



# #EquityStartsLocally

## A national pledge to strengthen local language access infrastructure

### About the Pledge Campaign

The Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) launched the **#EquityStartsLocally** pledge campaign in July 2024, marking the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the national, valid, credible, and vendor-neutral certification program for healthcare interpreters in the United States.

The **#EquityStartsLocally** pledge campaign urges hospital and health system leaders, language companies, interpreter associations, and other stakeholder groups to develop and implement strategies to strengthen language access infrastructure in the local communities to which they provide service and to invest in building community capacity for language justice.

To accelerate progress toward eliminating health disparities, improving quality of care and advancing inclusive representation in healthcare, all hospitals, health systems, language companies, and interpreter associations are being called on to make these efforts a priority. Please consider endorsing the pledge today, and join us as we encourage and support local communities in strengthening local language access infrastructure for health equity.

### Pledge Commitment

I pledge to take action on **one or more of the following #EquityStartsLocally** goals. The goals selected below will be completed in alignment with the strategic goals of my organization.

Please select goals:

- Support hospitals in maintaining in-house language access programs employing qualified healthcare interpreters who live in the hospital’s service area
- Prioritize recruitment of nationally certified healthcare interpreters for employment and contract work
- Invest in local partnerships to identify and develop interpreter talent in the communities we serve

Endorser Information and Signature			
The #EquityStartsLocally Pledge is intended for organizations and requires internal approval of an Executive sponsor for the organization in order to be submitted. All submissions will be subject to review by the CCHI Commissioners' Executive Committee and CCHI reserves the right to select organizations for inclusion on the CCHI pledge page.			
Executive Sponsor Name			
Executive Sponsor Title (must be Director level or higher)			
Executive Sponsor Email			
Organization			
Executive Sponsor Signature*		Date:	
Primary Contact Name (if different from Executive Sponsor)			
Primary Contact Title			
Primary Contact Email			
Primary Contact Phone			
Primary Contact Mailing Address		City:	State:
			Zip:
Organization website			

\* By entering my name in the Signature field and sending this form, I confirm that all information provided is accurate, that my electronic signature is legally equivalent to my handwritten signature and that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the organization listed.

**Email this form and organization logo\*\* to [languageaccess@cchicertification.org](mailto:languageaccess@cchicertification.org) or pledge online at <https://cchicertification.org/equitystartslocally-pledge/>.**

\*\* By sending our organization’s logo, I confirm that CCHI has permission to use it on the pledge page of the CCHI website and in any communications regarding the pledge campaign. (Please note: only official logos will be accepted and CCHI reserves the right to reject any submissions without explanation.)

## A national pledge to strengthen local language access infrastructure

Through the **#EquityStartsLocally** pledge, we are challenging every healthcare organization, language service company, interpreter association, and language justice stakeholder group to commit to strengthening language access infrastructure in the local communities to which they provide service and to invest in building community capacity for language justice.

### 1. Take the Pledge

Pledge to begin work toward achieving the **#EquityStartsLocally** goals to help ensure equitable healthcare for all persons in every community.

### 2. Take Action

Implement new strategies that are reflected in your strategic plan and supported by your board and leadership. Provide updates on progress to your board and to CCHI, to gauge progress and develop tools and resources to support your work.

### 3. Tell Others

Achieve the goals, be recognized and tell your story. Share your work through webinars and other educational forums, including social media, to accelerate progress and demonstrate to the public our collective commitment.

### Recognizing Local Investments

Throughout the year, CCHI will recognize healthcare organizations, language service companies, interpreter associations, and language justice stakeholder groups that are making progress towards **#EquityStartsLocally** goals, by featuring their commitments, achievements and stories.

## #EquityStartsLocally Pledge Launch Partners



THE CROSS CULTURAL  
HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

**HCiN**  
Elevating Healthcare Interpreting

