2021 MCN Annual Conference Request for Proposals

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits seek dynamic session leaders to present at its 2021 Annual Conference.

This year’s conference will look at how we’ll 'operationalize the reimagining' as we consider how the last year and a half has changed us, what of that change has been necessarily transformative, and where we need to continue using our imagination to move the sector in the direction of equity. We will pick up where we left off at last year's conference to see where we are at with rooting deep into our practices, processes, and values in the interest of becoming a more whole, reflective, effective, and interconnected sector. How have we become change agents? Where do we need to keep pushing? As we push, how will we sustain each other and thrive?

Proposals can be submitted through the online proposal form and take about 10 minutes to complete. You don’t need to have a fully fleshed out presentation to submit a proposal. You’re sharing an idea that you will shape into a presentation. The deadline to submit a proposal to present at the conference is Wednesday, June 23 at 11:00 p.m. Central.

We encourage you to think about session formats and presenter groupings that support collaboration, connection, and varied approaches to content areas. Presenters should reflect the racial, economic, cultural, age, gender, varied ability, and geographic diversity of the communities nonprofits serve. Experts and presenters who are able to share first-person experiences will be strongly considered, as well as representation of people who are furthest from justice.

When and where will the conference take place?
2021 MCN Annual Conference
Four half-day is October: Thursday & Friday, 10/14 & 10/15, 2021 + Thursday & Friday, 10/28 & 10/29, 2021
VIRTUAL

The questions you will be asked in the online survey proposal form are:

Session title (8 word maximum)

Session description: Please tell us about your session in 150 words or less. Try and cover the following: big idea and why this session at this moment in time; what lens do you and your co-presenters bring to the session (this could be work or lived experience,
particular skills). You don’t need to have a fully fleshed out description. If writing presents a challenge, you are welcome to contact MCN’s program director, Courtney Gerber, to figure out an alternative means to submitting your proposal. Courtney’s email: cgerber@minnesotanonprofits.org

What are the top two or three learning objectives or action steps you hope participants will gain from your session?

How do you imagine engaging attendees? (Choose all that may apply)
- Small group conversations/activities
- Individual reflection (Ex. you give people time to self-reflect on an idea and how it impacts their work/life.)
- Whole group discussion (Ex. you/you and co-presenters share and then invite anyone to add their experience to the conversation.)
- Responding to quizzes or polls
- Through performance of music, movement, poetry, etc. (live or filmed)

How would you categorize the primary content area of your session? (Select one)
- Equity & Justice
- Evaluation & Programming
- Finance, Operations, & Human Resources
- Fundraising
- Leadership & Governance
- Marketing & Communications
- Policy & Advocacy
- Technology
- Other

How much prior knowledge of your session’s content area do people need to actively participate?
- **General Prior Knowledge:** Presenter(s) will provide presentations that would be useful to people of all knowledge and experience levels with the subject matter.
- **Intermediate Prior Knowledge:** Presenters will define terms and spend some time providing basic information on the subject, but participants should have some familiarity related to the subject (i.e., lived experience or on-the-job experience).
- **Advanced Prior Knowledge:** Participants should have advanced knowledge of/experience with the subject area to get the most out of the session.

Preferred length of session?
• 60 minutes
• 75 minutes
• No preference

How familiar are you with presenting/communicating on Zoom (All familiarity levels welcome. We are just trying to get a sense of where people are at.)

Have you presented at a conference or convening before?

Contact information for main contact person: Please include the full contact information for the session presenter who will be MCN's main contact during the planning process. This must be one of the session presenters. First name, Last name, Title (if applicable), Organization or company (if applicable), Email address, City, State, Phone number

Co-presenter information (Optional): If you will have one or two co-presenters, please include their information below. (Please note that in addition to the main presenter, up to two co-presenters may be admitted to the conference with free registration.

Background information: If there's anything else you'd like us to know about you, please feel free to share it here. Maybe this is your first conference (welcome!). Maybe you've presented with MCN before. Whatever you'd like to share we're here for it.

Anything else you’d like to share?

Submit Your Proposal Now!

Questions?
If you have questions about submitting a proposal for the 2021 Annual Conference, please contact Courtney Gerber, program director, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits at 651-757-3087 or cgerber@minnesotanonprofits.org. Thank you!