



Kansas Association of Community Action Programs, Inc.
2024 Kansas Poverty Conference || July 9-11, 2024
Olathe Conference Center at Embassy Suites
10401 S Ridgeview RD, Olathe, KS 66061

Call for Conference Presenters

The Kansas Association of Community Action Programs, Inc. (KACAP) invites you to submit a proposal to present at our annual Kansas Poverty Conference to be held July 9-11, 2024, in Olathe, Kansas. We are seeking presenters that can provide in-depth and applicable presentations and/or training on the subject areas noted below.

KACAP is the association for Community Action Agencies in Kansas. KACAP creates a platform to address issues of a common cause and advocates for policies and solutions for all impacted by economic & systemic inequity.

Our conference attendees will primarily be from a variety of backgrounds and focused on fighting poverty issues negatively impacting low-income Kansans. Some of our attendees will be from a statewide network of Community Action Agencies in Kansas that receive Community Services Block Grant Funding (CSBG) and will include executive leadership, staff members, community organizations, providing weatherization services (i.e. Weatherization & Low Income Energy Assistance), Head Start, and members of the Boards of Directors of both private and public organizations.

Potential Conference Tracks

- 👉 Executive Leadership & Operations
- 👉 Board of Directors & Governance
- 👉 Whole Family Approach
- 👉 Social Determinates of Health
- 👉 Energy, Climate Change & Disaster

Topic Descriptions

DEI Cultural Sensitivity: The Community Action network continues to address disparities in diversity, equity, and inclusion. Those disparities exist at all levels affecting the people with low incomes, the local rules and regulations, and the agencies themselves. Agencies seek evidence-based strategies to positively impact DEI cultural sensitivity.

Advocacy: Community Action Agencies have a louder voice in the community when it is heard by local, state, and federal Lawmakers. Agency staff, board members, and other community partners benefit from understanding the powerful effects of agency advocacy efforts and what resources are available to assist them.

Program Evaluation: Community Action Agencies are required to evaluate programs and report their results to demonstrate impacts on the community. More importantly, program evaluation provides critical information on changes that can improve efficiency at the agency and increase the overall impact on families and the community.

Outreach and Communication: Agencies are responsible for community outreach, recruiting staff and volunteers, providing community awareness for special events, and much more. Agencies benefit from knowing how to use low or no-cost tools and techniques like social media platforms and rapid content creation to communicate messages to a variety of audiences including agency employees, customers, elected officials, and the general public.



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Non-Traditional Partnerships: Community Action Agencies partner with individuals and organizations for a variety of reasons with both formal and informal structures. Agencies benefit from understanding the various partnerships that assist them in service to the community. Partnerships can range from formal client referral agreements to participation in local community coalitions to foundation funding partners.

Asset Development (Agency, Family): Community Action Agencies benefit from models and strategies that develop their asset portfolios. That is not always easy or obvious - particularly when leveraging federal grant funds. Additionally, some agencies are interested in designing and implementing programs that assist families with their own asset development.

Issues in Poverty Today: Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families. But unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. Attendees value tools, experiences, and information that bridge the gap from misconception to understanding. They seek current analysis and interpretation of the causes of poverty and solutions that are grounded in evidence-based research.

Trauma-Informed Case Management: Community Action Agencies attempt to meet their clients and customers "where they are." Various forms of trauma can be a cause or contributor to a person's journey to self-sufficiency. By understanding the role that trauma plays for individuals, families, and communities, agency staff members are more prepared to communicate with fewer misunderstandings and increase the effectiveness of interventions. It can also provide agencies with additional data to design programs that create impacts for members of the community experiencing traumas.

Whole Family Approach: Whole Family Approaches build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives together. As children, parents, and families grow and change across their lifespan, the whole family approach aligns opportunities to help families achieve their version of the American dream. Providing integrated, high-quality, intentional supports to parents and children at the same time through a Whole Family Approach (WFA) has the potential to improve both parent and child social and economic well-being producing a legacy of family well-being that passes from one generation to the next.

Social Determinates of Health: Social determinants of health are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. These include areas such as Economic Stability, Education Access and Quality, Health Care Access & Quality, Neighborhood & Built Environment, and Social & Community Context.

Recruitment, Retention & Culture Change: The market for talented workers is tight and nonprofit organizations struggle to recruit and retain quality talent while costs continue to rise. Providing training for HR Professionals in this arena and creating a culture shift that actively works to retain top talent is imperative to the future of our Community Action Agencies.

Youth Programs: As Community Action Agencies we know that youth programming is good for the whole family. It is a benefit to each child to have an opportunity to create a network of support around social, emotional, and educational health. We are always looking for new programming and partnerships in offering and connecting with youth where they are and proving these physical and mental encouragements as they grow into healthy adults.



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Conference Details

Est. Number of Attendees: 175-225

Allotted Workshop Run Time: 1 Hour

Longer presentations will be considered as well please designate the expected length of your presentation when you submit your Proposal.

Target Audience: Conference participants are engaged in the development, implementation, and evaluation of Community Action programs with the common goal of eradicating poverty in the US as defined in the [Community Services Block Grant \(CSBG\)](#).

Attendees work primarily for local government and nonprofit Community Action Agencies (CAAs) or for organizations that support CAAs. They work in Head Start and Early Head Start facilities, family resource centers, food banks, job skills training centers, and on weatherization crews. Many administer social safety net services like SNAP, WIC, LIHEAP, LIHWAP, TBRA, ESG, and other Homeless programs. They range in organizational roles primarily including Executive Directors, Senior Leadership, Program Managers, CSBG board members, and agency partner and support organizations.

Registration for Presenters: Presenters are encouraged to register; however, registration is not required. If your workshop is selected, we provide a special discounted presenter rate. If your presentation/workshop is chosen and you choose to register and participate in the conference, please use code **24Presenter** at the Conference Registration Website when it opens May 9, 2024. More information on the website will be sent following the selection of presentations which is expected by February 29, 2024.

Presenter Discounted Registration Fee: \$200 a savings of \$100

[Click Here To Access The 2024 Presentation Proposal Form](#)

The following will be collected after presentations have been reviewed and accepted through an online portal:

- Biography
- Headshot
- Presentation Description
- Additional Information (Optional)
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
 - Instagram
 - Published Work

Questions, Concerns, Thoughts...?? Email: Jessica Wederski at jessica@kacap.org



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Deadline to Submit Proposal: January 31, 2024