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COFA LEP INTERPRETATION CHALLENGES

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Where is the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

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Summary Background Federated States of Micronesia

- Four States – Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei & Yap
- Six Major Languages – Chuukese, Kosraean, Pohnpeian, Yapese, Kapingi/Lukuor & English
- Five Governments – 1 National/4 States
- Multi-cultural & multi-linguistic
- Compact of Freely Associated States (COFA) Treaty with United States, 1986 –Present

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COFA LEP in Hawaii

- Chuukese
- Marshallese
- Pohnpeian
- Palauan
- Kosraean
- Yapese

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Chuuk State

- Three Key Dialects – Lagoon, Upper/Lower Mortlocks & Lower/Upper Western Outer Islands
- 5 Subdialects – ED1, ED2, ED3, ED4 & ED5
- English
- Japanese

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Chuukese Service Access Challenges

- Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- Confidentiality
- Pride
- Fear and Shame
- Misinformation
- Language Access Law – limited knowledge
- English – primary language

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LEP Interpretation & Translation Challenges

- Limited English/Chuukese Proficiency
- Training & Accreditation
- Confidentiality (HIPPA)
- Remuneration
- Competition
- Professionalism
- Continuity of Interpretation Services
- No Shows
- Health Insurance Coverage
- Insufficient translated materials/resources

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Recommendations

- Professional Certification
- Continuity of Service
- Confidentiality of Service
- Uniformity of Service Fee
- Proof-Reading Task Force or Working Group
- Care and Services Coordination & Management
- COFA Culture, People & Nations Orientation
- HESA Eligibility Restoration

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Summary Remarks

- LEPs access to services are common and similar
- Socio-cultural ethno-centricism is prerequisite to understanding & preventing social, economic and legal abuse, discrimination and violation of LEP rights
- OLA and LAAC to conduct community outreach on HLAL and have brochures/infokits available in LEP vernaculars. Resourcing OLA is a pre-requisite
- For Chuukese LEP, contracted translation services be coordinated and subjected to final approval by a professionally designated Chuukese Language Working Group
- Contractual language services be flexible and open to all bidders

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KINISOU CHAPUR
KASELEHLIA
MOGETHIN
LEN WO
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
MAHALO

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