

Strategic Partnerships: Cooperation Among Stakeholders in Sign Language Interpreting Isn't Enough

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Who are the major stakeholders in the Sign Language Interpreting Community?



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**Deaf
Organizations**

**Interpreter
Training
Programs**

**Deaf and Hard
of Hearing
Individuals**



**Schools /
Programs for
the Deaf**

**Interpreting
Agencies**

**Sign Language
Interpreters**



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Issues



- Lack of Knowledge
- Oppression
- Privilege
- Lack of Community Accountability
- Quality vs. Quantity
- Empowerment



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People Talk Cooperation

- We emphasize the importance of it; Yet when it comes to walking the talk
- Do we really embrace it?
- Ask yourself: What does cooperation TRULY mean to you?
- What is cooperation – what is not cooperation?



**YOU CAN TALK THE TALK
BUT CAN YOU WALK THE WALK?**



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Challenges

- Ownership
 - Who makes the decision?
- Respect
 - Earn respect from fellow stakeholders
- Choices
 - Allow stakeholders to make choices



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Ask yourself what you can do.



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