



**December's (2022) KCDHH Spotlight Q&A** is with Theresa Lott, who joined KCDHH in November as an Interpreter. Lott's hometown is Amityville, Long Island, NY. She graduated from Amity (NY) Memorial High School and earned her Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in the Interpreter Education at Wilson (NC) Community College. Lott presently lives in Frankfort.

**What department do you work for and what is your role?**

I am an Interpreter working with the Access Center.

**How long have you been with KCDHH?**

I have been with KCDHH for grand month!

**What part of KCDHH's mission do you connect with?**

I connect with the piece related to "provide...education and advocacy" because there are many entities that will do more to support the needs of deaf and hard of hearing Kentuckians once they are informed

**What have been your biggest accomplishments in your department?**

Being new to the team, I'm in the process of learning my position and the needs of the community. It's been an enriching experience.

**Who are some of your biggest inspirations within KCDHH?**

I am deeply impressed with the wealth of knowledge Rachel Rogers has regarding the needs of the community. Her many experiences have given her a rich understanding of how to support deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing community members as she facilitates the breaking down of barriers to ensure communication and support happens. I look forward to learning from her and working with her shoulder to shoulder. Could be a consumer, board member, staff member, volunteer, etc.

**What is the most unique part about working at KCDHH?**

Working with a team that is open-minded and dedicated to supporting each other. It makes coming to work every day a joy.

**How have you grown professionally while working at KCDHH?**

In the short time I've been here, I've been able to expand my lens of the interpreting world since my duties are not limited to actual interpreting but coming up with strategic ideas to advance the field and improve its impact on our constituents.

**Before working at KCDHH, what was the most unusual or interesting job you've ever had?**

I interpreted for children. It is the most inspiring experience to watch them grow academically over the course of a school year.

**How has KCDHH helped you in your career development?**

It's allowed me to look behind the curtain, so to speak, on matters that affect interpreters and consumers and have a role in ensuring that communication takes place.

**If you could pick one theme for KCDHH to turn into a book, what would it be?**

"Differing Viewpoints Lead to Positive Change"

**What advice do you have for prospective KCDHH candidates?**

Be flexible, as every day is different and unpredictable situations come up. Also, realize it's going to take time to learn your new role, so ask questions and accept help.

**What are 3 words to describe KCDHH?**

Knowledgeable, Committed, and Open

**What do you find the most challenging at KCDHH?**

Remembering it's time to go home as I enjoy conversations with the staff lol

**What do you like most about KCDHH?**

I love being able to work with a team of people who are friendly and dedicated to their work.

**What is a hobby or talent you might want to share?**

I am an avid plant enthusiast (I have over 300) and a doll collector (I have about 150) and doll photographer. I enjoy quiet time after growing up in an energetic family with four siblings and never a boring moment to be had lol. I enjoy traveling at a relaxed pace that allows me to truly experience my surroundings, and I look forward to taking an epic solo international trip in 2024.