

Rhode Island Medical Interpreters Association

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RIMIA

MISSION

The Rhode Island Medical Interpreters Association is committed to the advancement of professional medical interpreters as the best practice to equitable language access to health care for linguistically diverse patients in Rhode Island.

Who are the members?

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.

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 purpose of RIMIA is to engage in the following activities:

- Define educational requirements and qualifications for medical interpreters
- Promote professional standards of practice and norms of medical interpretation
- Promote the establishment of professional interpretation and translation services by medical institutions and related agencies
- Act as a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of information about medical interpretation-translation and related issues
- Promote research into issues of cross-cultural communication in the healthcare setting
- Promote the medical interpreting profession

The Association shall strive to meet the above objectives by

- Publish and promote periodicals, bulletins, notices, glossaries, dictionaries, reports, and any other publications that may further its objectives
- Hold periodic meetings in Rhode Island
- Establish & maintain a certification process for medical interpreters
- Maintain membership in professional organizations in related fields
- Work actively with universities, foundations, government agencies, and other organizations in Rhode Island in such matters as the training and continuing education of interpreters and translators

Who will do this work?

RIMIA as all other professional associations relies on its members to advance the medical interpreting profession in Rhode Island.

What objective interests you the most?

What is unique about Rhode Island?

Small state

RIMIA is chapter of IMIA, as such has support and administrative help.

RI has its own law requiring medical interpreters since 2001

RI has very few interpreter training programs and only in Spanish, what about the other languages?

RIMIA has 2 corporate members, Horton Interpreting and Rhode Island Hospital.

RIMIA has 16 members in good standing.

There are many more interpreters working in the state who are not aware of RIMIA, or that are aware but are not members.

What are the benefits of membership?

- A subscription to the Monthly IMIA eNews giving you the most important information in the field (RI updates will be posted on the RIMIA website, www.rimia.org)
- Discounted registration to the IMIA Annual Conference on Medical Interpreting
- Opportunity to participate in RIMIA networking activities, job fairs and discussion groups.
Opportunity to share information and ideas about medical interpreting
- Opportunity for employment through IMIA job announcements and participation in IMIA "Find an Interpreter" listing
Opportunity to see new Training Opportunities in the field

More benefits

Ability to borrow books from IMIA library

Ability to join a committee and learn about fundraising, meeting planning, publishing and other skills as you volunteer – it's like an internship.

Ability to run for office or vote for those that will promote the profession in Rhode Island.

Ability to meet others in the field providing opportunities for growth.

Questions for Discussion

How can we recruit more members? (We're only as strong as our size)

Who wants to be more active and volunteer for specific roles?

Are RI members interested in planning the First Rhode Island Language Access Symposium in 2008? IMIA will provide support.