



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