

CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Colleagues:

The Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF) and the Illinois Association for Behavioral Health (IABH) are hosting a joint Educational Conference and Expo September 5-7, 2018, at the Hilton Downtown Chicago Hotel. The IARF and IABH Education/Conference Committees are pleased to announce the opening of our process for selecting conference sessions.

The Call for Proposals for the Conference is open, and the submission deadline has been extended to April 30, 2018. You can access the proposal system [here](#).

Once your proposal has been submitted, you will receive an email confirming that we have received your submission. Proposals selected for presentation will be notified by June 5, 2018.

A range of professionals will attend the IARF/IABH Conference - front line staff serving children and adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities (both DSPs and QIDPs); addiction and mental health professionals; QMHPs assessing individuals with serious mental illnesses and providing treatment services and supports; prevention specialists, human resource professionals, staff development directors, middle-level and senior management, and c-suite executives, and others interested in state and national issues facing our field. The Conference draws a range of individuals working in community-based intellectual/developmental disabilities, addiction and mental health wellness/prevention, treatment and recovery support services.

Our goal with this joint Conference is to offer attendees a creative learning environment where they can increase skills, problem-solve, network and celebrate the work they do. The committees seek proposals that will accomplish the following:

- Provide relevant content for an audience with the range of responsibilities described above;
- Stretch current thinking and provide new approaches with specific "how-to" takeaways;
- Share best practices in person-centered services and supports, provider administration, etc.
- Advance the use of data to achieve value-based outcomes and allow for agency benchmarking;
- Deliver content in an engaging and interactive way that draws on the experience of attendees; and
- Utilize case studies to advance discussion of lessons learned from the experience.

2018 Session Theme

The theme of this year's joint Conference is, "**Better Together.**" We are excited to bring our attendees all of the innovative and exciting opportunities that a joint Conference will offer, including additional tracks and new individuals to network with!

2018 Presentation Focus

Research suggests that interactive sessions increase attendees' experience, opportunities to network with peers, and retention of the information that is presented. When submitting a proposal, please consider formatting your presentation for such interaction. We realize that not every subject is conducive to this presentation style, so you should not be dissuaded from submitting a proposal if that is the case.

Pre-Conference Sessions

In addition to conference workshops, the committees are seeking proposals for pre-conference sessions that will occur the morning of September 5, 2018. Pre-Conference sessions are three hours in length, and previous topics have included: ethics, clinical supervision, how to prevent fatigue and burnout, and working with the juvenile justice system.

Ignite Sessions

One of the highest rated sessions at recent conferences, Ignite Sessions are fast-paced and packed with information. If you are not familiar with Ignite, participants are given five minutes to speak about their ideas and professional passions, accompanied by 20 slides. Each slide is displayed for 15 seconds and then automatically advances. Want to see it in real time? Click [here](#). The Ignite motto is, "Enlighten me, but make it quick!" If you have a topic and you have the energy...this format is for you!

Submission Overview

You do not need to be a member of IARF or IABH to submit an abstract. Commercial content, product or service-related advertisements are not permitted. Session content must be educational. Please share this with other colleagues who may be interested in presenting!

Questions: Contact Rebecca Schnorf (rschnorf@firminc.com or 217-753-1190 ext. 6) or Pel Kelley (pel@ilabh.org or 217-528-7335 ext. 10).

To enter a conference proposal, go to: <https://www.cvent.com/c/abstracts/b1dbb633-3047-4ec6-af2d-f969cee19d9e!>