



Proposal Guidelines

Submission Deadline: February 28, 2025

Theme: Building the Bridge

This theme revolves around addressing the needs to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities and mental health conditions. Potential topics may include improving accessibility in public spaces, developing assistive technologies, promoting inclusive education, and advocating for policies that support equal opportunities. Additionally, exploring the role of community programs in fostering social inclusion and raising awareness about the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities can be crucial. Encouraging dialogue about mental health support, career development, and adaptive recreational activities may also contribute to a more inclusive society. By focusing on these areas, we can work towards creating a world where everyone can thrive, regardless of their abilities.

To submit your proposal, please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/OsaV192FB3>. You will have the option to save your response, allowing you to edit it until February 28, 2025. Please note that only fully completed submissions will be considered.

Please ensure your availability for Thursday, September 25, 2025 between 10am-4pm EST. If your proposal is accepted, you will be assigned a time slot during these hours to participate virtually. **Additionally, all completed presentations must be submitted by Friday, August 15, 2025.**

If you have any questions or encounter issues during the submission process, do not hesitate to reach out to our team at conference@inf2f.org. We are here to assist you and ensure that your proposal submission is as smooth as possible. We look forward to reviewing your innovative and insightful ideas. Thank you for your interest and participation in this exciting opportunity!



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The following information is required:

Presentation Title: Please include the complete title (preferably concise)

Abstract: Kindly include a brief description of the presentation content.

Learning Objectives: Describe what attendees should be able to accomplish after this presentation by finishing this sentence: *“After attending this session, families will:”*

Learner Engagement Strategies: Engagement is a key component of a meaningful learning experience. Strategies should facilitate opportunities for learners to achieve course learning objectives. Time for question and answer will be given at the end of each presentation. Choose all that apply:

- Integrated opportunities for dialogue or Q&A
- Opportunities for problem-based learning i.e. hypothetical scenarios
- Include time for self-reflection

Presenter Information: Please include names of all presenters. The following information is required:

- First and Last Name
- Email Address
- Job Title & Organization
- Bio Information

Learning Tracks: These tracks focus on a variety of topics that encompass numerous aspects of life when raising a child with additional health and/or mental health requirements.

Track	Keywords	Description
Healthcare Financing	Medicaid, Medicaid Waivers, CSHCS, grants, private insurance, EPSDT, insurance literacy	Focused on programs, financial resources, and government initiatives that aim to ensure individuals and families have access to the medical services they need without facing hardship.
Education	IEP, 504, individualized, health plan, early childhood, skill development, educational access	Focused on exploring a variety of educational rights, resources, and support systems to ensure that each child receives the best possible learning experience while fostering a sense of belonging and self-worth
Advocacy & Family Leadership	Public comment, legislative, advisory groups, councils, effective communication, health advocacy	Focused on equipping families with the necessary tools to empower them to lead, advocate, and actively participate as partners in the systems that support their children.
Life & Leisure	Peer mentor, self-care, support networks, emotional resilience, social skills training, self-identity, coping strategies	Focused on ensuring children, youth, and their families have the support to create a nurturing environment where everyone can thrive in their homes and communities.
Medical Needs	Durable medical equipment, assistive technology, medical home, diagnosis, access to care, healthcare navigation, medication management, telehealth	Focused on practices relating to specific physical, behavioral, or mental health issues that aim to enhance overall well-being and improve quality of life, empowering individuals and families to take proactive steps towards their health goals.
Transition from Youth to Adulthood	Independent living skills, dignified risk, financial planning, self-determination, goal-setting, decision making, vocational training	Focused on the different life stages that every parent must navigate, helping children navigate school, friendships, and the discovery of their own identities at every age.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging: In what ways does this presentation reflect the principles of DEIB?

- **Diversity**: We seek and highly value different perspectives based on race, ethnicity, class, culture, language, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, geographical location, age, and the infinite variety of characteristics that people have in their lives and bring to their work.
- **Equity**: We actively provide and share the necessary resources to have fair and just outcomes by understanding, acknowledging, and respecting differences among and within groups of people. These differences are often avoidable, remediable, and the result of structural determinants or policies. Some differences may be inherent or unavoidable but still require intervention to have fair and just outcomes. Equal does not always mean equitable.
- **Inclusion**: We create policies and enable environments in which all involved are:
 - afforded equitable access to benefits, opportunities, and resources
 - carefully heard and considered in decision-making
 - appreciated, respected, and encouraged for their differences and value systems.
- **Belonging**: All those involved in our work feel accepted and supported in being who they are. Belonging requires that we:
 - foster a sense of ownership in shaping the outcome of the work, and
 - create a safe space where people feel comfortable being their authentic, imperfect, and ever-changing selves.