



FCAA 2019 AIDS PHILANTHROPY SUMMIT CALL FOR SESSIONS

October 28-29, 2019
National Press Club, Washington, DC

Session Abstracts Due: 31 May 2019

Each year, FCAA convenes funders at our annual AIDS Philanthropy Summit to network and share best practices as part of our ongoing efforts to increase the amount and impact of philanthropic resources dedicated to the HIV/AIDS effort.

One of FCAA's 2016-2020 strategic goals is to **"Catalyze a dynamic and sustained philanthropic response to HIV/AIDS with *special attention to its underlying drivers.*"** As such, our past Summits and other programming have become increasingly intersectional. But that strategic shift has also caused us to wrestle with a critical question: ***What does it mean to be an HIV funder today?***

In this year's call for sessions, we want to hear what it means for you to fund HIV:

- How and why do you center HIV within other portfolios or priorities?
- How has your HIV-related funding changed over the years? What new – or continued – strategies keep you committed to the fight against HIV and AIDS? Or, what priorities have driven your funding to shift into other areas?
- How do you measure success if funding HIV work that intersects with other underlying drivers or barriers (e.g. addressing homelessness/stigma as a vehicle to achieve better HIV outcomes)?
- How do you communicate and advocate for the needs of people living with or at risk of HIV?
- How do you navigate within other non-HIV grantee or funder communities?
- What is the way forward: AIDS exceptionalism or AIDS mainstreaming?

As we're hosting this year's Summit at the National Press Club, we're also interested in sessions that address the role of media and messaging in the response to HIV and AIDS. In today's rapid-fire news cycle, what is our responsibility as funders to capitalize on news from the frontlines of the epidemic and work with the media to raise awareness and correct misconceptions? What is our role in ensuring or promoting access to information?

FCAA issues this call for sessions to ensure that the Summit agenda is timely, relevant, and member-driven. Proposals will be reviewed by our program committee. If you are interested in serving on the program committee, please email Sarah@fcaids.org.



TOPICS OF INTEREST

In addition to responding to the question proposed above, sessions that address these following issues will be prioritized:

- The role of media and messaging in the current response to HIV
- Community/Civil Society based responses and/or best practices in funding communities
- Key populations – including men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, people of transgender experience, LGBTQ populations, and sex workers
- Funding advocacy and/or responding to harmful policy
- HIV in the U.S. South
- Racial Justice/Equity
- Intersectionality of HIV and sexual & reproductive health, LGBTQ issues, human rights, etc.
- Intersection of HIV and the opioid epidemics
- Impact of evolving science around treatment and prevention on funding priorities

SESSION CRITERIA

Our goal is to design an agenda that offers equal parts skills building, best practices, and/or issue/landscape exploration sessions.

Session format is up to the organizer(s)/sponsor(s) though abstracts including interactive components will be given preference. Priority consideration will be given to submissions that:

- Raise underrepresented and new perspectives and include a diverse range of speakers. Panelists representing marginalized groups, experienced implementers, and/or affected populations are encouraged. Please note, for the purposes of the Summit, we will be looking at diversity across HIV status, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, geography, and economic status.
- Offer unique facilitation and audience participation opportunities (e.g real-time polling, small group discussions), as appropriate. Proposed sessions that primarily showcase (i.e. “show and tell”) the work of individual organizations or single initiatives will not be prioritized. Find a few examples of innovative session formats [HERE](#).
- Integrate exploration of issues **and** related grantmaking strategies and practices, and encourage and help participants to think through the relevance, transferability, and applicability of the session content to their own work as grantmakers.



Additional Considerations

- We seek sessions focused on both the **U.S. domestic and international epidemics**, as well as crosscutting issues.
- Your audience will be comprised of funders and others working in the philanthropic sector.
- Panelists/framers/moderators/etc. need not all be funders. A mix of grantmakers, activists/advocates working in the field, scholars, etc. can bring critical, multi-disciplinary perspectives and expertise. HIV-positive perspectives will be prioritized.

SESSION STRUCTURE

Following are two possible structures to follow when submitting an abstract. Additional creative formats are welcome, but please describe in detail any alternative structures and any space/technical/and other requirements. Content can be drawn from the perspective of the grantmaker OR community representative (i.e. innovations from a funded or partner organization). **However, implications or learnings for grantmakers must be a key component of every session.** This is a competitive process and roughly 8-10 sessions will be accepted.

1. **1-hour Skills building sessions/workshops** on HIV-related grantmaking or community practices that require some level of technical expertise or address a new or emerging area of practice where there is limited expertise or experience to draw on. These sessions should include interaction and learning opportunities for the audience. (Examples: diversifying funding/ accessing government funds, integrating PrEP into prevention work, addressing power dynamics in HIV grantmaking). Likely audience: 30-60
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3. **1-hour Facilitated discussions or debates** on an issue of relevance to the conference theme featuring a facilitator and expert stakeholders, but no formal presentations. Time for audience interaction is recommended. (Examples: private donor response to declining HIV funding in middle-income countries, how to prepare for setbacks in countries with a history of significant HIV investments). Likely audience: 30-60

WHO CAN SPONSOR/ORGANIZE A SESSION?

Any funder or philanthropic infrastructure support organization is invited to submit an abstract individually or in concert with others. **FCAA strongly encourages foundations (and affinity groups) to partner with one another on abstracts** to pool their creativity and expertise and share the financial responsibilities of session sponsorship (see below).



LOGISTICAL AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

If the submission is selected for the upcoming Summit, organizers/sponsors are responsible for the logistical arrangements of the session, including:

- Inviting and prepping speakers (including holding at least one conference call with your panel).
- Making arrangements for speakers' travel, lodging, and registration.
- **Covering all expenses related to organizing the session** (e.g. travel and accommodations of speakers; consultant/speakers' fees, etc.). **Please note, FCAA has a limited travel/sponsor budget, and thus, will not be able to help support travel expenses for selected sessions.**
- Informing invited speakers who are not funders – or otherwise not eligible for FCAA membership – of conference policies concerning non-solicitation and attendance. *[Please note that non-funders who are presenting are welcome to stay for and participate in the entire summit, unless specific sessions are designated as “funder-only” spaces.]*

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

1. Please submit your [abstract online](#) no later than **31 May 2019**
2. Abstracts will be reviewed by FCAA staff and program committee members and decisions will be made by **28 June 2019**.
3. If your abstract is selected, FCAA will require you to fill out a session form with a finalized speaker list and refined session description to be used in Summit marketing materials. **Those materials will be due by 16 August 2019**.
4. We will also arrange a planning call with the organizers to share the feedback of the advisory committee and discuss additional suggestions and details.

FCAA staff is available with support during every part of the process. We encourage you to contact Sarah Hamilton (sarah@fcaaid.org) with any questions on your session concept prior to submission. You can also visit the call for sessions [Q&A ONLINE](#).