



**Language Access as a Human Right: Standing, strategizing, and mobilizing in solidarity with Marylanders with limited English proficiency**

Justice for Breakfast Series

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**Informative Resources on Language Access**

**Speaking the Language: The Right to Interpretation & Translation Services for Children and Adolescents with Mental Health Needs in Maryland (November 2022)**

*Speaking the Language*, a report co-authored by [Centro SOL](#) and the PJC, describes the experiences of children and adolescents who were denied recommended mental health care due to their primary and preferred language as well as families who struggle to coordinate care for their young children when their request for interpretation and translation is denied. The report also highlights challenges to providing interpretation and translation from the perspective of mental health providers. Centro SOL and the Public Justice Center offer five recommendations to mental health providers and policymakers to close the gap in communication between patients and their providers to ensure the provision of timely mental health care with necessary language services.

English: [Speaking-the-Language-Report.pdf](#)

Spanish: [publicjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Hablando-El-Idioma-informe.pdf](https://publicjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Hablando-El-Idioma-informe.pdf)

**LEP.gov**

A federal government website designed to provide resources and guidance on complying with federal language access laws. This website also provides updates on initiatives taken across federal agencies related to language access.

<http://www.LEP.gov>

### **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Guide to Developing a Language Access Plan (July 2022)**

A CMS guide, funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that educates providers on how to assess their programs and activities to develop a language access plan, ensuring that individuals with limited English proficiency have meaningful access.

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/Downloads/Language-Access-Plan.pdf>

### **Migration Policy Institute, Language Access: Translation and Interpretation Policies and Practices**

A project created by the Migration Policy Institute to assist local government administrators, policymakers, and others who are looking for ways to provide high-quality and cost-effective translation and interpretation services.

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/language-access-translation-and-interpretation-policies-and-practices>

### **Get Involved in the Advocacy**



### **Join PJC's Maryland Language Access Equity Alliance (MLAEA)**

A coalition of language access advocates who collaborate on identifying systemic language access issues in public services and healthcare settings and advocate for meaningful access to these settings for individuals with LEP. Please contact PJC Attorney Ashley Woolard at [woolarda@publicjustice.org](mailto:woolarda@publicjustice.org) to inquire about joining the coalition.

**“I Speak” cards template**

[https://www.publicjustice.org/en/legal\\_help/access-to-interpretation-and-translation/](https://www.publicjustice.org/en/legal_help/access-to-interpretation-and-translation/)

**Sign up for PJC’s Legislative Alerts to stay informed on the Language Access Act of 2025 and other important issues**

<https://secure.everyaction.com/9nuWUVSfhEyhRX9eSalGNw2>

**Donate to the PJC to help support our language access work**

<https://secure.everyaction.com/KZ7V8-A-j0-rtnyRiBCqAQ2>

**More information about our Lawyers’ Alliance**

<https://www.publicjustice.org/en/lawyers-alliance/>