

2016 Great Beginnings Great Families Conference

Call for Proposal Information and Instructions

The 4th annual Great Beginnings, Great Families conference will be held August 23, 24, and 25, 2016 at the Radisson Colonial Hotel in Helena, MT. It is anticipated that approximately 100 to 150 conferees will be in attendance. The Great Beginnings Great Families conference committee within MT DPHHS invites you to submit a presentation proposal for the conference, and take this opportunity to share your knowledge and experience.

Proposal submission deadline: Monday, May 2, 2016

Send proposal submissions and questions to: GBGF@mt.gov

PURPOSE OF THE GREAT BEGINNINGS, GREAT FAMILIES CONFERENCE

To increase the infrastructure and knowledge of early childhood systems to enhance family support best practices.

CONFERENCE GOALS

- Connect early childhood programs, providers, and Best Beginnings Coalitions and partners within early childhood systems.
- Promote sustainability of early childhood programs.
- Provide professional development opportunities to support early childhood workforce development and retention through new skills, strategies and ideas to ensure high quality services.
- Enhance the strengths-based services for families to promote effective family and provider relationships.
- Promote social, emotional, mental, economic, and cultural health within Montana communities.
- Improve the health of Montana's families by encouraging the promotion of preventive care and comprehensive health practices.

POSSIBLE WORKSHOP TOPICS MAY INCLUDE

- **Prevention:** Early Childhood Mental Health; Trauma Informed Care; Understanding Addictions; Impacts of Poverty; Perinatal Mood Disorders and Postpartum Support; Reality of Suicide; Resilience and Protective Factors; Teen Pregnancy;
- **Promotion/Program Support:** Child and Family Nutrition; Combating Compassion Fatigue/Secondary Trauma; Engaging Young Fathers; Engaging Parents as Partners; Relationship-Based and/or Strength –Based Strategies for Working with Families; Staff Retention
- **Early Childhood Systems:** Early Childhood Data and Data Systems; Economics of Early Childhood; Program Sustainability; Models for Multi-Level Collaboration; Linking Early Childhood Across Sectors and Disciplines (e.g. Public Health, Public Education, Medical Field)

CONFERENCE AUDIENCE MAY INCLUDE

Parent Educators • Family Support Specialists • Parent Liaisons • Parent Advocates • Home Visitors • Public Health Nurses • Early Childhood Providers • Head Start Program Staff • Social Workers and Professional Counselors • Early Childhood Educators • Any service provider working with families with young children

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

- Complete the 2016 GBGF Proposal Submission Form
- Submit using the following options:
 - Email the completed form to GBGF@mt.gov
 - Mail the complete form to:

GBGF Conference Committee
111 N. Jackson St.
Arcade Building 5th Floor
Helena, MT 59601

IF YOUR PROPOSAL IS SELECTED

Presenters will be notified of their session times and dates by May 16, 2016. Room assignments will be determined by the GBGF Planning Committee. Presenters must be committed to present on the date and time assigned. Reasonable requests/accommodations will be considered. Presenters will register for the conference through the Great Beginnings, Great Families Conference website and will not be charged the conference attendance fee. Lodging may be provided for presenters at the discretion of the GBGF Planning Committee. Continental breakfast and lunch each day will be provided through the conference to all presenters. Travel costs and per diem are the responsibility of the presenter.

SPEAKER FEES

If your agency/organization collects a speaker fee, please indicate this on the proposal form. Speaker fees must be invoiced with a W-9 through GBGF@mt.gov within 30 days after August 25, 2016 (the end of the 2016 conference).

MATERIALS FOR CONFEREES

Each conferee will receive a USB/Thumb Drive containing all conference information i.e. handouts, PowerPoint presentations, etc. Any other hard copy handouts for presenters or conferees will be the responsibility of the speaker. All materials (Power Point presentations, handouts, resources, etc.) will need to be submitted to the GBGF Planning Committee by **July 15, 2016** to allow enough time for uploading materials to the USB/Thumb Drive. Conferees will have the opportunity to download and print materials as needed. All submitted materials for the conference will be converted into PDF files so that the content cannot be changed.

TECHNOLOGY

Due to software compatibility and security issues with MT DPHHS issued computers, the GBGF Planning Committee encourages each presenter to bring their own laptop. If this is not possible, please contact the GBGF Planning Committee to discuss options and possible arrangements. Please be aware that equipment fees may be incurred and will be the responsibility of the presenter. Projectors will be provided at the conference site for no additional charge to the presenter. Please notify the GBGF Planning Committee by email at GBGF@mt.gov of any special technology needs or requests for the session and/or presenter.

SESSIONS QUALIFYING FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS

The Great Beginnings Great Families Conference is proud to offer a variety of continuing education hours and units for conferees. On the 2016 GBGF Proposal Submission Form, please indicate if your sessions will qualify for any of the continuing education hours listed. If you are unsure of which continuing education hours your session will or may qualify for, please mark the "I am unsure" box in this section. The Great Beginnings Great Families Conference Committee will review the information submitted and determine the best fit for all hours. The Conference Committee may need to contact you for further clarifying information to determine all of the continuing education hours your proposed session could qualify for.



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