A close-up of a sign

Description automatically generated

The 7th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day symposium will be held virtually on Thursday, May 2, 2024. The free event is sponsored by NCOA, the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and Health Resources and Services Administration.

The symposium is designed to raise awareness to better address the issues of older adult mental health and substance use disorders and highlight resources, case studies, and initiatives available to practitioners working with adults age 50+ living in the community. Last year, over 9,500 people registered for the event. The 2023 event received recognition from the White House and featured a welcome message from the U.S. Surgeon General.

**Why present?**

* Be a part of a community that raises awareness to better address the issues of older adult mental health and substance use disorders.
* Collaborate with public health practitioners, professionals in the aging network, and mental health and substance use disorder providers/professionals.
* Present in a session that offers continuing education credit to a wide range of professionals.
* Build strategic partnerships and network with thousands of professionals in aging and behavioral health.
* And more!

**Who attends?**

Public health practitioners, professionals in the aging network, mental health and substance use disorder providers/professionals, health care professionals, university students, academic researchers, and anyone interested in ensuring the mental health of older adults.

**Instructions**

* Proofread all submissions carefully to avoid errors.
* Write a short, specific title without any abbreviations. Be creative!
* Define all acronyms in parentheses after the first use of the word or phrase.
* Identify the target audience for each presentation.
* Share local examples of innovative concepts, models of success, and strategies to overcoming barriers when serving older adults with mental health concerns.

Consider the following prompts:

* What lessons learned from your work have shown a benefit to others?
* Does this work inspire systemic change?
* Does this work instill a deeper understanding of the people it will serve (population segment)?
* Does this work take risks and push an organization into uncharted territory?
* Is this work easily replicable? How could it be applied to other communities and/or within other organizations?
* Will this work provide local models of success and offer strategies to overcome barriers and challenges?

**Key Dates and Deadlines**

* Nov. 6, 2023: Deadline for presentation submissions
* Nov. 20 – Dec. 31, 2023: Submission review
* Jan. 2, 2024: Notification sent to presenters
* March 11, 2024: Symposium registration opens
* March 2024: Speaker prep meetings
* March 31, 2024: Agenda goes live
* April 2024: Speaker tech trainings​​​​​​​
* May 2, 2024: 7th Annual Older Adult Mental Health Symposium

**Submission Instructions**

* Click "[Login](https://na.eventscloud.com/eSites/760186/Call%20for%20Presentations)" in the blue bar at the top of this page.
* Click "[New User? Click Here](https://na.eventscloud.com/eSites/760186/My%20Profile)."
* Complete all required fields to create your profile.
* When you’re finished, you will be redirected back to the homepage.
* Click "Submissions" in the blue bar at the top of the page.
* Click "Add New" to start your submission. Complete all required fields. If necessary, you can save and return later to complete your submission. You will be required to log in again to make changes​​​​​​​​​​.
* A sample submission form is provided, so you can see the submission questions and use as a template to create your abstract. It is recommended to create your submission in the Word document template, then copy and paste your responses in the online submission form.

**Presentation Criteria**

**Who should submit to be a presenter?**

We seek to highlight a diverse range of voices and perspectives at this symposium. We are planning three speakers for each session (8 total) related to older adult mental health:

1. An academic/researcher
2. A community-based organization (CBO) representative
3. A consumer or someone who could share their lived experience ​​​​​​​

This is a similar model that was followed for the [2022](https://connect.ncoa.org/oamhad2022) and [2023](https://connect.ncoa.org/oamhad2023) events.

**Topics**

* Homelessness
  + Sub-topics: Housing with services, homelessness, and hoarding
* Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
  + Sub-topics: Bipolar disorder, psychosis, schizophrenia, and major depression
* Impact of Nutrition on Mental Health
  + ​​​​​​​Sub-topics: Food insecurity, body image, food sovereignty, food is medicine movement, and innovations in nutrition service delivery
* Substance Use Disorders
  + ​​​​​​​Sub-topics: Prevention, co-occurring disorders, and comprehensive treatment approaches for older adults
* Diverse Populations
  + ​​​​​​​​​​​​​​Sub-topics: LGBTQ+, American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian, rural, adults with disabilities and/or limited mobility, and racial/ethnic, etc.

