



2019 Maryland United for Youth Conference

Call for Workshop Proposals

Maryland Out of School Time Network and Maryland MENTOR are seeking proposals for workshop presentations at the 2019 Maryland United for Youth Conference. The conference will be held **November 3rd - 5th** at The Hotel in College Park, MD.

Submission Deadline: January 21, 2019 at 11:59pm EST

Overview of the Conference

Join us for the largest gathering of Maryland youth development professionals convened by MOST Network and Maryland MENTOR. The 2019 Maryland United for Youth Conference is designed to support changemakers to feel unified, supported and inspired. The work of changing the status quo is challenging, making it essential to prioritize connection and personal wellbeing in the process.

In order for the sector to survive and thrive, youth serving organizations and those who support them, must do more to minimize burnout and overwork and promote collaboration and self-care. It is crucial to the health of our sector and its ability to drive change. This conference will provide opportunities for resource-sharing, capacity building, connection, reflection and mindfulness to strengthen partnerships to increase our collective impact on the lives of young people in Maryland.

Conference Tracks

Workshop proposals should fall into one of the following categories:

Advocacy and Organizing

Advocacy and organizing require time, strategy and resources. Workshops in this track will share how to design effective campaigns, build coalitions and leverage relationships with elected officials to garner support for expanding opportunities and improving youth outcomes.

Centering Youth in Youth Work

Relationship building is at the center of youth work. Recent research has shown that hierarchical structures in adult-youth interactions can create disengaged youth. A youth-led/ youth centered program empowers youth to contribute, make connections and openly communicate and express themselves. Our role as youth development organizations is to nurture talent and maximize the potential of the young people we serve. Workshops in this track will highlight youth centered or youth-led strategies for effective youth programming and/or discuss exemplary youth-led program models.

Equity and Inclusion

Equity and inclusion are critical components to expanding opportunities for youth. This work requires deep examination and a commitment to disrupting the status quo. This track examines how to build an organizational culture and design programming that values, celebrates and includes youth of all identities and abilities.

Healthy Behaviors for Youth & Practitioners

Workshops in this track will focus on the healthy development of youth and of the practitioners who serve them. Healthy behaviors focus on overall wellbeing, and holistic health. Topics in this track include, but are not limited to: Healthy Relationships, Positive Youth Development, Community Building, Restorative Practices, Self-Care, Physical Health, Mental Health.

Organizational Capacity

Youth thrive in organized environments with consistency and support. To be able to provide youth with the consistency that they crave, it requires organizations to build effective internal operations that support the organization's goals. Session topics can include: Fundraising/Sustainability, Human Resources best practices, Talent Management, Strategic Planning/Organizational growth, Physical Resources, Efficient technologies, Innovations, Board Development and other sessions on effective leadership and management of youth serving organizations.

Partnership Development

As community-based organizations seek to promote growth and sustainability, cross-organization partnerships can add depth to the impact we have in our communities. By joining forces, we can add value to our respective organizations, as well as to the impact we have in the lives of our youth. In order to effectively take advantage of partnerships, we must prepare ourselves adequately for combined efforts. Workshops in this track can include: how to build cross sector/cross organizational partnerships, including private sector engagement, engaging parents and families, how to sustain and maintain partnerships, and how to evaluate partnerships. Additionally, sessions can include exemplary partnership models and collaborations.

Innovations Mini-Track

This track will explore innovations in youth development such as stand-out curriculums, technologies, etc. that help make the work better and more efficient. We want to share with the larger Maryland youth development field, innovations that we can use to provide better programming and resources for youth.

To submit a Workshop Proposal, visit bit.ly/marylandunitedforyouth. In the submission platform, you must fill in the provided fields and upload a PDF document containing the following information:

1. Lead Facilitator's Full Name
2. Co-Facilitator's Full Name (if applicable)
3. Co-Facilitator's Email Address (if applicable)
4. Co-Facilitator's Phone Number (if applicable)
5. Description of Workshop
6. Brief Outline of Workshop
7. Intended Outcomes for Participants
8. Experience Leading Interactive Group Presentations
9. AV Needs and Room Set Up Requests

All workshops will be approximately 90-minutes in length. All rooms will be set up in theater style unless otherwise requested.

Selection Criteria

Workshops should provide attendees with new, practical knowledge that can be applicable to a variety of program types, sizes, and areas of focus. Proposals will be reviewed and accepted based on the following criteria:

- Informative
- Timeliness of Topic
- Expertise
- Workshop Structure
- Practicality: The session provides actionable information, skills, and tools that can be implemented in the participant's work

Selection Process and Timeline

Proposals Due: 1/21/19

Notification Date: 2/11/19

Selected workshops will receive one complimentary day of registration for one presenter and receive discounted (50% off) one-day registration for a second presenter, on the day that the workshop is being presented.

If Selected, Presenters Agree To:

- Present one workshop
- Complete complimentary conference registration online by June 1, 2019 (special presenter instructions will be provided in notification materials)
- Notify by August 1, 2019 if workshop needs to be cancelled
- Provide all presenter materials and final PowerPoint slides by October 1, 2019

Questions:

If you have any questions, please email Elyse Preston at: epreston@mostnetwork.org or Patrice Bryan at pbryan@marylandmentor.net