



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters Introduces New Testing Director**

The National Board is pleased to announce that it has hired Kiara Raazi, MPA, CMI-Spanish, as Testing Director. *“This is a key position as Kiara now oversees all testing operations for the National Board”*, stated Linda Joyce, CMI-Spanish, and now Certification Advisor for the National Board. Kiara hit the ground running as work on the expansion of the last 5 languages finished and work on online proctoring ramps up. Raazi brings fresh new ideas for the future of the National Board and on how to improve efficiencies and the effectiveness of testing operations. The National Board considers itself very fortunate to have found a perfect match for the task. *“The National Board needs new leadership to handle our growing pains,”* stated Maria Schwieter, CHI, National Board Chairperson. *“We will miss Linda, and we are happy she will still work for us as a consultant. She has valuable information as one of the pioneers of national certification”*.

Kiara Raazi coordinated the interpreter services department at Mammoth Hospital, where he was a staff medical interpreter for seven years. In addition to being a graduate of the International Medical Interpreters Association's (IMIA) Leadership Academy, he has a bachelor's degree in Latin American studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Monterey Institute of International Studies. Prior to entering the medical interpreter field, Kiara worked as a language instructor in Japan and Brazil for a number of years. In addition to having studied, worked, and traveled in Latin America for over four years, Kiara spent a year in Afghanistan working with the United Nations as an information officer. Kiara was born in Pakistan to Iranian parents who raised him in California and he speaks Spanish and Farsi fluently. To reach Kiara, email [Testing@certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org](mailto:Testing@certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org).

### **About the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters**

The National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters is an autonomous certifying body, formed from an independent group of industry professionals who represent all key stakeholder groups, including professional medical interpreters, trainers, employers, providers, and regulators. The National Board developed the first comprehensive national medical interpreting certification program worldwide. The National Board is a special division of the IMIA and has independent authority over all essential certification decisions. The purpose of certification is to ensure limited English proficiency patient safety by rigorous evaluation and assurance of the competency of medical interpreters, through written and oral exams. Those who pass the written and oral exams are bestowed the CMI credential which stands for Certified Medical Interpreter.

For more information, visit [www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org](http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org)

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