

# A FULL-TIME ASL POSITION:

A Workforce Development Funded Position

(Years 1 and 2)

# Program Overview:

- ▶ Orphan program since 2007; prior to that, a full-time at 40%.
- ▶ Currently 6 part-time faculty; five at MJC less than two years.
- ▶ Full sequence of SIGN classes offered: SIGN 125, 126, and 127.
- ▶ Deaf Studies (SIGN 119) added to ready for program development.
- ▶ Active Sign Language Club on campus dependent on part-time leadership.
- ▶ With revolving door in department, difficult to develop the program with needed certificates and degrees.
- ▶ Most Sign Language programs have two certificates (Interpreting/Sign Language) and an AA degree.





# Regional Need:

- ▶ “The Center of Excellence recommends that Modesto Junior College work with the college’s advisory board, and local industry in the development of programs to address the shortage of sign language interpreting workers in the region.”
  - ▶ **Occupational Demand:** More than 270 workers in our region are employed in sign interpreting jobs, but there is an undersupply of 32 trained workers.
  - ▶ **Wages:** Interpreters and translators, earn almost double the average wage in our region (\$22.45/hour v. \$12.65/hour).
  - ▶ **Education:** A bachelor’s degree is typically required for sign language interpreting skills.
  - ▶ **Supply:** Analysis of post-secondary completions show an average of only 6 awards were conferred in our region.
  - ▶ **Equity:** The deaf community in our region needs at least 32 more trained sign language interpreters to fulfill their needs.

# The Vision:

## ► First Two Years:

- Funded 72% WFD monies/18% Fund 11
- 60% Instructional Load/40 Program Development
- Creation of Interpreting Course Sequence
- Creation of Interpreting and Sign Language Certificate
- Creation of Sign Language AA Degree



QUESTIONS?