



IPHA 84th Annual Public Health Workforce Conference

Call for Proposals: Breakout Sessions

This year, we are excited to premiere an even larger event that joins together the IPHA annual meeting and the CHW Summit! The Illinois Public Health Association (IPHA) invites public health professionals, students, and other interested individuals to submit breakout session proposals for presentations at the 84th Annual Public Health Workforce Conference held in Bloomington–Normal, IL on September 9–September 11, 2025. This year’s theme is ***Making Public Health an Illinois Priority***.

Selected presenters will be invited to present a breakout session during the conference. Presenters will also receive 50% off their registration fee for the conference.

Concurrent Breakout Session (60 minutes)

These oral presentation sessions are intended to support the conference theme “Making Public Health an Illinois Priority” and should be of professional interest to attendees. These sessions can be delivered via a single speaker or a small panel of speakers. PowerPoint slides are encouraged, and each session should include 10–15 minutes for Q&A interaction with the audience. Note: All rooms will be set up theater style (only chairs) to maximize our space for attendees. If you need a different setup, please annotate so in the “Other” section in the proposal form. We will try our best to accommodate you.

Breakout Session Track Descriptions

This year, we will have different tracks to help cater to specific interests within the public health field. You will select the track which best fits your proposal. Descriptions of tracks are below:

1. Lifting Up the CHW Workforce

- This track focuses on the critical role of Community Health Workers (CHWs) in addressing health disparities and improving access to care.

Sessions will explore strategies for empowering CHWs, providing them with the skills and resources to better serve their communities, and building sustainable workforce development models. Participants will gain insight into effective training, policy advocacy, and how to create pathways for CHWs to make a lasting impact on public health outcomes.

2. Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- Chronic diseases continue to be a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide. This track will dive deep into prevention strategies, early detection, and innovative approaches to managing chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, HIV, viral hepatitis, and heart disease. Experts will discuss the role of prevention strategies, community-based interventions, and policy initiatives that can help reduce the burden of chronic diseases and promote long-term health in diverse populations.

3. Behavioral Health and Wellness: Mind, Body, Spirit

- This track focuses on the holistic connection between mental, physical, and emotional health, with an emphasis on building healthier, more resilient individuals and communities. Sessions will explore strategies for promoting mental well-being, reducing stress, and fostering emotional resilience, both in personal and professional settings. Worksite wellness programs will also be highlighted, showcasing how organizations can support their employees' mental and physical health through effective programs that encourage work-life balance, reduce burnout, and create healthier, more productive work environments. Attendees will leave with practical tools for promoting well-being at the individual, community, and organizational levels.

4. Emerging Issues and Hot Topics

- Stay on the cutting edge of public health by exploring the most current issues and innovations shaping the field. This track will tackle new health challenges, from emerging infectious diseases to health equity

concerns and evolving policy trends. Experts will present real-time data, share forward-thinking solutions, and discuss what public health professionals need to know to adapt to rapidly changing environments and meet the demands of tomorrow's healthcare landscape.

Submit your proposal here. <https://form.jotform.com/250412191927151>

Proposal submission extended until April 4, 2025, by 11:59 PM CST!