



www.njserves.org has created the state's first communication resource that enables individuals throughout New Jersey to instantly locate volunteer translators familiar with nearly any language.

Overcoming Language Barriers

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, New Jersey is the ninth most ethnically diverse state in the nation, boasting citizens who speak everything from Albanian to Zulu.

- How does a Bosnian get through the DMV line?
- How does an Urdu speaking woman communicate her concerns to a nurse practitioner?
- How does a housing agency talk to its Haitian clients?

What do you do if you need translation services?

You go to Language Bank @ <http://case.rutgers.edu/languagebank>

Language Bank taps into our state's very diversity to break through communication barriers. Language Bank can put you in touch with hundreds of New Jerseyans who have volunteered to put their linguistic skills at your service.

Language Bank asks New Jerseyans who are bilingual in English and any world language to register as volunteer translators, and encourages those in need of translation services to call upon Language Bank volunteers in their community.

So Easy To Use

Language Bank is extremely user-friendly.

A potential volunteer logs on to **www.njserves.org** and clicks on Language Bank, enters their name, email address, local area where they are available to volunteer and languages spoken.

When someone requests translation services, they enter their name, email address, pertinent language, appointment location and time.

Language Bank will instantly show how many translators are available in the area. The system will then email the request to all appropriate individuals in the database, and each volunteer has the option to respond or not (a security failsafe).

For the thousands of people each day who are frustrated by their inability to communicate easily with service providers or clients, this system will be an essential tool, and in emergencies, when communication is most critical, Language Bank will provide an invaluable resource.

www.njserves.org

www.njserves.org is New Jersey's most comprehensive virtual database linking citizens, government, civic organizations, elected officials and corporations. The Web site provides a searchable directory of over 40,000 civic organizations, an online newspaper, a citizen's resource center, and a statewide events calendar.