



Announcing
The Moving Forward Annual Conference & Self-Advocate Summit 2021
Moving Forward Together Through Innovation, Advocacy & Collaboration

A Virtual Event: Wednesdays June 9, 16, 23, 30

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

Due to the ongoing concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic and the limitation of vaccines, the Moving Forward Conference will be a virtual event this year.

In collaboration with the Developmental Disability Planning Council and the Center for Self-Advocacy, the Arc NM is seeking proposals from self-advocates, families, service providers and other professionals, educators, and others for the 2021 conference related to the conference theme: ***Moving Forward Together: Innovation, Advocacy and Collaboration.***

The world we knew just a year ago no longer exists. People with disabilities, providers and families who provide support, and others have had to adjust to the new way of living, working, and making ends meet with the impact of a public health crisis. Yet the community has remained resilient and have become creative in their advocacy and more collaborative in getting through daily routines.

Understanding that **we are in this together**, we are seeking proposals for presentations on topics related to life experiences of people with disabilities; not only how the impact of a health crisis has changed their lives or business practices, but what have we learned, what innovative things are we doing to mitigate isolation, how are we continuing to advocate, and how are we collaborating to share ideas and support for people with disabilities.

Topics may include:

- Creative strategies on coping with isolation during a pandemic;
- How self-advocacy can empower people with disabilities to reclaim access and independence;
- How disability has impacted access to healthcare today;
- How policies have affected waiver programs;
- What is the importance of employment and inclusion now?

Specific content areas include the following:

- Early intervention services
- Transitioning back to community activities
- Behavioral supports & individual supports
- Healthcare for all ages
- Caregiving and Direct Support
- Parents/Family interaction
- Policy or Legal considerations
- Education
- Employment & Job training
- Self-determination, advocacy, and leadership
- Spirituality
- Sexuality
- Housing concerns
- End-of-Life considerations



We anticipate the virtual platform will provide for more flexibility in time and access to the sessions. Sessions will be allowed up to 90 minutes plus 30 minutes for Q&A. Proposals for sessions including more than one presentation should discuss how the presentations are linked to each other around a common theme regarding people with disabilities and should be submitted as one document by the proposed session moderator or lead presenter. A variety of session types will be considered.

- **Typical Sessions** highlight new or emerging research findings, promising new programs or policies, or explore a topic from a multidisciplinary perspective.
- **Panels** are moderated, semi-structured sessions that avoid lengthy formal presentations and focus on moderated discussion and debate.
- **Interactive Training Workshops** are hands-on learning opportunities focused on a particular topical area. Presenters are responsible for providing any training materials they wish to distribute.

Proposals must use people-first language and include:

- Title of the session;
- List of presenters and affiliation for each, with all presenters/authors identified;
- Contact information (address, phone, e-mail and/or fax) for all presenters;
- A brief (fifty-word max) bio-sketch for each presenter; and
- A description of the session of no more than two hundred words. At least one learning objective (what knowledge or skills will be gained from the session?) should be included in the description(s).

Proposals can be submitted in one of **three ways**.

1. **SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL ON-LINE AT** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5YBLXGR>
2. **SEND YOUR PROPOSAL AS AN ATTACHMENT IN WORD TO:** movingforward2021@arcnm.org
3. **MAIL YOUR PROPOSAL PACKET TO**
The Arc of New Mexico Conference
5130 Masthead St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Proposals due April 9, 2021, 5:00pm