



Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Madonna to Host Workshops for Sign Language Interpreters and Mental Health Professionals

What: Interpreters and mental health professionals can learn how to better serve the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community during two workshops, Oct. 24 and 25, at Madonna University.

Saturday's workshop, *Working with Deaf People in the Mental Health Arena* is geared toward Sign Language interpreters, caseworkers, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, substance abuse counselors and other mental health professionals. Melissa Watson, director of clinical programs at the National Deaf Academy, and Kelly Matamoros, professional interpreter, will discuss strategies for effective communication between interpreters and counselors working with Deaf clients.

During the *Interpreting in Mental Health Settings* session, on Sunday, attendees will learn translation techniques, laws and ethics unique to the mental health field, and how to identify psychotic language. Interpreters will earn six Direct Quality Assurance (QA) Units, and one Indirect QA Unit.

Both Social Work and Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be offered for both workshops. Each presentation will be delivered orally, and in American Sign Language. For more information or to register, contact Rebecca Shriner at 734-432-5642.

When: *Working with Deaf People in the Mental Health Arena:* Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Kresge Hall

Interpreting in Mental Health Settings: Sunday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Franciscan Center Lecture Hall

Where: Madonna University
36600 Schoolcraft Road (at Levan Rd., off I-96)
Livonia, MI 48150

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