

# Working with Interpreters in Family Mediation

**Date:** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Time:** 9.30-4.15pm

**Venue:** Online via Zoom

**For:** Family Mediators

**Presenters:** Jess Michaelson and  
Nathalie Talbot

**Cost:** RS Members £60/  
Non-Members £120

**CPD Category A Points:** 6



Working with interpreters is an important skill that allows us to ensure our Services are fully accessible to those who do not speak sufficient English. This training day will help you build the knowledge, skills and confidence required to work effectively with community language interpreters in family mediation sessions.

Jess and Nathalie will share their learning from practice - Jess as a psychotherapist and Nathalie as an interpreter with over 20 years' experience of working and training on this topic.

In this session, participants will have the opportunity to engage in small group exercises, role play, discussions, and presentations. They will develop their expertise in learning how to work with interpreters and consider how to apply this to their mediation practice.

**Learning Outcomes:** By the end of the day participants will be able to:

- Explain the role of the interpreter and their code of conduct.
- Describe good practice when working with interpreters, including how to brief and debrief them.
- Identify some of the complex dynamics present when working with parents through an interpreter and apply this learning to their mediation practice.
- Explore the potential impact of the mediation session on the interpreter and what the mediator can do to ensure the interpreter is supported within the working relationship.

**Presenters:** **Jess Michaelson** is a psychotherapist, supervisor and trainer with over 20 years' experience of working with traumatised adults from diverse communities, in particular with refugee survivors of human rights abuses. Jess offers training on different themes of working with refugees including: working with interpreters; therapeutic work with refugees, mental health deterioration and risk, and vicarious trauma and self-care. Jess provides supervision to frontline workers that offers a chance to explore the personal/professional impact of their work as well as on managing the impact of mental health distress. Jess spent 18 years working as a psychotherapist, supervisor and trainer for Freedom from Torture offering psychotherapy to traumatised survivors of torture. Jess has a longstanding passion for human rights as well as interest in the therapist's journey when developing their work with survivors of human rights abuses. Jess has written a chapter "Holding hope: the challenge for therapists working with survivors of torture" in Psychological Therapies for Survivors of Torture: A Human Rights approach for people seeking asylum. Boyles, J (ed) 2017. Jess also works part time as a senior psychotherapist for an NHS secondary care psychological therapy service.

**Nathalie Talbot** used to be a bilingual assistant at the Ethnic Diversity Service in Stockport, helping refugee children in primary schools. Nathalie speaks French and Russian and has worked as a freelance interpreter and trainer at a torture rehabilitation Centre in Manchester since 2003. She has supported interpreters working in a refugee camp with the charity Medical Justice. She was teaching the Ascentis Level 3 course in Community Interpreting until 2023 and designed two modules on interpreting in a mental health setting and working with trafficked children. She is currently delivering training workshops for the Refugee Council. She has co-written an article and a book with Jude Boyles, a BACP Senior Accredited Psychological Therapist, on the triadic relationship: "We cannot talk if we do not feel free" in Therapy Today (2015) "Working with Interpreters in Psychological Therapy: The Right to Be Understood", Routledge (2017)

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## HOW TO BOOK

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Relationships Scotland CPD events are for practitioners who are currently working for a Service that is a Member of Relationships Scotland. Booking early is encouraged as spaces may be limited. Spaces may be open to practitioners from external organisations where appropriate and available. We use an online booking process, the link to the online booking form for each event can be found in the relevant section of this programme and in the flier for the event. The online booking form can be used by:

- Member Services to book on behalf of practitioners.
- Practitioners from Member Services who wish to self-fund.
- Practitioners from external organisations (when spaces are available).

The link to the online booking form for this event can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/SDnRyRuayv>

If you have any questions about the booking process please contact Cassie Bremner:  
[cassie.bremner@relationships-scotland.org.uk](mailto:cassie.bremner@relationships-scotland.org.uk)

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## BOOKING TERMS

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Booking for CPD events will be confirmed by email within 10 days of submission. Please check your inbox and/or junk mail, if you have any issues receiving this email please contact us immediately. Member Services or Self-funded practitioners will be sent an invoice for the course fee before the event, please do not make a payment until you have received this invoice as it will have a unique invoice number for the payment reference.

Cancellations within 14 days of the event and non-attendance will be charged in full. Member Services/practitioners must notify us of any cancellations by email. Where appropriate, Member Services may transfer a place to another attendee if the original person cannot attend, we must be informed of this ahead of the event taking place. If a CPD event is cancelled by Relationships Scotland (because of insufficient numbers or unforeseen circumstances) then all fees will be fully refunded. We are unable to reimburse out-of-pocket expenses, such as travel and accommodation.

In exceptional circumstances, Member Services/practitioners may request a refund of the cost of the training event or a free place at a future event. Examples of exceptional circumstances include admission to hospital at short notice, or a family bereavement. We are unable to reimburse out of pocket expenses, such as travel and accommodation. Requests for refunds or credits for future events will be considered by the Office Bearers Group (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer of the National Office). All request for refunds/free places at future events should be made in writing or by email to the CPD Manager, [sonia.bruce@relationships-scotland.org.uk](mailto:sonia.bruce@relationships-scotland.org.uk)

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## SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

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The session will be delivered using the Zoom platform. You can attend this CPD event from a private space anywhere using a compatible computer or tablet connected to the internet. You will need to download Zoom to access the session: <https://zoom.us/> Please make sure you have the most recent version of Zoom. Please note, some organisations have additional security settings that may prevent you from accessing the CPD event on an organisational device.

Please also ensure that you have the required bandwidth and internet speed. You can test whether you are able to join a Zoom meeting here: <https://zoom.us/test> Relationships Scotland are unable to provide refunds when there are issues with a participant's IT which prevent them from accessing the CPD event. Please contact the CPD Manager if you are unsure about the use of the technology [sonia.bruce@relationships-scotland.org.uk](mailto:sonia.bruce@relationships-scotland.org.uk)

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## ACCESSING THE EVENT ONLINE

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A link to the session will be sent out a few days before the event. Please ensure that the email address to which the link should be sent is clear in the Booking Form. It is also important that the Zoom account uses the same name that you used to register for the event. The Relationships Scotland CPD Host will use this information to admit participants into the event and to confirm attendance certificates. The username for your Zoom account can be amended by signing into Zoom and going to the profile section of your account.

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