

Washington Behavioral Healthcare Conference

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

June 11-12, 2026

Kennewick, WA

Celebrating Community Behavioral Health

We invite you to join us in presenting innovative workshops at the 36th annual Washington Behavioral Healthcare Conference!

The conference brings together a diverse group of presenters to share information about therapeutic interventions, recovery supports, promising programs, and policies that advance best practices. Our goal is to provide a learning experience that expands professional knowledge, promotes community partnerships, and helps make recovery a reality. We're interested in sessions that are practical, replicable, and relevant to our attendees. We anticipate over 600 attendees in Kennewick—this is a great opportunity to share your knowledge and experience, and inspire others! We also want community behavioral health to join together in Kennewick to celebrate all the amazing people, programs, and agencies who are doing their utmost to provide quality services to those who need them, despite all the unknowns we're facing.

As a presenter at the 2026 WBHC, you'll gain visibility and have the opportunity to interact with a broad audience. Conference attendees include clinical staff, program managers, people with lived experience, family members, peers, nonprofit staff, and staff of system partners and state agencies including the Health Care Authority, DSHS, and the Department of Corrections.

Each proposal chosen will receive a complimentary conference registration and one night hotel accommodations for each presenter (up to the limit of speakers as noted below). Travel expenses and per diem are not provided.

Submitting a Proposal

- ◆ Most workshops are scheduled for 90 minutes (limit of 3 speakers); this year we will also have a limited number of TED-style talks of 18 minutes each (limit of 1 speaker per Talk). Please tailor proposal materials and objectives to fit within one of these time frames.
- ◆ Please submit your proposal online [HERE](#)
- ◆ Completed applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm on **December 7, 2025**.
- ◆ Notification of acceptance will be sent out by mid-February 2026.

Topics

You are invited to submit proposals that address behavioral health across the lifespan of those served. Specific areas of interest for 2026 include:

- ◆ Innovative Care Practices (including but not limited to suicide prevention, evidence-based, best & promising practices, CCBHCs, helping clients transition from inpatient to community services)
- ◆ Health, Wellness & Whole Person Care
- ◆ Prevention & Early Intervention
- ◆ Recovery Supports
- ◆ Consumer-Run and/or Peer Support Services
- ◆ Crisis Outreach & Diversion Services
- ◆ Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities
- ◆ Children & Families, Youth in Transition Services
- ◆ Effective messaging, storytelling & advocacy
- ◆ Trauma-Informed Care/Services
- ◆ Management, Leadership & Operations (workforce, payment & regulatory environment, customer service)
- ◆ Substance Use & Co-Occurring Disorder Treatment
- ◆ Corrections & Mental Health
- ◆ Care Coordination & Population Health
- ◆ Homelessness, Housing & Employment
- ◆ Diverse Communities in Behavioral Health
- ◆ Older Adults & the Aging Population
- ◆ Services for Veterans in Community Agency Settings
- ◆ Measurement-Based Care

Questions? Need help with the application? Please contact Alison Avery, Dir. of Conference Planning & Project Mgmt for the Washington Council for Behavioral Health at aavery@thewashingtoncouncil.org or (206) 306-3712.

2026 WBHC Presentation Application

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Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- ✓ Relevance to participants' interests, clear benefit to attendees' educational needs & skill development, and replicability in other treatment organizations
- ✓ Promotion of advanced clinical skills
- ✓ Clear articulation of the learning objectives, which must be measurable and achievable
- ✓ Experience and/or expertise of the presenter(s)
- ✓ Meaningful inclusion of people who identify as having lived experience
- ✓ Contribution to improved outcomes, recovery, and quality of life of those served
- ✓ Incorporation of evidence-based, best and/or promising practices
- ✓ Use of person-first language and sensitivity/applicability to a multicultural population

All proposals must be complete, comprehensive, and deemed relevant and timely to the conference's audience. **Presentations must be educational in nature and may not be used to market products or services. If chosen, we expect that your presentation in June will reflect the materials & objectives submitted.**

There is a limit of 3 speakers per workshop, and a limit of 1 speaker for a TED-Style Talk. Completed applications MUST be submitted by 11:59 pm on December 7, 2025 and must include:

- Presentation title
- Focus Area
- Learning Objectives
- Abstract (approximately 300 words, for use in brochures if presentation is chosen)
- Intended Level/Audience for presentation (general behavioral health or advanced clinical practice)

Required info for each presenter:

- First & Last Name
- Degree (including field of study)
- Preferred Pronouns (optional)
- Organization (if applicable)
- Street address, including city, state & zip code)
- Phone & Email
- Biography of each presenter (including one credible reference regarding experience in presenting and/or facilitating workshops, seminars or presentations)

Please note that speakers must provide their own laptop.