



2019 Spring Conference

Nashville, TN

April 15 - 17, 2019

Call for Conference Session Proposals

Presenters chosen for the NHSDC Conference will be offered a discount off the full conference registration price.

To qualify for the discount, presenters must register for the conference by the registration deadline. Please note, for panel presentations, discounts will be limited to three presenters.

Submission instructions are included on the next page.

Please prepare and submit proposals online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHSDC_Spring2019 by the deadline – Tuesday, January 8, 2019 by 8pm CT.

Questions can be directed to the following address:

info@nhsdc.org.

NHSDC Spring 2019 Conference: Increasing Capacity and Building Connections - Bridging to the Future

The National Human Services Data Consortium (NHSDC) is requesting session proposals for the 2019 Spring Conference in Nashville, TN, taking place April 15-17, 2019. The conference will be co-sponsored by the HUD SNAPS office, and will be a 3-day event featuring tracks of HUD content in the morning and NHSDC sessions in the afternoons. HUD SNAPS and partnering technical assistance providers are excited to offer content that will increase knowledge and expertise across CoCs and help to level-set the field for HMIS professionals.

We are looking for experienced speakers and presenters who are excited to share their human services data experiences and expertise with attendees from across the country. Because of the larger anticipated size of the conference we are asking for sessions from 6 exciting and innovative tracks, listed below. *Note that for each track we are interested in at least one session that addresses racial and ethnic disparities in homeless populations, and one session addressing HMIS response to natural disasters like hurricanes, floods, and fires:*

Data Integration and Sharing: Data sharing between HMIS and other systems is now commonplace, yet there are still so many questions about how HMIS data can integrate with health systems data. We are interested in your sessions that demonstrate how HMIS is being combined with health systems' data to improve the health of homeless individuals and families. Updates on the H2 initiative, use cases for care coordination platforms, and overcoming HIPAA and privacy concerns are all subjects to propose for this track.

Data Visualization and Storytelling Presentations: The strongest HMIS implementations have diverse users and are supported financially by multiple funding sources. This track features creative solutions for how HMIS Lead Agency Staff and CoC Lead Agency Staff can use HMIS data and other community data sources to create thoughtful storytelling presentations and creative solutions to engage specific audiences beyond HMIS Federal Partner Programs to maximize funding and improve HMIS participation from all the diverse programs available to help those experiencing homelessness within your community.

Advanced Applications to Bridge HMIS: CoCs have long dealt with the problem of data existing silos and having to enter the same dataset into multiple, frequently funder-specific, databases. Making sound, strategic, data informed decisions requires access to diverse datasets; unfortunately, we're frequently forced to make decisions with limited, incomplete data. This doesn't have to be the reality. There are a multitude of options available for 'bridging' diverse databases/data systems within a CoC: APIs (Application Programming Interface), real time exchanges, etc., are all tools used to improve cross-platform communication, enhancing a CoC's ability to better leverage data resources. This track is focused on highlighting the use of available technologies.

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Please note:

- Session lengths are planned to be between 50 & 75 minutes in length and should include time for questions and answers. NHSDC attendees value opportunities to engage in discussion with session presenters and attendees.
- If you don't feel as though your proposal specifically fits one of the above topics, but feel that it could be beneficial for conference attendees, please feel free to submit your proposal with an additional narrative demonstrating this.
- NHSDC offers a vendor neutral conference. Sessions must not promote a specific company, product or service. Vendor specific references, materials and screenshots must be excluded from proposal and presentation materials.
- Presenters chosen for the NHSDC Conference will be offered a discount off the full conference registration price. To qualify for the discount, presenters must register for the conference by the registration deadline. Please note, for panel presentations, discounts will be limited to three presenters.
- The Conference Committee reserves the right to request a modification of the proposed content, which may include asking presenters to combine similar presentations.

Performance Measurement and Planning Track: CoCs measure and report on project and system level performance throughout the year in many ways, including APRs, annual project scoring and ranking, system performance measures, and now the Longitudinal System Analysis. This track explores the various strategies, tools and processes that CoCs are using to implement a cohesive plan for setting benchmarks and monitoring performance within their CoC. Further, the track explores policy changes being made locally as a result of CoC capacity to measure and demonstrate project or system level performance.

When Data and the Client Story Met: Data only tells part of the story, and without good qualitative analysis and consumer input, CoCs are not providing the full picture of what they do to the communities they serve, to funders, and beyond. This track will highlight innovative practices in incorporating client experience in planning, performance measurement, reporting, and community and funder engagement.

Building Partnerships to Increase the Homeless Response System's Capacity: HMIS Federal Partner Programs include multiple funding sources. Understanding all the various project types, program specific data elements, reporting requirements, and data quality requires complex coordination between HMIS Lead Agency Staff, CoC Lead Agency Staff, and Service Provider Agencies. This track is designed to provide technical guidance and methodologies for project set-up for different HMIS Federal Partner Programs including: HUD, ESG, RHY, PATH, VA, & DV funded projects.

How to Submit Proposals

Please prepare and submit proposals online at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NHSDC_Spring2019

Deadline: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 by 8pm CT

To prepare for your online submission, please have the following information:

- **Track**
- **Session Title:** 100 character maximum
- **Description:** Descriptions should be a concise, narrative description of the content and purpose of the proposed session. Attendees will want to learn about real world success and failure. Only the first 500 words of the description will be forwarded to the reviewers.
- **Audience and Learning Objectives:** All proposals must identify the targeted level of the audience: **beginner, experienced, advanced.** Include learning objectives that are action-oriented and concisely communicate what you want the audience to learn.
- **Presenters and Bios:** All proposals must include a paragraph that discusses the experience of each speaker (please include names, titles, and organization affiliation in 300 words or less). Please also identify which constituency each presenter most closely represents – Elected Official, Government, Human Service Agency, Funding Agency, HMIS Vendor (Software/Service), Consultant, or HUD Technical Assistance Provider).

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- **Session Contact Information:** Please include presenter's telephone and email contact information. If the proposal includes a panel or multiple presenters, please identify the individual that will serve as the primary contact for NHSDC.
- **Preferred Session Format:** Please indicate in your proposal your preferred format (plenary, workshop, presentation, or roundtable). If NHSDC thinks your proposal might be good for everyone we may reach out to you about presenting as a plenary or repeating your session.

Hotel Information

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Grand in downtown Nashville, TN. The negotiated room rate is \$219 if made by March 24, 2019. Please make your reservations by [accessing this link](#).

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