

**2024 MRA Conference, Margaritaville Lake Resort**

**Engage, Equip & Empower for Sustainable Success**

**Call for Proposals**

**June 12-14 2024**

MRA is pleased to host another great opportunity to gather and learn as a community at our annual state training conference. This year’s theme is: **Engage, Equip & Empower for Sustainable Success**. We are striving to create formal and informal opportunities for people to meet, share ideas, build on already strong programs, and provide an atmosphere of inclusion and innovation.

**Proposal Submission Guide** **& Selection Process**

Thank you for your interest in presenting at the MRA Annual State Conference. We are excited for another conference and our presenters are central to ensuring a valuable experience for all participants. All sessions are 60 minutes and presenters must incorporate active strategies to engage their audience (using poll or quiz questions, small group discussion, demonstration of skill, and or time for questions and answers). Proposals are selected to ensure sessions create a comprehensive and diverse conference.

Submit proposals to Lesa Allsop @ lesa.allsop@vr.dese.mo.gov by March 31, 2024.

Proposals will be reviewed by the MRA conference planning committee using the following criteria:

* Alignment with conference theme and tracks
* Presenter knowledge
* Engagement strategies

**Conference Tracks Include:**

Theme: **Engage, Equip & Empower for Sustainable Success**

* **Professional Development**: Sessions in this track include leadership, career development, ethics, diversity, equity, and inclusion.
* **Workplace Supports:** Sessions in this track include job coaching, accommodations, assistive technology, and Americans with Disabilities Act.
* **Youth Services:** Sessions in this track include pre-employment and transition, Summer Work Experience, strategies for preparing students for employment, education on career pathways/sectors.
* **Mental Health:** Sessions in this track includesuicide prevention, counseling skill development, and working with individuals with a mental health diagnosis.
* **Recruitment & Retention**: Sessions in this track include best practices in recruiting and onboarding individuals with disabilities (this can include accessibility, inclusive hiring training, demystifying myths on disabilities in the workplace). This session can also include best practices in retaining coworkers by creating a culture of inclusion, training, and development of coworkers with disabilities, or a grow your own model, utilizing community supports focusing on coworkers who may acquire disabilities while working.

**Title of Presentation:**

**Track:**

**Presentation Description:** **Include a paragraph (this will be used in the program to inform the attendees about your session) that describes your presentation, including:**

**•** Alignment to the conference theme and track(s)

* How audience will be engaged

**Learning Objectives (2+):**

**1.**

**2.**

**Speaker Name, professional title & email:**

**Organization of Affiliation & Website:**

**Short Bio (and send Professional Photo):**

Please indicate your availability for scheduling, should your presentation be selected. **If your session is selected presenters need to register for the conference. If presenters do not plan to attend the conference beyond their session, registration is not required.** **MRA does not compensate presenters for participating in the conference.** MRA will notify you of your assigned date, time, and room information as soon as it is available. The conference will have 6 breakout sessions. Internet, screen, and a projector will be provided in each room. Please bring your own computer, connection cords, and any additional supplies (chart paper, markers, pens, etc.).

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Available** | **Not Available** |
| **Thursday, June 13** | **AM** |  |  |
| **Thursday, June 13** | **PM** |  |  |
| **Friday, June 14** | **AM** |  |  |

Submit proposals to Lesa Allsop @ Lesa.Allsop@vr.dese.mo.gov by March 31, 2024.

MRA 2024 Conference: June 12th-14th at Tan-Tar-A/Margaritaville, 494 Tan Tar A Drive, Osage Beach, MO 65065