

2024 NRWC Annual Conference – Call for Session Proposals

Submission Deadline: May 24, 2024

The **National Reentry Workforce Collaborative (NRWC)** invites reentry workforce stakeholders to submit session proposals for the **2024 Annual Conference**, to be held October 15 – 17, 2024 in Denver, Colorado.

The conference will include both submitted and invited presentations. Conference participants include a variety of stakeholders in the reentry workforce field including community-based organizations, business owners, government representatives (including corrections), reentry coalitions and councils, advocacy groups, non-profits, intermediaries, and workforce development boards.

NRWC members and conference attendees have expressed greater interest in sessions that provide opportunities to discuss issues with their peers and that have tangible takeaways and best practices. Session proposals that are based on original research and data, demonstrate innovative strategies or programs, highlight unique partnerships or collaborations that advance the reentry workforce field, and/or include multiple stakeholders will be given preference. While proposals from vendors or companies are welcome, those that merely promote services or products will not be accepted. Presenters are strongly encouraged to provide resources and/or reference materials attendees can take with them or obtain through electronic means such as: checklists, forms, best practice guides.

Presentations are generally 60 minutes in length and may take the form of speaker-led presentations, moderated panels, facilitated discussions/roundtables, or workshops. Accepted sessions will be scheduled along four concurrent programming tracks:

EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

Employment is a key mitigating factor that can break the cycle of recidivism. This track highlights examples, best practices, and case studies where organizations have built transformative relationships with employers and opened doors to career and economic mobility for people impacted by the justice system.

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

This track highlights examples, case studies, strategies, and approaches used to implement evidence-informed practices to strengthen program delivery and the skills practitioners need to effectively develop and implement programs. Additionally, it delves into methods to build program and organizational capacity to enhance measurable outcomes and increase our collective impact. Sessions will explore new and innovative approaches to pushing the envelope in the reentry workforce.

COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES

There are thousands of legal & regulatory restrictions that limit or prohibit people convicted of crimes from accessing employment, business and occupational licensing, housing, voting, education, and other rights, benefits, and opportunities. This track will cover topics related to policies and practices in the field that are removing barriers to opportunity for people who are impacted by the justice system.

SYSTEMS & COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

In order for us to build a strong ecosystem that streamlines a continuum of care and opens opportunities for programs to gain access to resources, strong partnerships between systems and communities are essential. This track will elevate the practices and approaches that are transforming ecosystems and creating feedback loops to address the needs and opportunities within the community for high-stake decision-makers.

Please note that presenters will be able to register for the conference at a discounted rate. Presenters are responsible for all registration fees and associated conference costs. Impacted Speaker Funding is available, the form to apply for funding will be available Summer 2024. Proposals must be submitted online via the **2024 Call for Proposals Form**. Questions may be directed to Virginia Shapland, at <u>virginia@thenrwc.org</u>.