

**“Interpreting in Mental Health Settings”**  
**Presented by**  
**Steve Hamerdinger, Director**  
**Office of Deaf Services**  
**Alabama Department of Mental Health**

Friday, September 30, 2022; 6:00 to 9:00 pm and  
Saturday, October 1, 2022; 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
(1 hour lunch break)

University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO)  
Roskens Hall 401  
6001 Dodge Street, Omaha

This workshop will examine mental health interpreting as a specialty made distinct from the broader field of interpreting by unique demands and challenges. Starting with an overview of how the field developed and ending with suggestions for best practices, this presentation is intended to be a broad “waterfront” view of the work.

By the end of this presentation, participants will be able to:

- 1) Define mental health interpreting
- 2) Discuss historical antecedents which gave rise to the specialty
- 3) Identify key participants in mental health encounters
- 4) Define mental illness
- 5) Discuss challenges inherent to mental health interpreting
- 6) List best practices in mental health interpreting

Target audience: Deaf and hearing interpreters who might encounter assignments involving mental health and students interested in mental health interpreting.

**Interpretek (RID Sponsor Code 0024) is an approved RID Sponsor for Continuing Education Activities. This Professional Studies (PS) program is offered for 0.9 RID CEUs at the little to none content knowledge level or 9 clock hours toward Nebraska licensing requirements. NO partial CEUs or clock hours will be awarded.**

NCDHH promotes an environment of mutual respect, free of discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, or any other protected class.

**This workshop will be presented in ASL.**

**If you need reasonable accommodations, please contact Sharon Sinkler at [sharon.sinkler@nebraska.gov](mailto:sharon.sinkler@nebraska.gov) PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**



### About Steve

Steve Hamerdinger, Director of the Office of Deaf Services, Alabama Department of Mental Health has been involved with deaf rights since the early 1980's and has been a leader in the field of mental health and deafness since the early 90's. He has been the Director of the Office of Deaf Services since its inception.

After receiving his Master's Degree in Counseling at Gallaudet University in 1989, Steve moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico to work as a mental health counselor at the New Mexico School for the Deaf. His practice there focused on deaf children and their families.

An engaging and enthusiastic speaker, Steve is in national demand as a trainer and consultant on deafness and Deaf Culture as well as child development, counseling and other mental health and deafness and hearing loss related topics. He is also in demand as a motivational speaker and entertainer.

