



INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION
Leading the advancement of professional interpreters

**The International Medical Interpreters Association announces the launch of the
COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Fund
“Interpreters helping Interpreters in Time of Need”**

To all interpreters and members of the language access community,

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the livelihood of millions of individuals, including interpreters and translators. Interpreters have been exposed to new occupational hazards, have seen their workload diminish and their income suffer, as was manifested in a recent survey that we conducted.

We intend to assist interpreters who have basic emergent needs because of the pandemic and help them in any way we can. We are aware that some needs are not covered by government assistance dispensed by initiatives like the CARES Act, or any agency. Our goal is to assist interpreters to continue providing interpreting services in safe environments to ensure the continuation of language access services for people with limited English proficiency to improve health outcomes.

Therefore, the IMIA COVID-19 Task Force™ is pleased to announce the creation of the IMIA COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Fund to provide immediate assistance and recovery support for interpreters. The goal of this fund is to assist interpreters in buying their own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or with any other emergent need associated to COVID-19 that they may have.

Once enough funds are collected, the IMIA COVID-19 Task Force™ will announce the amount collected and the guidelines on how the funds will be disbursed.

We encourage interpreters, Language Service Providers and anyone interested in supporting our cause to make a donation to this fund via PayPal at our website:

<https://imiaweb.org/content/covid-19-task-force/>

We sincerely hope that this initiative will bring some relief to our colleagues in need during this uncertain time.

Sincerely,

Dr David Cardona

Co-Chair - IMIA COVID-19 Task Force™

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