The Planning Committee for the 22nd Annual Conference on Ending Homelessness invites you to submit your session proposals for the 2012 conference taking place May 16th - 18th at the Yakima Convention Center in Yakima, Washington.

This year's theme is **"The Changing Face of Homelessness."** The conference will include opportunities to explore changes in who is experiencing homelessness, immediate causes of homelessness, and emerging approaches to ending homelessness, as well as policy and advocacy tools for building a movement to end homelessness.

As a presenter at the WSCH conference, you gain visibility and recognition as a leader in the field and have the opportunity to network with other professionals involved in ending homelessness.

Proposals are due on February 27th and you will receive a response by March 16th. To apply, please complete the online form at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/homelessnessconf. To respond in an alternate format, please contact Jon Morgan at 206-442-9455 ext. 206 or jon@wliha.org.

You are invited to submit proposals that fall within the following areas:

- Housing Development & Management

- Research & Data

- Communications

- Effective Service Strategies

- Recovery and Consumer Choice

- Integrated Healthcare

- Families

- Funding, Advocacy and Policy

- Forging New Partnerships

- Serving Special Populations

- Other creative & unique approaches to ending homelessness

Session Focus Suggestions

Housing Development & Management
- Introducing Housing First in your community
- Coordinated Entry
- Prevention
- Policy shift from transitional to permanent housing
- Sustainable funding sources
- Community integration vs. in the community
- Challenges and pitfalls of property management
- Philosophy of scattered site housing
- Philosophy of site based housing

Research & Data
- Homelessness, health and research: methods and outcomes
- The changing face of homelessness – predicting and planning for the future
- HMIS: why you need it, how to collect it and what to do with it

Communications
- Effective media relations and outreach
- Utilization of social media to share your message & mission
- Grant writing: how to tell your story and what funders want to see
- Capacity building
- Consumer involvement in telling your story
- Communication tools for growing a partnership

Forging New Partnerships
- Models for building community partnerships
- Partnering with mainstream systems (e.g. law enforcement, vocational rehab etc)
- Identifying and cultivating relationships with stakeholders

Families
- Families and the Housing First model
- Managing risks with families
- New programs for homeless families
- Research effectiveness for homeless families

Effective Service Strategies
- Harm reduction and Housing First
- Practical approaches to maintaining professional boundaries
- Holistic approaches to engagement
- Meaningful activity for newly housed residents
- Provider self care and employer support
- Employment Service Models
- Impact of trauma on recovery
- Assertive engagement
- Hoarding and other challenges
- SOAR 201: how to get mainstream systems on board

Integrated Healthcare
- Providing medical care needs alongside behavioral health care
- Integrating primary care into housing and shelter
- Client self management of chronic health conditions
- Improvement of access to health care by the underserved
- Replicable, innovative approaches to health care delivery

Funding, Advocacy and Policy
- Best Practices
- HEARTH Act Academy
- CHGs

Serving Special Populations
- Veterans
- Rural and frontier communities
- History of incarcerations
- Domestic violence
- Child and youth services
- Homeless youth
- New strategies and program models that address the needs of "new faces" in homeless systems
- Working with school district liaisons

Recovery and Consumer Choice
- Developing effective peer services
- Creating opportunities for consumer voice and participation
- Overcoming barriers to employment
- Social inclusion and recovery values
- Creativity: using the arts in recovery

Session Formats
- Formats other than the traditional presentations are encouraged, including panel discussions, single speaker, moderated debate, interactive workshops, etc.
- Number of presenters in each session is limited to 3.
- A/V equipment and a technician will be available throughout the conference.

Submission Criteria
You are invited to submit proposals for one of 2 types of original presentations:
- 90 minute workshop
- 3 hour institute

Selection Criteria
Presentations emphasizing new and creative ideas, participation of conference attendees and those that offer the ability to replicate ideas will be given priority. Reviewers will evaluate proposal according to the following:
- All requirements noted above and submittal deadline met;
- Relevance of the presentation to the conference theme and suggested topic areas;
- Expertise and experience of presenter(s);
- Opportunities for participants to develop new skills and/or replicate a successful program.;
- Opportunities for lively, engaging sessions with attendees.

You may be asked to present with another presenter if there are multiple submissions on similar topics.

If you are selected
- You will be contacted by a Program committee member to finalize your session.
- You will be asked to provide a brief description (40-word maximum) to post onto the conference website and print in the conference program.
- Presenters are expected to register and pay to attend the conference unless they are attending just their workshop. Speaker registration will be waived for the day of your presentation.

If you are not selected
- If your session is not selected this year, you will be contacted by a Program Committee member.

To apply, please complete the form at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/homelessnessconf

If you have questions about this Call for Presentations, please contact Planning Committee Chair Karyn Boerger at kboerger@desc.org or Jon Morgan at jon@wliha.org.