



Call for Presenters: Locally Grown Changemakers

Growing Resilient Communities Gathering | Tuesday, June 18, 2024

FamilyWise Services is **seeking presenters** for our annual Growing Resilient Communities Gathering on Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

About the Event

The 7th Annual Growing Resilient Communities Gathering is a free, *virtual* event that supports tribal community members and partners and Children's Mental Health and Family Services Collaboratives as they work to reduce ACEs, strengthen core protective systems¹, and create self-healing communities² across Minnesota.

This year, we plan to celebrate, highlight, and elevate the stories of *changemakers* across Minnesota.

Changemakers are individuals, groups, programs, initiatives, or coalitions leading efforts to address problems affecting the health and wellbeing of their community members. By focusing on *changemakers*, we hope that the speakers will inspire new ideas or actions that conference participants can bring back to their own local efforts.

Criteria for Presentations

We are seeking speakers for the keynote 75-minute session and for the 60-minute breakout sessions. These sessions may be set up as panels or single speaker sessions, depending on the themes that emerge from proposals. We will be prioritizing proposals based on the preferences below and are committed to prioritizing proposals that include voices and presenters who reflect the racial, economic, cultural, age, gender, varied ability, and geographic diversity of the sectors and the communities of Minnesota.

Preference will be given to sessions that are:

- Implementing strategies to reduce and prevent ACEs, intergenerational trauma, and/or historical trauma, and/or strengthening protective factors and natural supports
- Expanding leadership and ensuring that the wisdom of individuals who are “closest to the issues but farthest from the decision-making tables” are included in decision-making
- Focusing on culturally responsive practices, reconnecting and honoring cultural practices, and/or cultural revitalization efforts to build on community strengths and address community challenges
- Considering local data and input from community members when deciding how to address issues
- Representing changemakers from tribal communities and other communities in Greater Minnesota, including rural and frontier areas

¹ Core protective systems refer to 1) individual strengths and abilities, 2) healthy relationships, and 3) community, culture and spirituality

² For more information, check out the Self-Healing Communities [report](#) on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation website.

Compensation:

There is an opportunity for your time to be compensated, based on your proposal. Please contact Jenna Schmidt at jschmidt@familywiseservices.org with questions.

Event Audience:

The primary audience for this event includes Children's Mental Health Collaboratives and Family Services Collaboratives, tribal community members, and Minnesota ACE Interface presenters. Collaborative partners include representatives from counties, school districts, local mental health entities, juvenile corrections, public health, community-based organizations, parents, caregivers and community members. More broadly, we welcome anyone to join who is passionate about preventing ACEs and/or strengthening protective factors and natural supports in communities across Minnesota.

Event Organizers and Funders:

This event is planned and organized by FamilyWise Services, specific to [More Resilient Minnesota](#) and the [Tribal NEAR and Community Wisdom Project](#). This event is made possible with primary funding from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and support from the Center for Prevention at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota.

How to Apply

Simply complete the [online proposal form](#) by **Friday, February 16th**, 2024, by 11:59 p.m. CST.

Applicants will be notified of acceptance by **Friday, March 8**, 2024.

If you have questions regarding your proposal or if writing presents a challenge, you are welcome to contact Jenna Schmidt at jschmidt@familywiseservices.org or 218-461-0292.