**Focus Areas**

* What lessons does the work offer to help benefit others?
* Does this work inspire systematic change to address key issues like equity, ageism, access to services, social isolation, etc.?
* Does this work instill a deeper understanding of the people it will serve (population segment, especially women, people of color, LGBTQ+, low-income, and rural individuals)?
* Does this work push an organization into uncharted territory?
* Is this work easily replicable, and could it be applied to other communities and/or within other organizations?
* Will this work provide local models of success and offer strategies to overcome barriers and challenges?

**Session Format**

During each session, speakers will have 15 minutes each to share their perspectives followed by 10 minutes of Q&A. Each session is an hour. For this call for speakers, we are looking for the community-based organization representative to be able to identify a consumer or someone with lived experience who can share during the same session (i.e., someone who is a participant of a program at their organization). We are also open to a team that includes all three perspectives to submit under one application.

**Submission Form**

We are specifically looking for three speakers for each session (8 total) related to older adult mental health:

1. An academic/researcher
2. A community-based organization (CBO) representative
3. A consumer or someone who could share their lived experience

During each session, speakers will have 15 minutes each to share their perspectives followed by 10 minutes of Q&A. Each session is an hour. For this call for speakers, we are looking for the community-based organization representative to be able to identify a consumer or someone with lived experience who can share during the same session (i.e., someone who is a participant of a program at their organization). We are also open to a team that includes all three perspectives to submit under one application.

Please let us know if you are a researcher or from a community-based organization. \* Please select one

Format Type: Choose the format for your presentation \*

**Presentation Topic: Choose the topic that best aligns your presentation proposal: Select all that apply. \***

* Homelessness
  + Sub-topics: Housing with services, homelessness, and hoarding
* Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
  + Sub-topics: Bipolar disorder, psychosis, schizophrenia, and major depression
* Impact of Nutrition on Mental Health
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* Substance Use Disorders
  + ​​​​​​​Sub-topics: Prevention, co-occurring disorders, and comprehensive treatment approaches for older adults
* Diverse Populations
  + ​​​​​​​​​​​​​​Sub-topics: LGBTQ+, American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian, rural, adults with disabilities and/or limited mobility, and racial/ethnic, etc.

**If you selected RESEARCH perspective, answer the following question.**

Description (500 word limit): Share a description of what you are doing that is innovative and relevant as it relates to the topic(s) selected above, mental health, and older adults. Please share what relevant research you are conducting as it relates to the topic(s). \* - max words 500

**If you selected CBO perspective, answer the following question.**

Description (500 word limit): Share a description of what you are doing that is innovative and relevant as it relates to the topic(s) selected above, mental health, and older adults. We are looking to hear about successful models and programs, especially if they could be replicable in other communities. \* - max words 500

**If you selected “all three perspectives”, answer the following questions.**

Description (500 word limit): Share a description of what you are doing that is innovative and relevant as it relates to the topic(s) selected above, mental health, and older adults. Please share what relevant research you are conducting as it relates to the topic(s). \* - max words 500

and

Description (500 word limit): Share a description of what you are doing that is innovative and relevant as it relates to the topic(s) selected above, mental health, and older adults. We are looking to hear about successful models and programs, especially if they could be replicable in other communities. \* - max words 500

Do you already have a consumer/client in mind? If so, if they could please share a brief description of how they are connected to the CBO. \* - max words 50

 I understand that I must be available to present virtually on May 2, 2024. To prepare for the event, I agree to participate in a one-hour speaker prep call and a 30-minute technology training. \*

 I understand that there will be no compensation provided for this presenting engagement.

 I agree to share a headshot photo, bio, resume/CV, and disclosure form by Feb. 2nd. \*

**Profile Information for Applicant and Additional Applicants**

Applicant Type \*                    

E-mail Address \* 

First Name \* 

Last Name \* 

Title \* 

Organization \*

Phone \* 

CC Email 

Address One \* 

Address Two 

City \* 

State \* 

Zip \* 

Country  All

Please let us know your profession. (Select all that apply) \*

I am associated with other (please specify).

Years in the Field \* Please select one

If CBO, areas/populations served: Characters left: 50

Biography (Maximum 200 words) \* - max words 200

Profile Photo

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