Definitions for Competency, Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities (SPD) Training

Assistive listening device
Electronic and information technology that enables people with disabilities to perform tasks they would not otherwise be able to do or to increase the quantity, quality or efficiency of their work.

Audio recording
Recording of reading materials for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Braille
A writing system for visually impaired persons who contains patterns of raised dots that are read by touch.

Captioning
A title or explanation for a picture or illustration, especially in a magazine.

Email
A system for sending messages from one individual to another via telecommunication links between computers.

Large print
Reading material in which the font is considerably larger than usual to accommodate persons with poor vision.

Qualified American Sight Language (ASL) interpreters
Persons who can competently, accurately and impartially interpret a (both receptively and expressively) using any specialized terminology necessary for two-way communication.

Qualified readers
Trained readers used by persons with low vision to be able to access information contained in otherwise inaccessible material.

Relay service
Services that enables deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired persons to communicate through a communications assistant with people who use a standard telephone.

Text message
Written cell phone message sent in textual form designed to appear on the viewing screen of cell phone.

TTY
A text typewriter that allows deaf, hard-of-hearing, or speech impaired to communicate by telephone by sending and receiving typed messages.

Video Relay Service (VRS)
A telecommunications service that allows deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired persons to communicate over video telephones and similar technologies with hearing persons in real time, via a sign language interpreter.

Sighted guide
Technique which enables a person who is blind to use a person with sight as a guide.

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