

S.W.O.T.

NMAOC – UNM Law School

OJD-Oregon Law Center

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# OJD Indigenous Interpreter Training

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2002- present

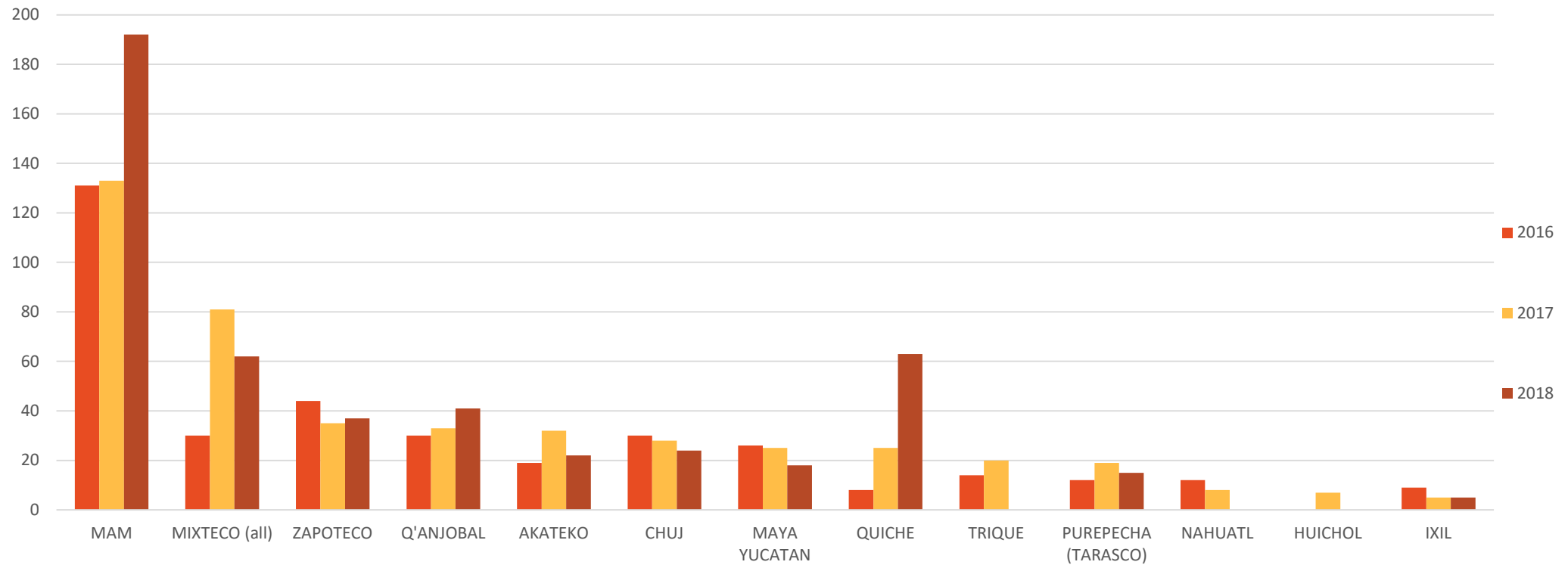
17 co-sponsored events for

- Indigenous Interpreters
- Spanish Relay Interpreters
- Attorneys



# Oregon Indigenous Growth

Indigenous Interpreter Requests by Year





## OJD Partners

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- Oregon Law Center
- Mexican Consulate
- Portland Community College (PCC)
- PCC Medical Interpreter Certificate Program
- INALI (National Institute of Indigenous Languages), Mexican Government
- Certified Spanish interpreters



## OJD Partners

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- State Justice Institute (SJI)
- Natividad Medical Foundation (CA)
- Chatterbox LLC (Katharine Allen)
- Scholarship recipient – indigenous interpreter
- Indigenous Interpreters

## OJD Provides

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- Registration & communication
- Materials reproduction
- Prep meeting coordination
- Meal coordination
- \$ Co-sponsorship of meals
- Meeting space
- Contracts and payment to paid presenters

# OJD Provides

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- (\$) Contracted presenters and trainers
- (“free”) OJD staff interpreter presenters
- (“free”) OJD small group leaders
- Certified Spanish Relay  
Interpreters & expertise



# Oregon Law Center Provides

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- Liaison to indigenous communities
- Recruitment of potential interpreters
- Confidential interpreter contact information
- Speakers on historical and modern importance of indigenous languages and cultures
- \$ Co-sponsorship of meals



# Other Support & Partners

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- \$ Scholarships (State Justice Institute)
- Curriculum – Natividad Medical Fdtn
- Curriculum – Chatterbox LLC
- Meeting spaces
- Networks



INALI (National Institute of Indigenous Languages)

# OJD-OLC Partnership Strengths

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- Availability of OJD interpreter expertise
- Shared access to justice goals
- Access to hard-to-reach LEP communities
- OLC network

# OJD-OLC Partnership Strengths

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- Increased availability of OJD interpreters
- Increased availability of OLC interpreters
- Creates mutually beneficial relationships
- Shared expenses



# OJD-OLC Partnership Weaknesses

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- Direct benefits to OJD are negligible
- Unmet expectations
- OJD limited access to trained interpreters post-training



# OJD-OLC Partnership Opportunities

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- In-the-field demographic information
- Access to expertise & networks
- Access to funding or scholarships
- Career options for immigrants
- Education and opportunity for promising interpreters

# OJD-OLC Partnership Opportunities

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- Prestige -Hot topic- Interest and resources from others
- CE credits for Certified Spanish interpreters
- Engaging project for OJD staff interpreters
- Relationships with freelance Spanish
- Information on related topics: ICE in Courthouses
- Increase pool for other regional interpreting needs

# OJD-OLC Partnership Threats

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- Sustainability - OJD resources more effective elsewhere
- Lack of return for interpreters
- Risk in working with the 'government'
- Needs a Champion
- False sense of effectiveness



# NMAOC-UNM Law Clinic Partnership

***Goal 1: Improve access to free legal services for low income LEPs***





# NMAOC-UNM Law Clinic Partnership



***Goal 2: Improve  
understanding of language  
access***

# Objectives

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- Train law students on language access
- Prepare law and JSI students for attorney-client interviews
- Offer hands-on experience to court interpreter candidates –*JSI students of the NM Center for Language Access, NMAOC*

# NMAOC Provides

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- Training for law students
- Volunteers for clinic's attorney-client meetings, phone calls and intake interviews
- Volunteer background checks and other mutually agreed upon required paperwork



# UNM Law Clinic Provides



# UNM Law Clinic Provides

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- An opportunity to train future legal professionals on the importance of language access
- Hands-on learning opportunity for court interpreter candidates – *students of the NM Center for Language Access, NMAOC*
- Scheduling of volunteers
- NDA

# Both Partners...

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# Strengths of Partnership

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- Improved access to free legal services for low income LEPs
- Enhanced learning experience for all students
- Intellectually-stimulating discussions between law students, professors and language access professionals

# Weaknesses

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- Time consuming effort
- Limited availability of volunteers
- Occasionally, issues arise –*students working with students*



# Opportunities

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- Access to grant funds and scholarships
- Expand or combine services – *NMAOC Scribing program*
- Identify areas of interest and potential future trainings



# Threats

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- Sustainability –due to faculty changes, budget/time constraints
- Limited availability of volunteers barely meets the demand for interpreting services

# Conclusions

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- All partners must benefit
- Define roles and responsibilities
- Flexibility to make changes as the program moves forward
- Engaging key stakeholders makes it easier
- Partnerships take time and effort to build and sustain
- Ongoing communication and teamwork!