

Kōkua Mau and HITA proudly presents:
Medical Interpreting for Patients with Serious Illness:
Interpreting in Palliative Care
January 23 & 24, 2026 for speakers of COFA languages

Palliative Care is the medical specialty that focuses on improving quality of life and relieving physical and emotional suffering for people who are experiencing a serious illness. Since palliative care depends on regular, clear communication between patients, providers, and families, **interpreters are key members of any palliative care team**. Nationally recognized interpreter trainer Cindy Roat from Seattle, WA will be leading both 7-hour classes. This is a unique opportunity for Hawai'i, don't miss it.

Day 1- Friday, January 23rd from 9 am to 5 PM

Are you a speaker of COFA languages interested in taking the **first steps** toward **becoming a professional interpreter**? This one-day in-person workshop is for you. Day 1 covers tailor made training in:

- The role of the COFA languages interpreter in health care settings in Hawai'i
- Ethics and standards of practice for interpreters
- What to do when "there is no word for that" in your language?
- Message analysis and conversion
- Next steps to becoming a professional interpreter and get paid for your skills

This interactive class will include presentations, video, role-plays, discussion and language-specific practice guided by a language coach who speaks your language pair.

Requirements:

To participate in this **once-only** opportunity, candidates need to:

- Speak English and one (or more) of the following languages fluently: Marshallese, Kosraean, Pohnpeian, Chuukese.
- Be available to participate on-site at the training venue in Honolulu from 9:00 to 5:00 on Friday, January 23rd.
- Have an interest in serving as an interpreter for their communities in health care settings.
- Lunch will be provided to registered participants

Registration [Apply and REGISTER](#) before 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 2026.

Day 2 - Saturday, January 24th from 9 am to 5 PM (see next page)

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This interactive seven-hour workshop is designed to prepare **experienced, trained medical interpreters** of COFA languages to work in palliative care settings in Hawai'i Or those participants who completed the January 23 training the day before.

Saturday, January 24th from 9 am to 5 PM (continued) It includes:

- An Introduction to Palliative Care
- Interpreting Skills Applied to Palliative Care
- The Vocabulary of Palliative Care
- Sight Translation in Palliative Care
- The Impact of Emotion and Belief on Interpreting
- 7 CEUs

This multimedia, interactive training includes videos, PowerPoint presentations, and practice of interpreting and sight translation. Bilingual medical glossaries and practice activities are provided in: Chuukese, Kosraean, Marshallese and Pohnpeian.

Where **In-Person** (both days). Lunch will be provided to registered participants.

Cost **\$50. Scholarships** are available for qualified COFA languages interpreters approved in our application process.

Registration [Apply and REGISTER](#) before 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 2026.

- Please note: space in this workshop is **limited to the first 25 applicants**.
- Please submit a **separate** registration form for each person registering.
- After registering, you will receive an email confirmation; if you do not receive a confirmation, your registration did not go through.

CE credits This course on Sat. January 24, has been **approved for 7 CE credits by CCHI and .7 for (IMIA) NBCMI. Certificates of Attendance** will be **awarded** to all who arrive **on time and stay for the entire workshop.**

Questions about registration: Please contact info@kokuamau.org

Questions about class content: Please contact Cindy Roat directly at cindy.roat@alumni.williams.edu.

This is the **first time** we offer this **in-person training** in Hawai'i so please join us and tell your colleagues. This training is supported by grants from the Hawai'i Community Foundation's Fund for Health Equity and the Hawaii Association for Health Plans.

Palliative Care is available in different settings in Hawai'i, including hospitals and in-home settings. There is a new Med-QUEST palliative care benefit in Hawai'i so there should be an increased need for palliative care interpretation, as it gets implemented. To learn more about **Palliative Care**, and our multi-lingual resources in 13 languages visit the Kōkua Mau website: <https://kokuamau.org/palliative-care-for-patients-and-families/>