

Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Board Retreat

- Saturday May 20, 2023, Jones Creek Regional Branch Library
- Saturday June 24, 2023, New Orleans Deaf Church

Purpose

The Louisiana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (LRID) Board of Directors is committed to continuing to provide resources and training opportunities to membership and the interpreting community in Louisiana. LRID hosted two in-person Board Retreats to conduct an organizational analysis and completed a SWOT Analysis to take a deep dive as an organization to continue to be sustainable as an Affiliated Chapter of RID.

LRID welcomed members to participate to receive diverse perspectives and opinions during the retreat.

SWOT Analysis

Strength

The Strength category demonstrates LRID's internal characteristics that gives it an advantage over others. This describes what LRID is doing well.

- Still in operations and able to provide a minimum of 2 workshops/conferences annually.
- The communication from the Board has been open to members.
- Maintaining engagement and communication with RID and Regional meetings.
- The website remains up to date with the current information.
- The Board of Directors is adaptable and able to offer hybrid training and workshop opportunities, especially during the COVID era.
- The committees have been more productive with committee initiatives.
 - Drafted new PPM and then approved the PPM.
 - Drafted major bylaws revisions and updates.
- Still a thriving organization, despite the limited resources available.

Weakness

The Weakness category demonstrates LRID's internal characteristics that gives the organization a disadvantage compared to others. This describes the areas where LRID can improve.

- Lack of membership numbers.
- Lack of member engagement with training and events.
- Lack of diversity on board and within membership.
- No participation and willingness from membership to serve as a Board member.
- No member participation in monthly board meetings.
- Low attendance numbers at training events and other events.
- Lack of using LRID's social media platforms (Facebook & Instagram) to share information.
- No collaboration between hearing interpreters and the Deaf community. There is a separation.
- Lack of mentoring opportunities for interpreters.
- No resources and information for new interpreters.

- Lack of information regarding the rates for interpreters; standards for interpreters; travel rates; certified/qualified interpreters' resources, and other best practices relevant to the interpreting profession.
- Lack of diverse funding sources.
- Lack of advocacy efforts.
- Lack of being involved in business networking groups.
- Lack of collaboration with stakeholders.

Opportunities

The Opportunity category demonstrates LRID's external elements that the organization could use to its advantage. This is a description of potential new initiatives for LRID.

- Increase outreach by connecting with new stakeholder's leaders, service center directors and organizations to share information about the purpose of LRID.
- Partner with organizations to educate public entities on interpreters.
- Develop and create a centralized location of resources and information for interpreters in Louisiana.
- Increase visibility on LRID's social media platforms by developing signed PSA announcements to share information.
- Strengthen collaboration with other organizations and stakeholders to increase the variety of involvement within the community.
- Collaborate with medical facilities, for professional development opportunities.
- Create a program/scholarship to pay for new interpreter certifications, training etc. to expand to BIPOC community and Deaf interpreter certifications training opportunities.
- Recognition and spotlight of members accomplishments
- Provide more specialized training opportunities.
- Finding a volunteer grant writer to pursue grant opportunities.
- Provide more of a target networking opportunity for interpreters.
- Provide incentives for interpreters to attend local training.

Threats

The Threats category demonstrates external elements in the environment that could cause trouble for the organization.

- LRID as an Affiliated Chapter could shut down.
- Louisiana becoming a licensure state.
- No financial support due to no involvement with members and the Board.
- Reduction in local membership numbers due to out of state competitors.

LRID's FY 24 Top Priorities

LRID asked participants during the LRID's retreat to highlight LRID's top priorities that are realistic and achievable for LRID to complete by June 30, 2024. LRID Board of Directors have listed the organization's top priorities for the fiscal year 2024.

Priority	Deliverable
Provide Training Opportunities	Provide training opportunities specifically for specialized training topics.
Increase visibility within the community.	Establish an Outreach ad hoc Committee to develop information and resources
Increase LRID's Membership engagement	Increase LRID's memberships numbers
Diversify LRID's sources of funding	Establish a Grant/Fundraiser ad hoc committee to identify and pursue grant opportunities