

2021 CODA Midwest R-3 Udderly Coda Retreat

All 2021 Udderly Coda Time retreat participants are codas. All attending the retreat are welcome to participate in this workshop (includes coda interpreters, coda students, coda non-interpreters).

Opening Keynote

Culture and Communication Dynamics: Coda Siblings Perspective



Joe Nicolosi

Joe is Laura's brother. He is the second-born child, and he has two younger brothers. Later, Joe moved to California for 17 years. He now lives in Michigan. They are looking forward to speaking about living in a deaf household and how they as sibs, can have different memories about family dynamics and experiences.

Laura Nicolosi Mosier

Laura is the oldest and only daughter of John and Frances Nicolosi. She and Joe were born and raised in Chicago. They were introduced to Coda through Carol Mullis. Their first conference was in Chicago in 1991. They were both hooked!!

We will be presenting together and look forward to speaking at the Udderly Coda Time retreat.

Location: Ingleside Conference Center, Pewaukee, WI

Date/Time: October 1, 2021 (7:30-8:30pm)

This keynote presentation focuses on culture and communication dynamics between coda siblings who were born and raised in an Italian Catholic family in Chicago. Co-presenters, Laura Mosier and Joe Nicolosi, will examine, compare and contrast different memories and perspectives of shared experiences in the same household, shaped by gender traditions and sibling birth order:

- coda perspectives of their parents' educational and social development outcomes on family dynamics (early language deprivation, comparing Bell school education (mother) to the traditional school for the deaf education (father); social integration into the Deaf community through Chicago Club for the Deaf (CCD))
- dynamics around their mother's progressively declining sight from Ushers Syndrome and depression that followed (To provide context, the instructors will introduce 3 major types of Ushers Syndrome identified by researchers in a printed handout)
- identification of coda characteristics and values shaped by the culmination of dynamics in the adult lives of two of four siblings

At the conclusion of the workshop, the presenters will open the floor for a limited amount of time for discussion. Participants will be able to discuss comparable dynamics in their families, focusing on contrasting perspectives of experiences among their own family members. Participants will recognize their own unique characteristics of culture, gender, sibling placement, and communication dynamics and values that carry into their own stories. Presenters will also provide handouts describing three types of Ushers Syndrome. Participants will be able to discuss the three types of Ushers Syndrome.

Activity# [0025.1021.01](#) (PS). This program is offered for 0.1 CEUs at the Little to None Content Knowledge Level.

Navigating the Medical System: Advocating in their Terms



Presenter: Suzanne Nace

Ms. Nace is a medical interpreter at one of the most prominent hospitals in the country providing her with experience with the hospital personnel and procedures. She has built working relationships with a variety of professionals in the field ranging from nurses to microbiologists to medical directors. In addition to her work, she has applied these methods to advocate for the accessibility to information for parents, siblings, and extended family members.

Location: Ingleside Conference Center, Pewaukee, WI

Date/Time: October 2, 2021 (11:00 - 12:00pm)

This workshop introduces its participants to common roles and responsibilities among medical and support staff in hospitals and clinics, “Patient’s Rights and Responsibilities,” and recommendations for how to advocate for family members to gain access to necessary medical information.

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to identify at least 3 different members of hospital staff and describe the roles and responsibilities of each, to define at least 2 components of a “Patient’s Rights and Responsibilities” that are typically provided by hospitals and clinics, and to apply specific medical terminology to the appropriate professional to better their chances of having an interpreter during an appointment/emergency.

Activity# [0025.1021.02](#) (PS). This program is offered for 0.1 CEUs at the Little to None Content Knowledge Level.

Transgenerational Trauma



Presenter: Eva B. Dicker Eiseman

Eve earned a Master's degree from Gallaudet in Deaf Education in 1964; she was a teacher of the Deaf and Supervising teacher from 1964-1982. Eve was the first person certified by RID in the state of Wisconsin (1972-first evaluation in Memphis). She trained interpreters at UWM (Milwaukee) for ten years from 1982 to 1992.

Eve has a certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy (1992) and was a practicing therapist until 2005. Eve has studied transgenerational trauma as related to alcoholic and holocaust families and applies her knowledge to Deaf families.

