

## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

### **A – Background**

Speech therapists work with people of all ages with communication and/or eating and swallowing problems. These problems can be caused by a disease or an accident (eg, stroke, brain damage, cancer, etc.) or something that a person is born with (eg, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Cleft Lip and/or Palate, etc.) or something that arises during early development (eg, developmental delay, Autism Spectrum Disorder, etc.).

Despite the enormous need for speech therapy in Vietnam, until 2010 there were no comprehensive or fulltime training courses for SLTs. With our Vietnamese partners TFA instigated, developed and supported Vietnam's first ever, two-year postgraduate speech therapy training course. The first group of 18 generalist Vietnamese SLTs graduated from the University of Medicine Pham Ngoc Thach (UPNT) in Ho Chi Minh City in September 2012, followed by the second cohort of 15 in October 2014. Between September 2016 and May 2017 TFA supported a postgraduate paediatric speech therapy course at UPNT with a further 32 graduates. In six years, 65 Vietnamese SLTs were trained with the support of TFA.

TFA has implemented a train the trainer model to focus on skill sharing and building local capacity to promote sustainability of the SLT profession and the future independence of SALT training and practice in Vietnam. Since 2017 UPNT has been independently conducting further paediatric speech therapy courses, which, with courses run by a number of other organisations, has resulted in the rapid growth in the number of qualified SLTs practising in Vietnam.

Through our partnership with Medical Committee Netherlands Vietnam (MCNV) (with funding by USAID) the first Bachelor in Rehabilitation Techniques with Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) Specialization commenced at Da Nang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy in September 2019. Also in partnership with MCNV, a Masters course began in November 2019 at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy (UMP) in Ho Chi Minh City to train future SALT academics. Upon graduating in 2021, these academics will be responsible for implementing further bachelor's degrees at four universities, thereby realising one of TFA's foundation aims of building a sustainable and contextually-relevant SALT education program in Vietnam.

## **B – Interpreter Training Short Course for Healthcare (Speech Therapy)**

TFA is seeking to recruit a core group of interpreters/translators who would like the opportunity to help develop Speech Therapy services in Vietnam, thus changing the lives of so many of their countrymen who experience communication and/or swallowing disorders. Please refer to the Job Description document for more information and job requirements.

However, before employment with TFA as a part-time interpreter/translator is officially offered, candidates must satisfy the prerequisites. They must attend the **Online Interpreter Training Short Course for Healthcare (Speech Therapy)** and meet all its requirements. Through this short course, participants will develop good knowledge of Speech Therapy content and skills in providing interpretation/translation in this specific context.

The online training short course is scheduled to be on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 to 11:00AM each day, via Zoom.

This is not a “formal” interpreter training program. The purpose of the short course is not to certify participants as professional interpreters/translators, but rather to equip them with necessary knowledge and skills to meet the requirements of TFA’s work. Participants are required to have some basic knowledge of interpreting/translating and previous experience in interpreting/translating is an advantage. We would like to offer our future interpreters/translators an opportunity to build their skills and gain practical experience, and support them in developing the specific skill set associated with interpreting and translating in the area of health, and specifically Speech Therapy.

The training short course will cover content related to Speech Therapy and interpreting/translating in the Speech Therapy context, including:

- Introduction to Speech Therapy;
- Overview of Different Areas of Speech Therapy;
- Speech Therapy Terminologies;
- Basic Interpreting Skills;
- Coping with Challenging Situations;
- Speech Therapy/Healthcare Interpreter Ethics;
- Practical Experience.



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The **Interpreter Training Short Course for Healthcare (Speech Therapy)** is sponsored by Speech Pathology Australia (SPA), “the national peak body for the speech pathology profession in Australia”.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Quynh Pham at [quyenphamtfa@gmail.com](mailto:quyenphamtfa@gmail.com) or +84 (0) 797 530 379.