



Call for Breakout Session Presenter Proposals

Second Harvest Heartland is inviting presenter proposals for breakout sessions at the 2026 Make Hunger History Summit, to be held on Friday, February 27, 2026 at the Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center, MN. This call for proposals will close at 7 p.m. on Friday, September 26, 2025.

In a year of change for our sector and with neighbors facing increased barriers, the Make Hunger History Summit is an opportunity to understand the current state of hunger in Minnesota and explore ways to work together to continue serving the community as best as possible.

Breakout Session Topics

To share this platform with more voices and celebrate the expertise in this network, we are inviting proposals for 50–60-minute breakout sessions at the 2nd annual Make Hunger History Summit. The theme of this year's Summit is Emerging Stronger. Together we'll work toward the vision that with continued collaboration, adaptations and bold ideas, our communities—and our network—can emerge from challenging times stronger.

Session topics should be geared towards hunger relief and human services professionals with a large portion of the attendees being food shelf staff and volunteers. Topics may relate to hunger relief network foundations, adapting to current challenges, and utilizing partnerships and collaborations to amplify efforts to reduce hunger in Minnesota. Proposed topics could be in the form of informational sessions, activities that build essential skills, and exploring best practices for programs and organizations.

Topic Examples:

- Building Volunteer Engagement
- Examining Food Program Best Practices
- Grant Writing/Development
- Using Technology to Your Advantage
- Nonprofit Governance/Financial Leadership
- Marketing/Communications
- Serving Cultural Communities
- Building in Wraparound Services
- Co-creating with Community
- Effective Resource Sharing Among Partners
- Nonprofit Board Development

In recognition that our work is complex and ever-changing, we welcome timely and relevant topic proposals that are different from this list of examples.

Session Structure

Presenters can design their proposed session as they wish.

Submit a Breakout Session Presenter Proposal

To submit a Breakout Session Presenter proposal, please complete the 2026 Make Hunger History Summit Breakout Session Proposal form. If you have any questions before you submit your proposal, please email MHHsummit@2harvest.org.

[2026 Make Hunger History Summit Breakout Session Proposal Form](#)

Call for Speakers Timeline

Proposal window opens: Tuesday, September 2, 2025

Proposal window closes: Friday, September 26, 2025

Proposal review: September 26 – October 13, 2025

Notifications to invited presenters: week of October 13, 2025

Invited presenters' headshot and bio due: October 31, 2025

Breakout session planning meeting: October – November 2025

Final presentation materials due: Early February, exact deadline TBD

Selection process and criteria that will be used to evaluate proposals

- Proposals will be subject to a panel review composed of Second Harvest Heartland program staff and members of the Partner Advisory Council.

- If an applicant would like to discuss their proposal prior to presenter selections, Breakout Session organizers will be available for virtual meetings.
- Organizers are looking to invite presenters with a wide range of experiences. New-to-speaking presenters are encouraged to apply as well.
- Proposals will be evaluated on:
 - Relevance to the Make Hunger History Summit audience and event focus (30%)
 - Proposed outcomes or learnings for session attendees (30%)
 - Timeliness or urgency of the topic (15%)
 - Speaker's expertise or lived experience of the topic (15%)
 - Session structure and interactive elements (10%)

Proposal Requirements

- Presenter Information
 - Name
 - Title
 - Organization
 - Brief (3-5 sentences) on experience/expertise with the topic
- Session Details
- Logistics Information

Summit Speaker Benefits – Additional Information

- Stipend provided
- Free ticket (1) to the 2026 Make Hunger History Summit

Presenters will receive a stipend to cover travel expenses and compensate them for pre-planning and day-of commitments. Presenters will receive free admission to the 2026 Make Hunger History Summit, which will include breakfast, lunch, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages. Parking at the Heritage Center is free. All presenters receiving a stipend will be asked to submit a W-9 Form. Presenters are welcome to invite colleagues to attend by registering for the Summit at a cost of \$25 per person.

2026 Make Hunger History Summit: Program Information

The 2026 Make Hunger History Summit will feature a morning keynote, a lunch plenary, networking opportunities, and three rounds of breakout sessions. All breakout sessions will be 50-60 minutes long. All program components and breakout sessions will be held in-person, weather permitting. The full schedule will be posted on the [Make Hunger History Summit website](#) closer to the event.

Order of Events

- Welcome
- Morning Plenary
- Morning Breakout
- Lunch
- Afternoon Breakout
- Late Afternoon Breakout
- Concluding Remarks/Networking Social

We look forward to seeing your proposal and the information, ideas, and energy that you will bring to the 2026 Make Hunger History Summit! Please send any questions about the breakout sessions, proposals, or day-of logistics to

MHHsummit@2harvest.org.