf interpreter such as interpreting English – ASL (BMV knowledge tests, HR policy, etc)