



**2019 Iowans with Disabilities in Action – Make Your Mark!  
Conference**

**Call for Presentations**

September 26-27, 2019

Coralville Marriott Hotel & Conference Center 300 East 9th Street  
Coralville, Iowa 52241



**2019 Theme: Leading the Way!**

This year will mark the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Iowans with Disabilities in Action Make Your Mark! Conference. The last four conferences have brought Iowans with disabilities, direct care support professionals, parents/family member and other disability advocates together to develop skills to increase their civic and political engagement. This year our focus is on Leadership –

- What does leadership really mean?
- How can I use the skills I have or what skills do I need to work on to be a leader?
- Do I always have to lead or sometimes should I follow?

The idea of leadership can be intimidating! This conference will help those who want to be more involved get started and those who are already active to continue to develop their skills.

**Target Audience**

The conference is intended for Iowans with disabilities who want to become more civically engaged in their communities. While we anticipate that parents/family members, caregivers/direct support staff, service providers, and others affected by disability will be in attendance at the conference, the target audience for presentations is Iowans with disabilities.

**Presentation Format**

The conference will offer 75 minute breakout sessions. Presentations should address one of the presentation categories and incorporate the “Leading the Way” theme. Preference will be given to presentations that are interactive, include at least one presenter with a disability and provide specific actions that participants can use to make their own mark.

**Room set-up**

Breakout session rooms will be set in rounds or “classroom” style to accommodate 50-to-60 participants. If your proposed session requires a different set-up, this must be indicated on the application. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to accommodate your preferred arrangement, but we will do our best.

**Topics/Tracks**

We are interested in reviewing presentation proposals that focus on developing leadership skill to increase civic and political participation among Iowans with disabilities.

Presentation Categories: Presentations should focus on one of the following categories:

- Community Inclusion
- Advocacy
- Volunteerism
- Grassroots Organizing
- Employment

### **Instructions for Application Submission**

To be considered as a presenter for the 2019 Make Your Mark! Conference, please fill out the MYM! Presentation Application form and provide us with a detailed description of your presentation. We will not share your presentation with others outside of our team. You will have the option to complete the online form or submit a hard copy. A link to the online and paper application can be found at [www.idaction.org](http://www.idaction.org) or by clicking on the links below.

### **Proposal Submission and Deadlines**

Presenter proposals and applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on March 4, 2019.

Applications may be submitted to:

**Email:** [contactus@idaction.org](mailto:contactus@idaction.org)

**Mail:** Iowans with Disabilities in Action, P.O. Box 737, Des Moines, IA 50309

**In person:** Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council, 700 2nd Ave., #101, Des Moines, IA 50309

**All applicants will hear from Iowans with Disabilities in Action by March 15, 2019.**

### **AV Equipment**

All breakout sessions will include a PowerPoint package, which includes a podium with laptop computer, LCD projector, and screen. Internet will be available. If additional equipment is needed, please make sure this is indicated on the application.

### **Proposal Review Process**

All completed proposals will be reviewed by the Iowans with Disabilities in Action team.

The committee will use the following review criteria:

- The presentation focuses on one of the presentation categories and follows the “Leading the Way” theme
- The presentation includes at least one person with a disability as a presenter
- The presentation leaves participants with specific actions they can take to make their own mark
- The presentation includes interactive activities for participants
- The presenter’s qualifications and experience

We reserve the right to request modifications to a proposal before a final decision is made. We also reserve the right to combine presentations with similar topics in one session. Presenters will be notified in advance if this should occur.

### **Questions:**

Please contact Iowans with Disabilities in Action with any questions at [contactus@idaction.org](mailto:contactus@idaction.org) or 866-432-2846. Visit [www.idaction.org](http://www.idaction.org) for information regarding the conference.



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Make Your Mark! Conference  
Presentation Application  
September 26-27, 2019



**Presenter Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Role/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation or Organization (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Presentation Information**

Title of Proposed Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Topic Categories:**

- Community Inclusion
- Advocacy
- Grassroots Organizing
- Employment

**Description of Proposed Presentation (Please be sure to include the following):**

1. How the presentation will address the topic, why it's important and how to get started.
2. Why the presentation is relevant to the audience.
3. How the presentation will incorporate the "Leading the Way" theme.
4. What the intended outcomes for participants are.

**Presenters Bios and Affiliations of Presenter(s)**

If the presentation includes multiple presenters, please include a bio of each and how each plans to contribute to the presentation. Please include contact information for each presenter.

**Submission Options**

Applications submitted by mail or email need to be received by 4:00 p.m. and applications submitted in person need to arrive by 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 4, 2019.

Email to:  
contactus@idaction.org

Mail to:  
Iowans with Disabilities in Action  
P.O. Box 737  
Des Moines, IA 50303

Deliver in person to:  
Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council  
700 2nd Ave., #101  
Des Moines, IA 50309

**Questions:**

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