

# NatCon24 and Mental Health First Aid Summit Call for Presentations and Award Nominations

## **Presentation Submissions**

**Submission Deadline:** September 11, 2023

**Acceptance Notification:** November 15, 2023

## Share Your Knowledge About Mental Wellbeing and Mental Health First Aid

National Council for Mental Wellbeing and Mental Health First Aid invites you to submit a presentation proposal for NatCon24 or the Mental Health First Aid Summit – **April 14-17, 2024, at the America's Center Convention Complex in St. Louis, Missouri**. Each year, we provide an outstanding mix of quality education to showcase new ideas and innovative solutions. NatCon24 attendees will include senior leaders of mental health and substance use treatment organizations, health system executives, human resources professionals, county and regional authorities, state treatment organization association representatives and individuals who identify as having living or lived experience. Mental Health First Aid Summit attendees will include world class instructors from around the country. Educate your peers and contribute to the field of mental wellbeing by submitting a presentation proposal for consideration.

## How to Submit

To submit an abstract, go to the [NatCon24 Submission Site](#) and complete the online form. You may begin the submission process and return to your saved proposal any time prior to the submission deadline. **All proposals must be submitted online.**

**Please note that all speakers selected to present at NatCon24 or Mental Health First Aid Summit will be required to register for the Conference. Speakers receive a discounted registration rate of \$450 for a full NatCon24 registration. Mental Health First Aid Summit is free to register.**

## Session Formats

Proposals are being accepted for the following formats: workshop presentations, poster presentations, TED-style talks and Ignite presentations, digital poster presentations, the NatCon24 Shark Tank and Mental Health First Aid Summit presentations. (You will be asked to specify your desired session format during the submittal process.)



- **Workshop Presentations:** Workshop presentations last one hour, including Q&A. They are interactive and have a scope beyond individual programs. Workshops focus on emerging trends, creative concepts and new solutions that benefit the field and shape the future. Workshop presentations may have one presenter, multiple presenters or can be formulated as a panel. No more than three panelists and one moderator are permitted.
- **TED-style Talk and Ignite Sessions:** TED-style Talks are short, powerful talks on riveting topics lasting just 18 minutes or less. Ignite sessions are exactly five minutes with 20 auto-advancing, highly visual slides, allowing presenters to share their passions in riveting, moving and memorable ways. Think beyond both your work and our field to creative stories that will excite and inspire audiences. Outside the box is what we are looking for.
- **Digital Poster Presentations:** Posters presentations are interactive digital poster displays of innovative practices and award-winning programs that can include the latest in research and data. These digital posters are available throughout the conference to be viewed by attendees on touchscreens located in the exhibit hall. Up to two authors are scheduled at a designated time to present their information and answer questions about their poster for 30 minutes on Monday or Tuesday.
- **NatCon24 Shark Tank:** Show us how you are using technology to improve outcomes in mental health and substance use treatment in your communities. With the healthcare landscape rapidly changing, innovations in the use of technology are critical to providing high-quality care that is accessible and data driven. We know that widespread adoption of telehealth has provided access to care for millions, but we're looking for submissions that go beyond telehealth for the next frontier in healthcare technologies.
- **Mental Health First Aid Summit Presentations:** Structured like workshops, presentations during the Mental Health First Aid Summit (Sunday, April 15, 2024) are intended for an audience of Mental Health First Aid Instructors. They can focus on cultural awareness, funding your initiative, inspiring with stories from peers and public figures or helping reach new audiences in your community. National Council is asking for individuals to submit presentation proposals with the intention of combining several presenters together around relevant topics.

To support our organizational commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, we are committed to creating Conference programming that reflects the diversity of our membership organizations and the communities they serve. Please consider including a diverse set of speakers when submitting panels as part of your proposal.

For ideas on the caliber of presentations and the topic areas of most interest to our attendees, please review the [2023 online Conference program](#).

## Submission Categories

National Council may build session tracks for the Conference using the following topics. During the application process, you will be asked to indicate which category best describes your presentation.



*Submission categories include the following:*

- Board Governance
- Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)
- Children, Adolescents and Young Adults
- Clinical Practices
- Communications, Marketing and Branding
- Criminal Justice
- Crisis Response
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
- Financing
- Harm Reduction
- Health Equity
- Human Resources
- Integrated Care
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Leadership and Organizational Excellence
- LGBTQ+
- Mental Health First Aid
- Older Adults
- Policy Initiatives
- Practice Improvements
- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation
- Public Health, Social Determinants and Population Health
- Recovery Supports and Peer Workers
- Research-based Innovations
- Rural Service Delivery
- Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery
- Suicide Prevention
- Technology-based Solutions
- Trauma-informed Care
- Veterans
- Workforce Development and Talent Management

## Selection Criteria

National Council seeks educational sessions that highlight concepts that are **practical, replicable and relevant** for attendees. The process is very selective as we receive hundreds of applications each year for a limited number of slots.

National Council will use the following criteria to select presentations:

- **Originality:** NatCon includes only unique and exciting content that reflects our dynamic community.
- **Relevance and Replicability:** Presentations must be of great interest to attendees, clearly benefit attendees' professional needs and are replicable in other treatment organizations.
- **Presentation Design:** Presentations must incorporate good practices for adult education, with clear learning objectives that are measurable and achievable.
- **Outcomes:** All presentations must demonstrate strong outcomes.
- **Ability to Inspire Action:** Content experts who present at NatCon inspire attendees to return to their organizations and implement what they learn.
- **Overall Quality:** NatCon learning opportunities meet the highest standards of excellence.



