



## INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION

Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

### **The IMIA Welcomes First Certified Medical Interpreter (CMI) to be Appointed to the IMIA Advisory Board**

The IMIA Advisory Board is excited to welcome the first CMI to be appointed as an Advisor. The Advisory Board is critical to the governance of the IMIA, and must be constituted of experts and practitioners committed to advancing the mission of the IMIA and its members. Jamey Cook has over eight years' experience as a telephonic and on-site interpreter. Ms. Cook earned her M.A. in Hispanic Language and Literature from UNC Chapel Hill; among her many other interpreting endeavors, since June of 2011 she has been working with Pacific Interpreters as an independent contractor. Cook passed the written and oral components of the National Board Medical Interpreter Exam to earn her CMI credential in Spanish in December of 2011.

"Jamey was the first interpreter who is blind to take and pass the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters certification exams, and I learned a lot from her on how to ensure access to certification for all interpreters. She is a very inspiring and knowledgeable person, and all of us at the National Board look forward to her serving on the IMIA Advisory Board, because she will also be advising the National Board. You can meet Jamey and her constant companion, Seeing Eye dog Abner, at the upcoming IMIA conference in January," stated Linda Joyce, Executive Director, National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters. Joyce later added by email, "A great article on Jamey is here:

<http://translationtimes.blogspot.com/2012/07/meet-amazing-blind-interpreter-jamey.html>".

Ms. Cook has been a member of CATI since 2007, and is a member of both the IMIA and the NCIHC. Ms. Cook looks forward to working with the IMIA Executive Board, to steering the developments of this growing profession, and to further educating herself as a life-long learner.

The IMIA relies on renowned national and international language access experts as members of their Advisory Board. To see the members of the IMIA Advisory Board, please visit: <http://www.imiaweb.org/about/AdvisoryBoard.asp>.

#### **About the International Medical Interpreters Association:**

The International Medical Interpreters Association is a US-based international organization committed to the advancement of professional medical interpreters as the best practice to equitable language access to health care for linguistically diverse patients. Founded in 1986, with over 2,000 members, most providing interpreting services in over 70 languages, the IMIA is the oldest and largest medical interpreter association in the country. While representing medical interpreters as the experts in medical interpreting, membership to the IMIA is open to those interested in medical interpreting and language access. We currently have a division of providers, corporate members, and trainers. Policy makers, health care administrators, and others interested in medical interpreting are also welcome to join us as associate members. The IMIA is recognized as the standard-setting organization for the profession of medical interpreters.