



Fall 2024

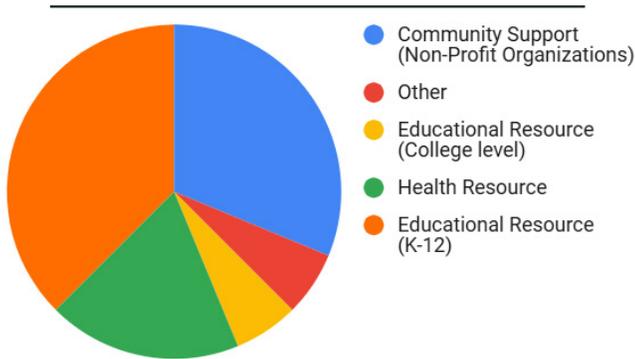
# SEMESTER REPORT



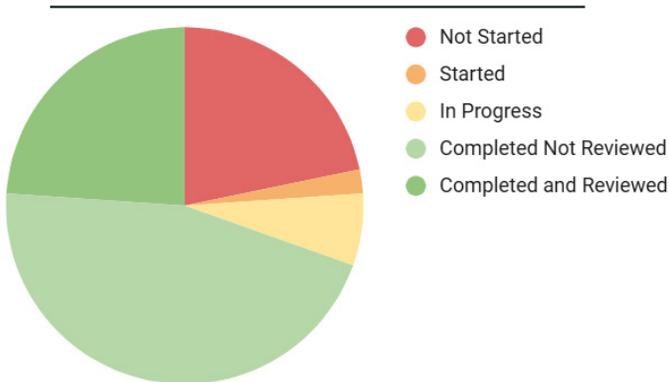
# Translations

This semester saw 16 requests, 12 of being translations and 4 were interpretations. The majority of requests were either identified as an educational resource or community support. From our 12 translations projects, we saw 46 language requests in total across 20 different languages. The top four most popular languages requested for translations were Dari,

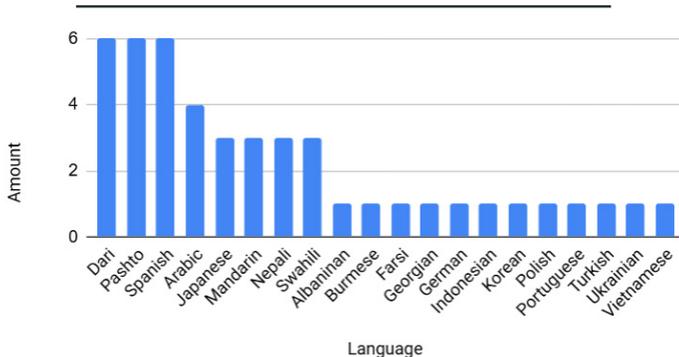
## RESOURCE TYPE



## COMPLETION RATE



## NUMBER OF LANGUAGE REQUESTS



Pashto, Spanish and Arabic. The length of these requests ranged from as little as 12 words to 552 words. Our volunteers translated over 4964 words this semester and successfully translated 31 requests out of 46, a 67.4 % completion rate. Six Pashto requests were uncompleted; an issue that we believe is potentially related to the fact that most speak Pashto but do not read or write the language. We welcomed 76 new volunteers to MOVE, increasing our team to 493 volunteers overall. The top three most popular languages among our new volunteers are Spanish (29), French (20) and Mandarin (14). Our new additions also saw the inclusion of four new languages: Batak, Malay, Twi, and Kinyarwanda/Kirundi. We had 33 volunteers participate in translation requests with our top three volunteers having over three involvements. Samman Akbarzada worked on 7 different Dari requests, Aspen Stevenson on 6 Spanish requests and Dahua Fang on 4 Mandarin and Korean requests. Meanwhile, most volunteers had 1-2 translation involvements.

# Interpretations & Events

Our 4 interpretations projects had 9 language requests across Arabic, Dari, Pashto and Spanish. Out of the 9, we could only successfully provide volunteers for 3 requests. The low succession rate is attributed to the logistical problems behind interpretations. Often requests ask for an in-person interpretation rather than an on-call interpretation. This requires volunteers organizing transportation and given that most are UVA students this proves to be difficult. For example, the Charlottesville High School Student Interpretation requestor originally asked for an interpreter on Monday in the middle of the day which is often when students have class. Additionally, the request required a quick turn around with about 4 days to find a volunteer. One was found over the weekend but the requestor could not respond and thus the student had to drop out due to a lack of confirmation.

The successful interpretations were at the UVA Career & Community Fair and UVA Espejo Workshop, both having multiple student volunteer sign-ups. Both these requests were made weeks ahead of time which allowed volunteers plenty of time to plan and accommodate space in their schedule for these interpretations.



Volunteer interpreter for the UVA Espejo Workshop

## Translate-a-Thon

We hosted our first ever Translate-a-thon where we invited our MOVE volunteers to meet their fellow translators. Around 10-20 people showed up to the two hour event. The first hour was introductions and icebreakers to welcome our participants. The second hour had our volunteers collaborating with one another on Street Sheets. For future translation-a-thons, we noted that the ratio of socializing vs. working should shift in favor of translating to offer more time for our volunteers.

## Future Plans

Our current project for Spring 2025 is to host a professional panel for translators. We are developing a list of guest speakers, mainly contacting UVA professors who have experience with translating and community leaders who work with translators. This part of our overarching goal of offering resources to our more involved members who have an interest in developing their translation skills.

Another project is to revamp the MOVE instagram in order to gain more social media traction. As we are now beginning to host events, it is important that we reach our audience through digital means. Additionally, there are cultural organizations who are more active on Instagram than email thus we hope to facilitate communication with an established account. We are working to have Instagram renewed by the start of the Spring semester and ready to promote requests and events.