Food ACCESS 2024 Call for Workshop Proposals

May 16 & 17, 2024 | SAFE Credit Union Convention Center, Sacramento, CA

Food ACCESS is California’s preeminent anti-hunger conference, bringing together 400+ food bankers, anti-hunger advocates, civil servants, philanthropists, and more.

Workshop Proposal Deadline: February 9, 2024

PURPOSE
California Association of Food Banks is seeking proposals for workshops to be presented at its Food ACCESS 2024 Conference to be held on May 16 and 17, 2024 at SAFE Credit Union Sacramento Convention Center.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION
Food ACCESS 2024 Conference is seeking to provide a variety of workshops on relevant topics for food banks and other nonprofits involved in ending hunger in California. We encourage proposals that support creativity and innovative practices while providing an interactive component rather than those that consist solely of a lecture style.

- 375+ nonprofit, philanthropic, and government professionals
- Attendees will represent organizations from various nonprofit sub-sectors, regions, and organization sizes.

GENERAL WORKSHOP INFORMATION
We are looking for presentations that provide relevant, actionable information that nonprofits can implement in their organization right away. The Conference will feature 24-28 workshops that fall within the conference tracks: Hot Topics, Community Engagement, Operations & Logistics, Policy & Research, Programs, and Finance & Administration.

Suggested topics within these tracks are listed below; however, any workshop that supports building equity and/or expanding and enhancing the food access landscape will be considered.

WORKSHOP TRACKS
HOT TOPICS
- Disaster response
- Collaborative leadership
- Organizational role in racial & economic justice
- Food waste & recovery
- Transitioning to BIPOC Vendors / Farmers
- Disrupting cycles of poverty
- Urban versus rural food systems / access

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (communications / volunteer management / development)
- Leveraging social media & traditional media
- Disaster / Crisis communication
- Growing awareness & public education / engagement
- Donor prospecting & retention
- The future of philanthropy
- Engaging donors in advocacy
- Finding & retaining volunteers
- Moving volunteers to donors
- Language access for donors & volunteers

OPERATIONS & LOGISTICS
- Food sourcing / sourcing culturally appropriate foods
- New technologies
- Warehouse management
- Reducing waste
- Climatizing facilities / enhancing sustainability
- Creative food delivery methods

POLICY & RESEARCH
- Student Hunger
- Farm Bill
- Addressing the root causes of hunger
- Data collection tools & methodologies
- Barriers to food access
- Data-driven decision-making
- Best practices for tracking impact

PROGRAMS
- Food access for hard-to-reach populations
- Agency partnerships
- Growing CalFresh Enrolment
- Summer-EBT or Disaster-CalFresh
- Nutrition education
- Older adult food programs
- Child food programs
- Diaper & menstrual product programs
- Food access for indigenous Californians / farmworkers
- Addressing language / transportation barriers

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION
- Going paperless / moving to digital transactions
- Cyber security
- Staff retention & appreciation
- Streamlining expenses
- Hybrid work environments
- Benefits packages

WORKSHOP ELEMENTS
Please take note of these suggested workshop elements as you plan your workshop proposal
- Goals of the Workshop: Identify goals for participants who attend your workshop
- Encourage Active Learning: Identify what methods you will use to encourage active learning (participatory) versus passive learning (listening)
- Practical Tools: Attendees will be looking for practical tools that they can take back to their organization and implement
- Best Practices/Relevant Research: Identify best practices and/or research that will help participants be leaders within their organizations
- Q&A: Allow time for questions and answers from participants

EVALUATION CRITERIA
- Topic can be covered in 60-75 minute window
- Introduce innovative concepts or new information
- Provide practical, ready-to-use takeaways
- Effectively engage attendees with interactive elements
- Bring a new idea, way of thinking / working, or share information that is not commonplace
- Clear and compelling titles and descriptions

LOGISTICS
- Workshops are 75 minutes long
  - CAFB will provide a laptop, screen, projector, and mics. You will be responsible for your own PowerPoint and supplemental materials. In an effort to be “green” we will not be photocopying materials for workshop sessions. If you feel they are necessary, you will be asked to provide your own handouts. We will provide you with instructions on uploading to our conference app where materials can be uploaded for conference attendees.
  - There may be an opportunity to present your workshop more than once.
  - Presenters are responsible for securing their own conference registration.
PROPOSAL CONTENTS

Proposals must be submitted online. To help you prepare, all the information requested in the proposal is listed below. To submit more than one workshop proposal, please complete a separate form for each workshop.

PRESENTER INFORMATION – REQUIRED FOR EACH PRESENTER (max 3 presenters + 1 moderator per workshop)
1. Contact information – name, phone, email
2. Title and organization or affiliation
3. Bio – 100 words limit, use third person
4. Upload a photo (either a headshot or photo of you presenting)

WORKSHOP INFORMATION
5. Preferred workshop dates (if you have one)
6. Presentation title & brief description
7. Session agenda, including details & timing for audience participation
8. Workshop format (Presentation, Interactive/Roundtable, Panel)
9. Which tracks most closely match the proposal
10. Information for additional co-presenters

QUESTIONS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Please contact the Food ACCESS team at FoodACCESS@cafoodbanks.org.