All proposals must be complete, comprehensive, and deemed relevant and timely to the conference's audience. **The National Council may shorten a presentation, increase and/or reduce the number of presenters, select alternate presenters from among those proposed and/or combine the submitted presentation with other proposed presentations, at its sole discretion.** All presenters will be contacted independently to confirm final details.

## **Award Nominations**

**Submission Deadline:** September 11, 2023

**Acceptance Notification:** November 15, 2023

### **How to Submit**

To submit a nomination, go to the [NatCon24 Submission Site](#) and complete the online form. You may begin the submission process and return to your saved nomination any time prior to the submission deadline. **All nominations must be submitted online.**

### **NatCon24 Awards of Excellence**

The National Council Awards of Excellence are our opportunity to recognize individuals and organizations at the forefront of innovation and dedication to exceptional quality and compassionate care. Recipients represent some of the most prestigious and influential individuals and organizations working to strengthen mental health and addiction treatment and support our communities.

The National Council is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Awards of Excellence, which will be presented at NatCon24, April 15-17, 2024.

### **Award Types**

Nominations are being accepted for Lifetime Achievement Award and Peer Specialist of the Year Award.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** This award is in recognition of an individual whose tireless efforts, far-reaching impact and commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable Americans living with mental illnesses and addictions is unmatched.
- **Peer Specialist of the Year Award:** Great things happen when passion meets purpose. This award recognizes an individual with lived experience who works in a health care organization and uses his or her strengths to help peers on their road to recovery.



## Mental Health First Aid Impact Awards

Instructors are the heart and soul of Mental Health First Aid. Through your hard work and initiative, you empower people in communities across the country to support each other in times of need or crisis. The Mental Health First Aid Impact Awards honor Instructors and organizations that are making a tangible, measurable impact on their communities in changing the conversation around mental wellbeing.

The National Council is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Mental Health First Aid Impact Awards, which will be presented at Mental Health First Aid Summit, April 14, 2024.

## Award Types

Nominations are being accepted for the following awards: Organization of the Year Award; Instructor of the Year Award; and Coordinator of the Year Award.

- **Organization of the Year Award:** Awarded to an organization with certified Adult, Youth or teen MHFA Instructors that is implementing creative solutions to expand MHFA within their organization as well as externally.
- **Instructor of the Year Award:** Awarded to an individual Adult, Youth or teen MHFA Instructor who is changing the conversation around mental health through the courses they are teaching and the relationships they have built to offer MHFA.
- **Coordinator of the Year Award:** Awarded to an individual Adult, Youth or teen MHFA Coordinator who is driving change in their organization and community through innovations in supporting instructors to effectively provide MHFA courses in their area by expanding the reach their of their instructors and fostering good community relationships to offer MHFA.

## Schedule

August 1, 2023	Call for Presentations and Nominations Submission site opens
September 11, 2023	Submission deadline for proposals and nominations at 11:59 p.m. PT (2:59 a.m. ET).
November 15, 2023	Acceptance/Rejection notifications sent out to all who submitted
April 14-17, 2024	NatCon24 (April 15-17) and Mental Health First Aid Summit (April 14)

All applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. PT (2:59 a.m. ET). Monday, September 11, 2023.

## Notifications

Once you have submitted your proposal, you can expect:

1. **Acknowledgement:** Upon receipt of your submission, you will receive an email acknowledgement.
2. **Notification:** You will be notified about the status of your presentation or nomination by November 15, 2023.



3. **Follow-up:** If selected to present, the National Council will contact you to discuss each presentation in detail, bringing together both presenters and moderators and will help presenters determine AV needs and manage presentation materials.
  - a. **Workshop and Mental Health First Aid Summit Presenters:** All accepted workshop presenters will get information on how to access the Speaker Resource Center (SRC). Presenters will receive a discounted registration rate of \$450 for a full registration or may register for their presentation only at no cost. All speakers are required to register for the Conference and are required to log into the SRC to confirm participation in the conference, provide a presentation description, three measurable learning objectives, references and a few additional items by the given due dates. Prep calls will also be scheduled as needed.
  - b. **Poster Presenters:** All accepted poster presenters will receive a \$100 discount on Conference registration (all poster presenters are required to register for the Conference) and information on how to log into the NatCon poster system to build the digital poster. All poster presenters will be assigned a 30-minute presentation time during the conference to engage in an informal presentation and Q&A session with attendees.
  - c. **TED-style Talk and Ignite Presenters:** All accepted speakers will be contacted by National Council staff to begin coaching and prep for your talk and for information on how to access the Speaker Resource Center (SRC). Your on-site rehearsal and speaking time will also be scheduled.
  - d. **Shark Tank Presenters:** Accepted Shark Tank presenters will be contacted to schedule a prep call to go over logistics of the Shark Tank and what to expect and for information on how to access the Speaker Resource Center (SRC).
  - e. **Award Recipients:** All accepted award recipients will receiving information about attending the event and information needed in advance such as photos.

*Reminder: All presentations must be educational in nature and may not be used to market products or services.*

**Note:** The submitting author must provide a valid e-mail address as the National Council will rely exclusively on e-mail communications related to abstract submission, disposition, and presentation. It is the responsibility of the submitting author to contact National Council in the event of failure to receive e-mail communication and to relay all correspondence about the abstract(s) to all co-author(s). Please check your bulk/junk mail folders to ensure e-mails from The National Council are not being filtered out of your inbox.

## Questions

For assistance with questions regarding the Call for Presentations proposals, please email [MichaelH@TheNationalCouncil.org](mailto:MichaelH@TheNationalCouncil.org). For technical support with online submissions, call 410-638-9239 or email [Help@ConferenceAbstracts.com](mailto:Help@ConferenceAbstracts.com). Customer service is available Monday-Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET.

