



JW Marriott Atlanta Buckhead
3300 Lenox Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30326

Call for Sessions Proposal Instructions

Connections 2020 is Healthcare Georgia Foundation’s ninth, biennial statewide convening of grantees, partners, and community leaders. The theme of this year’s conference is “**Health Equity: Setting the Table**”, and embraces how various **social determinants – the broad range of social, economic, and environmental factors** – shape health behaviors and access to healthcare.

Connections 2020 aims to strengthen nonprofit health organizations by convening statewide attendees to: **1)** promote networking and a learning community; **2)** provide Georgia-based nonprofits with opportunities for collaboration; and **3)** share experiences and accomplishments by featuring exemplary work by the Foundation’s grantees.

The Foundation will accept session proposals related to the theme of the conference from organizations located in Georgia. We encourage you to partner with other organizations to collaborate in a session. The Foundation also strongly encourage that while designing your session, you consider: how to lift new voices and include diverse perspectives; allow for thoughtful reflection and candid conversations; incorporate case studies, videos or technology demonstrations; and leave the audience with take-away tools/resources they can use when returning to their organizations.

In June 2019, the Foundation launched a *Call for Topics* to solicit session topics and ideas related to the *Connections 2020* conference theme to help us provide a more engaging conference experience for all attendees. The Foundation received more than 40 submissions from nonprofit organizations, partners, and grantees. Topics of interest were identified from the *Call for Topics* submissions and include, but not limited to those listed below:

• Behavioral Health Access and Treatment	• Immigrant, Refugee, and Migrant Health
• Census 2020: Strategies to Ensure an Accurate Count	• Transportation
• Collaborations and Partnerships: Going Far Together	• Poverty/Economic Development
• Communications	• Primary Care Access
• Evaluation Using an Equity Lens	• Race/Ethnicity: Addressing Health Disparities
• Food Insecurity	• Rural Health
• Health Literacy and Education	• Social Impact Investing
• Health and Housing	• Workforce/Student Development and Training

Who Can Submit Session Proposals?

Nonprofit, governmental or academic organizations are welcome to submit or codesign sessions. Session proposals from other philanthropic organizations or for-profit organizations will also be considered. We especially encourage the Foundation's past or current grantees to submit a session proposal for consideration.

Presentation Formats

We welcome session proposals for:

- **Breakout Sessions:** 60 or 90-minute sessions that utilize interactive and creative ways to engage participants in learning.
- **Quick Takes:** Brief, compelling talks on important topics or lively demonstrations of innovative technological tools, delivered in 20 minutes.

Breakout Session Parameters

- Sessions last for either 60 or 90 minutes and will be limited to no more than 3 speakers.
- Creative session formats are highly encouraged, such as hands-on workshops, providing strategic guidance, facilitating group discussions, or showing a short video.
- Foundation staff maintains the right to modify session titles or descriptions to more closely fit with the conference theme. Staff may also combine proposed session submissions to avoid duplication. This may result in the presenter needing to alter their proposed time and format.

Quick Take Parameters

- Presentations last 20 minutes and are limited to no more than 2 speakers.
- Technology demonstrations should focus on how your organization is using or supporting the identified topics of interest to address health equity, including the utilization of: social media, digital and mobile health applications, online metrics and data visualization tools, digital storytelling, etc.

Equipment

For both types of sessions, the standard AV package typically includes a computer with Microsoft PowerPoint, LCD projector and screen, microphones, and wireless internet access for speakers. Please include any additional A/V requests in your session proposal.

Required Presenter Information

- All presenters agree to participate in a conference call and/or emails with an assigned Foundation staff person to finalize the session topic, title and description to be included in the conference program and registration information.
- All presenters will be asked to submit a picture, speaker bio form, and presentation to Foundation staff at least one month prior to the conference to be included in the mobile app.

Costs

- All session presenters will be responsible for their own travel and lodging to the *Connections* conference, unless otherwise specified by the Foundation. Parking will be validated for attendees.

Criteria for Evaluating Session Proposals

Session proposals will be reviewed by an external committee as well as Foundation staff. **Priority will be given to session proposals that:**

- Fits with the ***Health Equity: Setting the Table*** Conference theme
- Address health disparities and the social determinants of health
- Include a health-related/human service focus
- Demonstrates innovative evidence-based strategies
- Include thought-provoking, interactive, and creative strategies to engage the attendees
- Includes diversity among the proposed speakers and various perspectives

Questions to consider before submitting your session proposal:

- Why is this topic relevant?
- Who is the target audience?
- What new information will be provided by this topic?
- How can I partner with other colleagues to design and present a session?
- How will the topic highlight effective collaborations or partnerships?

Submission Deadline and Contact for Inquiries

Session proposals are due by Friday, October 18, 2019 by 5 PM EST. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Young Kellum, Senior Program Officer, at akellum@healthcaregeorgia.org. Andrea can also be reached by phone at 404-653-0990.

Notification

You will receive an email confirmation notification after you submit your online session proposal. The Foundation staff will notify you about the status of your session proposal no later than **December 20, 2019**. Staff may request that alterations are made to the proposed session title, description or format to more closely align with the conference theme. Additionally, staff may combine proposed sessions to avoid duplication of content.

How to Submit a Session Proposal

Submit a session proposal by clicking on the online submission form. The Foundation is collecting demographic data because we recognize the importance of incorporating diversity, equity and inclusion in our work. We will use this demographic data to bring more diversity into our programming. **Please note that the Call for Sessions Proposal Form cannot be saved and completed later.** Before you begin, please preview the Call for Sessions Proposal Form in its entirety and make sure you have the required contact and demographic information for all proposed speakers.