

ITEMS REQUIRING BOCC APPROVAL
January 6, 2022
(4 Items)

1. ON-CALL SIGN LANGUAGE SERVICES -- VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

FUNDING -- VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

(Request sent to 80 vendors)

RFP #21-0064 Contract

	Interpreters Unlimited, Inc.	Visual Language Professionals, LLC
In-Person Standard Service Hourly Rate	\$75.00 (2 hour minimum)	\$50.00 (2 hour minimum)
Automated Systems (video and other electronic devices) Standard Service Hourly Rate	\$75.00	\$50.00 If Sedgwick County platform is used prescheduled (2 hour min & after 2 hrs will be billed in 15 min increments)
		\$1.50/minute If VLP's platform is used on-demand
		\$50.00 If VLP's platform is used prescheduled (2 hour minimum)
In-Person Emergency Service Hourly Rate	\$75.00 (2 hour minimum)	\$93.75 (2 hour minimum)
Automated Systems (video and other electronic devices) Emergency Service Hourly Rate	\$75.00	\$93.75 If Sedgwick County platform is used prescheduled (2 hour min & after 2 hrs will be billed in 15 min increments)
		\$1.50/minute If VLP's platform is used on-demand
		\$93.75 If VLP's platform is used prescheduled (2 hour minimum)
Client No Show Fee	2 Hour Minimum or Time Booked (Whichever Is Greater)	2 Hour Minimum or Time Booked (Whichever Is Greater)
In-Person Standard Service Non-ASL Sign Language Interpreting Hourly Rate		\$60.00 (2 hour minimum)
Automated Systems (video and other electronic devices) Non-ASL Sign Language Interpreting Standard Service Hourly Rate		\$60.00 If Sedgwick County platform is used prescheduled (2 hour min & after 2 hrs will be billed in 15 min increments)
		\$1.50/minute If VLP's platform is used on-demand
		\$60.00 If VLP's platform is used prescheduled (2 hour minimum)
In-Person Emergency Non-ASL Sign Language Interpreting Service Hourly Rate		\$100.00 (2 hour minimum)
Automated Systems (video and other electronic devices) Non-ASL Sign Language Interpreting Emergency Service Hourly Rate		\$100.00 If Sedgwick county platform is used prescheduled (2 hour min & after 2 hrs will be billed in 15 min increments)
		\$1.50/minute If VLP's platform is used on-demand
		\$100.00 If VLP's platform is used prescheduled (2 hour minimum)

On the recommendation of Jaimee Witmer, on behalf of various departments, Anna Meyerhoff-Cole moved to **accept the proposals for on-call sign language services from Interpreters Unlimited, Inc. and Visual Language Professionals, LLC (VLP) at the rates listed above for a period of three (3) years with two (2) one (1) year options to renew.** Brandi Baily seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A committee comprised of Jeannette Livingston - CDDO; Brad Ashens and Sandra Reichenberger - Health Department, Itress Tackett and Samantha Hebbard - COMCARE; Jarod Scott - Sheriff's Office; and Jaimee Witmer - Purchasing, evaluated all proposal responses based on the criteria set forth in the RFP. The committee unanimously agreed to accept the proposals from the vendors listed above.

Sedgwick County serves clients that may be hearing impaired. The county seeks to provide services that all can access. This includes competent language assistance to individuals with communication needs, such as sign language interpretation. By providing this service, the county is able to meet grant and contract requirements of some programs.

The county has historically provided this on-demand service that many departments utilize. For example, the Sedgwick County Developmental Disability Organization (CDDO) conducts intakes and functional assessments for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and regularly requires use of sign language interpreters. In particular, the CDDO requires, on multiple occasions, tactile sign language for individuals that are both deaf and blind. Some intakes and assessments may be completed via virtual platform but those needing a tactile sign language interpreter would require an in-person interpreter.

The requested services will consist of providing American Sign Language and Tactile Sign Language interpretation on an as-needed basis for county programs and services at various county and community facilities. In addition, interpretation can include medical content and may include work in the field such as home visits, outreach, and medical/emergency calls.

Notes:

Standard Services:

Interpretation for standard services is required, which would include meetings and appointments that are scheduled with advance notice during standard business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm).

Emergency Services:

Services that are required within two (2) hours' notice or are needed during the evening, weekend, and possibly holiday, are considered emergency services. These include services in settings where the need for sign language interpretation services cannot be planned for in advance, which would be considered on-call emergency notice. In addition, there are county programs or services that operate 24/7 that may require sign language interpreting services after standard business hours.

I would like to start with saying this is a proposal not a bid. Proposals are scored based on criteria set forth in the RFP. There are five (5) components to this RFP.

Component	Points
a. Experience interpreting for the deaf and hard of hearing, deaf-blind, or speech-impaired individuals.	20
b. Primary Staff Qualifications	20
c. Firm Availability	20
d. References	20
e. Cost	20
Total Points	100

Questions and Answers

Brandi Baily: The last four items listed on the table, for Interpreters Unlimited, it's not highlighted and do they just not offer the service or, is that included in some of the pricing up above?

Jaimee Witmer: The last four items were not originally listed in the RFP. When we were in committee review that came up, that certain departments would require possibly from time to time, but it's a rare occurrence. Interpreters Unlimited Inc. said they were not comfortable providing that service because they didn't know that they could accommodate Sedgwick County in those areas. The other vendor, Visual Language Professionals said that they can take care of that for us.