

Candidate Bio - Brooks Jody Belcher

Brooks "Jody" Belcher was born and raised in West Virginia. From a young age, he was interested in learning ASL and Deaf culture. Jody successfully completed an Interpreting Training Program through the West Virginia Rehabilitation Center in 2001. He started his career in the K-12 setting. He became a nationally certified interpreter (NAD III) in 2002. In 2003, he relocated to Southwest Florida and started working as a freelance interpreter. Jody obtained the National Interpreter Certification (NIC Advanced) in 2006. Jody has taught ASL classes, workshops, and has been a lead in specialized trainings for K-12, post secondary as well as correctional settings. He is also experienced in VRS, legal and mental health settings. He is an advocate for the Deaf community and enjoys the strong ties he has been able to establish over the years. In his free time he enjoys beach volleyball, spending time with his family as well as singing professionally.