



Upper Midwest Translators & Interpreters Association

December 2020

Dear UMTIA Members,

As this year comes to a close we thank you for participating in our virtual events during this challenging year with COVID-19 and for your continued support. We learned to be flexible, we adapted to new roles and we become more resilient. Our goal was to support the evolving needs of members and maintain a strong association. We purchased a Zoom account for UMTIA and quickly learned how to put on a webinar. The webinars strengthened our connection to interpreters and translators in small towns and neighboring states. Our **Virtual Support Groups** safely brought us out of isolation to see each other and share our experiences. This gave us a safe space to learn, share tips and problem solve new issues.

We held one workshop in-person on **Interpreting for Domestic Violence Cases**. 119 participants explored the critical role of interpreters as they interact with domestic violence survivors in the medical, legal and law enforcement settings. **Casa de Esperanza** taught us about the dynamics of domestic violence and shared resources with interpreters that are available to survivors. Our webinar on **Improving the Quality of Translation and Interpreting Services and Medical Care for Transgender and Gender Diverse Patients** brought us awareness, perspective and sensitivity on how to best serve this community. Our webinar on **Interactive Virtual Training for Remote Interpreting** brought us live international conference interpreters from the United Kingdom and Mexico City. We learned about different platforms used, potential tech issues, how to analyze the needs of an assignment and tips to prevent stress. We also promoted UMTIA on KFAI Radio to expand our membership and produced our first promotional video for the **American Translators Association (ATA) Conference to be held in Minneapolis in October 2021**.

We ended the year with our first **Virtual "Happy" Hour** and celebrated all you have learned and your resiliency. We appreciate all your efforts, your comments and your suggestions that help strengthen the UMTIA community. As we look forward to the New Year please take a moment to complete our **Year-end Member Survey**. The results will help us understand your needs. Finally, we invite you to **renew your UMTIA Membership** and invite a colleague to join with you, so we can continue to bring you great speakers and events.

We wish you happiness, good health and many new opportunities in the New Year.

2020 UMTIA Board:

President: Aida Azzazi, Vice President: Mauricio Montes de Oca, Treasurer: David Coats,
Secretary: Patricia Contag, Membership: Eve MacLeish, Committee Liaison: Lucia Abolafia Cobo,
Members at Large: Yvonne Araiza and Judith Custodio