

2024 Virginia Volunteerism Summit

Mapping the Future of Civic & Community Engagement

May 15-16, 2024



Call for Proposals Guidelines

Submission Deadline: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at midnight ET

Submit your proposal here: <https://forms.office.com/g/bCCGUhZ4uX>

The 2024 Virginia Volunteerism Summit will be held virtually on the Airmeet platform. The event will be 9:00am-3:30pm, May 15-16, 2024. Expected attendance for the event is anticipated to be around 400 people. The theme for the 2024 event is “Mapping the Future of Civic & Community Engagement.”

About the Summit

The purpose of the Virginia Volunteerism Summit is to inspire and equip organizations and individuals to make a significant impact through service in and to their communities. **The 2024 Summit will engage stakeholders in powerful conversations to inspire action resulting in stronger civic and community engagement.** Participants will hear from inspiring, nationally-known speakers about the impact and future of volunteerism, as well as collaboratively engage in workshops to learn best practices, co-create new ideas, and engage in spreading passion and inspiration throughout the sector.

Participants will be asked to consider how they **transform ideas into reality** as they use their interests and skills to spark change around them.

Target Audience

The primary audiences for this event are:

- Volunteer managers and volunteer engagement professionals
- Nonprofit staff of all experience levels and board leadership
- Professionals engaged in corporate social responsibility, philanthropy, and employee volunteerism
- AmeriCorps members, program staff, and alumni
- Undergraduate & graduate students with relevant studies in fields such as social work, public health, public administration, or other community-oriented disciplines
- Faith leaders/faith-based organizations

Virginia Volunteerism Summit Outcomes

During this event, we hope to:

- Connect leaders invested in service and volunteerism as a solution
- Share best practices and engage in discussion on pressing challenges facing the field, specifically for volunteer programs
- Meet the needs of all experience levels and stakeholder groups
- Provide opportunities for professional development

After the event, we hope our participants leave with:

- A strong foundational skillset in volunteer management
- Solutions to problems they face
- New resources and connections across the state
- Next steps to enhance the service and volunteer landscape, engage with others and Serve Virginia, and make changes at the community level



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Masterclass Session Format and Presenter Details

All sessions will be presented in a virtual format during a 70-minute session. Presenters will use the provided virtual platform to present. Presenters will provide training to approximately 40-75 participants in a specific virtual session block. Sessions should 1) present information and 2) build specific skills by giving the participants an opportunity to practice the concepts presented.

Presenters should include a hands-on component for participants to practice what they are learning in some interactive way: individual, small group, or large group activities; discussion; games; reflection; worksheets; panel discussion, etc. We encourage presenters to allow time for audience questions and answers.

Session Topics

Proposals that address additional topics will be considered; however, during the selection process **priority will be given to proposals that address anything from the below list of topics**. Regardless of the topic, all presentations should focus on providing practical tools and information that attendees can act on and implement in their own programs/organizations.

- Tools and best practices for volunteer recruitment and retention, including best practices for specific demographics like recruiting and managing youth volunteers
- Best practices for communicating the value of volunteerism to leadership and/or funders
- Strategic planning and organizational development, including topics such as board member recruitment or managing a nonprofit board of directors
- Brainstorming creative ways to leverage volunteers to meet organizational and community needs, such as mobilizing volunteers as advocates or in advocacy efforts
- Mental health and burnout in the nonprofit sector and among volunteers
- Implementing DEI best practices in volunteer programs or nonprofit organizations
- Effective practices and partnerships for employee volunteerism or engagement
- Pursuing a service-oriented profession, and how to talk about volunteer work/nonprofit experience as a valuable professional experience
- Cultivating effective and impactful community partnerships, and measuring or communicating shared impact

Participants who attend these sessions will have varied backgrounds. **Proposals that appeal to experienced and advanced professionals are strongly encouraged.** Proposals should specifically identify the target audience and level of experience:

- **Introductory (101):** People with less than two years of experience on this topic.
- **Experienced (201):** People with 2-5 years of experience on this topic.
- **Advanced (301):** Staff with more than 5 years of experience on this topic.
- **General Audience:** Mixed audience with various levels of experience.

How do I submit a proposal?

Proposal forms must be submitted via the online form available here:

<https://forms.office.com/g/bCCGUhZ4uX>

If you have any questions or concerns about the Proposal Form, please contact Alexander Vanik, alexander.vanik@dss.virginia.gov



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Frequently Asked Questions

What is the submission deadline?

All proposals must be submitted online by **Wednesday, January 31st, 2024 at midnight ET** to be considered for the 2023 Virginia Volunteerism Summit.

How will proposals be selected?

Proposals will be reviewed and selected based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the training purpose and outcomes
- Ability to address timely, relevant topics (see above topic list)
- Building of participants' skills/knowledge
- Presenter's training experience, skills, and style
- Topic, content, and methodology
- Clear outcomes for increasing participant skills and knowledge

When and how will I know if I have been selected?

Presenters will be notified by email in early February. Presenters will be required to submit presentation materials for posting 2 weeks in advance of the event (late April). Please do not register for the event until you have been notified about your selection for presenting, as presenters will be provided specific registration instructions.

If I am selected, what are the next steps?

Presenter selections will be made in early February, and notifications sent out to selected presenters. When notified for selection, presenters will be provided with instructions on how to register for the event and due dates for presentation materials, next steps to upload information to the event platform, and other event details. All information will be emailed to the lead presenter who is responsible for sharing with the co-presenters, if applicable.

What costs will be paid to me as a presenter?

There will be no monetary compensation for presented sessions. All presenters will receive a complimentary registration to the full event, and technical assistance in presenting during their session. For questions about sponsorships, etc. please contact Kathy Spangler at Kathy.spangler@dss.virginia.gov

Contact

For questions related to this call for proposals, please contact:

Alexander Vanik

Serve Virginia

State Service Plan Coordinator

Alexander.vanik@dss.virginia.gov

Please visit our website for event info: ServeVirginia.org/find-resources/virginia-volunteerism-summit