Location: Ingleside Conference Center, Pewaukee, WI

Date/Time: October 2, 2021 (1:30-3:00 pm)

In this workshop presentation, the presenter will attempt to describe transgenerational trauma by answering the following questions: What is it? Does it exist in the Deaf Community? What are the causes? What do members of the next generation need to be aware of? The participants will learn about the presenter's observation of trauma and its effect on her own family. The participants will then be asked to share their own experiences. The purpose of this will be to draw out common traumatic experiences and to talk about the effects of these experiences in a group discussion format.

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to...

1. To identify the definition of transgenerational trauma.
2. To explain possible causations of trauma in the Deaf community
3. To describe behaviors associated with trauma in the Deaf Community.
4. To list barriers to identifying and treating transgenerational trauma

Activity# [0025.1021.03](#) (PS). This program is offered for 0.15 CEUs at the Little to None Content Knowledge Level.

Letting Go



Presenter: Brandi Nelson

Brandi has been using meditation in her life since discovering it in high school. In 2005, Brandi became more dedicated to the practice of meditation. While Brandi was attending a workshop on Narrative Therapy, she learned more about various approaches to guided meditation and self-care. Brandi studied these concepts and started using them in her daily life.

Brandi has an AA degree in Applied Sciences. She currently does VRI work for Stratus and VRS work for Sorenson. She has 20 plus years working as an ASL interpreter. Brandi serves as Secretary on the Coda Midwest Board.

Location: Ingleside Conference Center, Pewaukee, WI

Date/Time: October 3, 2021 (9:30-10:30am)

In this workshop presentation, the presenter will focus on various evidence-based meditation techniques that research has shown will help to support self-care. The course will also include a self-assessment, facilitator-led small-group discovery activities, and a guided meditation that applies the techniques introduced in the course.

Upon completion of this presentation, participants will be able to evaluate their mental well-being, analyze the potential for burnout, identify at least 3 mindfulness strategies that will help to promote enhanced health and well-being, and will be able to demonstrate practical relaxation techniques (e.g., deep breathing techniques, imagery exercises, self-guided meditations, etc.). Participants will be able to identify and discuss health-promoting goals as well as techniques that will help to improve well-being in both personal and professional settings.

Activity# [0025.1021.04](#) (GS). This program is offered for 0.1 CEUs at the Little to None Content Knowledge Level.

Closing Keynote

A Day in the Life of a Local Black Interpreter



Presenter: Sarah Houston

Currently, Ms. Houston is employed as a staff interpreter for Communication Access Center in her hometown of Flint, Michigan. Her certification is a BEI Advanced. She has worked as a professional ASL interpreter for 15 years. Her experience includes a variety of settings including VRS, education, and community work. She is endorsed in Michigan in the Medical/Mental Health fields; has served on the LARA Board (Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs) for a number of years, and she serves on the Coda Midwest Board.

On a personal level, Ms. Houston's parents are deaf and as a result, she is a lifelong Coda. She has 5 children, and one of them attends the Michigan School for the Deaf. She also has 2 grandchildren.

Location: Ingleside Conference Center, Pewaukee, WI

Date/Time: October 3, 2021 (11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.)

In this closing presentation, Ms. Houston will share her story growing up as a Black Coda to what she has encountered as a Black interpreter in her community of origin. The presenter will also discuss aspects of community partnership with the Black interpreting community. Her experience in navigating language and culture from this perspective lends to identifying unique language characteristics and nuances of African American Vernacular English (AAVE), ASL in the Black Deaf community as well as the communities that intersect with them. Language is a vehicle that can serve to oppress or empower people in any social circumstance. The language choices we make as interpreters are critical to successful and meaningful communication. Ms.

Houston will introduce behavior and language suggestions toward being better allies with the Black Deaf community. Her presentation will lead into a brief open and guided discussion where participants will engage in the practical application of this extra-linguistic knowledge. This activity will support their work in the Black Deaf community.

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to identify several unique aspects of being a Black Coda interpreter, including experiential knowledge about how language can be used to navigate oppression and discrimination and experiential knowledge about social norms that distinguish one group from another, impacting how groups interact with one another. Participants will also be able to apply social behaviors towards being better allies with the Black interpreting community.

Activity# 0025.1021.05 (PS: PPO). This program is offered for 0.1 CEUs at the Little to None Content Knowledge Level.



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