

Montana Nonprofit Association

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# REQUEST FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

## 2026 MONTANA NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 16-18 | IN-PERSON, HELENA, MT

SEPTEMBER 1-30 | VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

**Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA)** invites your proposal for our 2026 Annual Conference. This year's conference will include virtual sessions throughout September, with an anticipated audience of 1,000, and an in-person event with 350 attendees. Nonprofit executives, staff, and board members will have the opportunity to attend virtual programming for whole-organization learning and participate in-person at our Helena event.

### CONFERENCE THEME: CHANGEMAKERS

Nonprofits are essential. The people who run, support, and benefit from the work of nonprofits embody democratic and civil engagement at every level. We are the changemakers who respond to the needs of our neighbors, imagine a brighter future for our children, and advocate for policies that expand our impact. We build connection, we spread joy, we demand better, and we change our own lives. Whether we are volunteer leaders, paid staff, donors, beneficiaries of care, or partners in nonprofit work, we know community isn't a noun, it's a verb.

This conference celebrates, connects, trains, and resources nonprofit changemakers. Amid uncertainty, economic instability, and polarization, nonprofit leaders need grounding in the basics and an invitation to dream bigger.

This year, we are prioritizing pre-recorded virtual sessions, facilitated conversations, and in-person workshops that help busy leaders adjust to uncertainty **and** amplify their impact – whether that means learning how to improve an accounting system that helps keep the budget on track, reimagining community collaboration for transformative results, or learning how to build a fundraising strategy from ground zero.

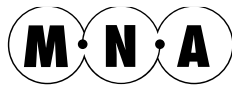
**We are looking for** presenters that deliver exciting, engaging, and content-rich sessions built on principles of nonprofit best practices and effective instruction for our in-person and virtual sessions.

#### **What is the benefit of a pre-recorded session?**

Some topics lend themselves better to a shorter, pre-recorded session, and with your partnership, we are excited to build another video library this year to share with our statewide nonprofit staff, leaders, and volunteers. In this format, our audience can access learning when and where they need it most. Shorter pre-recorded sessions released in early September and available through the end of 2026 will allow teams to learn together in digestible chunks on their schedule, enhancing retention and learning transfer. Our video library will also offer longer-term interactions through follow-up discussions and supplementary materials, building stronger connections between learners, content, and you!

For our in-person sessions, we'll prioritize topics and teaching styles that lend themselves to discussion and connection-based formats. These sessions should be engaging presentations that make the most of our audience's time together in the room.

The deadline for submitting your proposal is 11:55pm MDT on **Monday, June 15, 2026**. **You may submit proposals [HERE](#) for breakout sessions.** We are working to curate an exceptional experience for attendees of all backgrounds and experience levels.



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**As a Conference presenter, you will:**

- Be compensated at \$75-150/session for virtual sessions, \$250-\$450/session for in-person, dependent on length and purpose.
- Receive support in developing your session outline for our audience.
- Receive a complimentary virtual and/or in-person conference registration (*non-exchangeable*).
- Meet, network, and share your expertise with nonprofit professionals.
- Have your name and business affiliation published in conference materials and on MNA's conference website.

We are unable to **provide attendee contact lists but invite you to share invitations to attendees to stay in touch with you after your presentation.**

**TIMELINE**

- Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> | Submission Deadline
- Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> | Sessions Selected + Submitters Notified
- Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> | Deadline for finalizing session times and titles
- Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> | Conference Registration Opens
- September 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> | Virtual Conference
- September 16<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup> | In-person Conference in Helena, MT

**SESSION TRACKS**

- Adaptation and Innovation
- Advocacy and Policy
- Board Members
- Communications and Marketing
- Direct Service Staff
- Fundraising
- Equity and Inclusion
- Management and Leadership
- Small/All Volunteer Organizations
- Technical Sessions on HR, IT, Cybersecurity, Accounting, Reporting

**VIRTUAL CONTENT FORMAT**

*THIS MIGHT INCLUDE GUIDED WORK SESSIONS, PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, PANELS:*

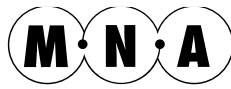
- 15–45-minute pre-recorded sessions
- 45-75 minute live facilitated conversations on track topics
- 60-minute panel conversations

**IN-PERSON CONTENT FORMAT**

*THIS MIGHT INCLUDE WORKSHOPS, GUIDED WORK SESSIONS, PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, OR PANELS TAKING PLACE*

*SEPTEMBER 16-18<sup>TH</sup>:*

- 60-minute sessions
- 90-minute sessions
- 120-minute sessions



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## OVERVIEW OF PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

It is recommended that you complete your answers in another document before submitting through the online form. You may submit more than one proposal. After reading this entire proposal, if you have any questions about Montana Nonprofit Association's 2026 Conference or this Request for Session Proposals, please contact Shelby Rogala at [srogala@mtnonprofit.org](mailto:srogala@mtnonprofit.org). We cannot guarantee the ability to connect with MNA staff prior to submitting your proposal.

We encourage you to narrow your audience prior to submitting a proposal. While we know you can teach everyone, we have found that clearly identified audiences have a better chance of hitting the mark. That means considering whether your content is best suited for new leaders or veterans, small organizations or large, and clarifying learning objectives.

## PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR SESSION PROPOSALS ONLINE HERE-

[HTTPS://MTNONPROFIT.QUESTIONPRO.COM/2026CON](https://mtnonprofit.questionpro.com/2026con)

[FRFP](#)

## PROPOSAL QUESTIONS

- Contact information for speaker(s)
- Proposed session title
- Brief Session Description (200 words or less):
- What are the key learning objectives of your session? (Please list 3-5 objectives)
- What track does this session fit into?
  - Adaptation and Innovation
  - Advocacy and Policy
  - Board Members
  - Communications and Marketing
  - Direct Service Staff
  - Equity and Inclusion
  - Fundraising
  - Management and Leadership
  - Small/All Volunteer Organizations
  - Technical Session on HR, IT, Cybersecurity, Accounting, Reporting
- Which session format do you prefer?
- What is your preferred format for this virtual session? (pre-recorded or live)
- What length of time is ideal for this in-person session?
- What is your approach to adult learning, and how does that inform your session?
- MNA is committed to better exploring, understanding, and sharing how diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice impact nonprofit management and missions. How do you approach these topics and incorporate them into your session?
- Additional notes or comments on your submission, requests, or expertise:
- Do you have any specific accessibility needs for your session?