

**Q: A subsequent reply to a question posed in this webinar by one of attendees, Troy Johnson, who asked about pursuing a career in mental health interpreting from a business professional's viewpoint.**

Hopefully, the response to this question could also hold significant value for the wider community."

**A: The answer by Arianna M. Aguilar, the presenter:**

Dear Troy:

You asked about establishing a career in mental health interpreting from a business professional perspective. This is a good question.

One of the things you can do is to contact your local mental health department. You can inquire if they use interpreting services. The mental health department, being a receiver of federal funds, is obligated to provide interpreting services free of charge.

You can also offer your services to local psychiatrists and therapists. Also, it would be a good idea to contact local mental health hospitals. Typically, the patients in mental hospitals see the psychiatrist every day, and participate in group therapy sessions, so it is a big need that can be identified.

If you are a certified legal interpreter, contact the county language access coordinator to let them know that you are interested in interpreting for involuntary commitment hearings.

If you let people know about your services, you should be able to drum up business through word of mouth, if you are competent.

These are just a few thoughts.

If you have any more specific questions, let me know!

**Arianna M. Aguilar**

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