



# **Cook County Offices Under the President Asian American and MENA Data Collection and Language Access Hearing**

---

**Wednesday, May 24, 2023**



# Data Collection Overview

---

- **Internal Data Collection Forms**
  - **Employees are not asked about language skills apart from those in bilingual positions**
    - **Approximately 57 OUP employees self-identify as speakers of 13 languages**
  - **No internal data collection of demographic data**
- **External Data Collection**
  - **OUP has approximately 25 documents that collect demographic data; these documents follow federal census categories**
  - **Data on “preferred language” is not collected**

# Language Access

---



- **Internal**
  - **Bilingual staff positions**
    - **2 positions designated as bilingual; Spanish-speaking positions**
    - **Approx. 13 positions receive additional pay for language skills when used, as part of CBA**
    - **Positions are typically for direct communication with residents, partners, or workers**
  - **Translations and interpretations**
    - **OUP Language Access Policy allows for compensation of staff if using language skills**
    - **Other translations and interpretations are contracted through language access vendor**
- **External**
  - **Language Line Solutions is the OUP language access vendor**
    - **Contract not to exceed \$114,000 but billed by usage**
    - **Budget is centrally managed from Office of the President**

# Opportunities

---



- **Data Collection**
  - **Recommending and implementing subcategories that roll up to federal census categories as capacity allows**
- **Language Access**
  - **Promoting and building capacity for OUP departments and bureaus to leverage our language access vendor more often**



# Questions