

Getting the EYE-dea of techniques for the Deafblind—SSP training for Interpreters

Interpreters have been taught and trained about interpreting and tactile interpreting, but little to none about Service Support Provider (SSP), Orientation and Mobility (O&M), or how to inform Deafblind individuals of an emergency without the lengthy amount of tactiling. When it comes to assisting the Deafblind person with an SSP there, most commonly the interpreter and SSP aren't sure what to do—whether they should assist the individual because they are being paid or allow the SSP to take over.

In this workshop, there will be some power point presentation with demonstrations and then some hands on activities. Interpreters will be taught about the difference between an SSP and interpreter, O & M, and will also be trained in becoming an SSP. They need to know how to be an effective SSP in order to provide assistance, as an interpreter, when the Deafblind individual does not have an SSP to assist.

Presenters: De Linda Belanger and Scott Dollar

De Linda Belanger grew up in Springfield, MO. She graduated at Springfield College in New Hampshire with a BS degree and MA in Counseling and Psychology. De Linda works for Midland Empire Resources for independent living (MERIL) in St. Joseph MO going on 5 years as the Coordinator of Communication Services, overseeing the program for the Deaf, HH, Deafblind, blind, and other communication needs. She lives near KC, MO with her partner and their 2 daughters.

Scott Dollar was born and grew up in North Carolina. At 15, he relocated to Alabama. Scott graduated from the Alabama School for the Deaf in 1992 and attended Gallaudet University and Jacksonville State University. He is the president of Cross Roads Deaf Club and involved on Kansas City DeafBlind Taskforces. Scott is very active in the Deaf and daefblind community and lives in St. Jospeh, Missouri.