

Community Advancement Network

Language Access Initiative Project Initiated 2015

Project Status & Outcomes

Research & Assessment

- In 2015, CAN conducted a survey to assess need for support among non-profit service providers.
- Starting in 2016, CAN created the Language Access Work Group to assess community needs and identify areas for improving language access.
- Research and assessment work as documented in the 2017 Language Access Work Group Report.

Plan Development

In December 2017, CAN published the Language Access Work Group Report. Created the Language Access Action Team (LAAT) to assist with implementation.

Resource Development

To advance plan recommendations CAN has:

- developed a language access organizational assessment and "know your rights" flyer; and
- published, in collaboration with the City of Austin, "iSpeak" language resources.

Engagement & Accountability

- CAN Language Access Action Team (LAAT) has assisted CAN partners in revising language access policies/plans.
- CAN has developed the "WeCan ATX" website and a series of community engagement tools to help agencies improve language services and non-English speaking individuals access health and human services.
- CAN established the Central Texas Language Access Fund to secure resources to help providers better serve limited English proficient (LEP) clients and to help LEP individuals access resources and services.
- As part of CAN's focus on mental health, the LAAT will work to identify mental health resources to serve a number of language communities.