



Call For Speaker Proposals
“The Faces of Aging”
Friday, May 16, 2025
New Brunswick, NJ

New Jersey Advocates for Aging Well (NJAAW) is pleased to announce its 27th annual conference, *“The Faces of Aging,”* will be held on May 16th in New Brunswick. We are currently seeking proposals for speakers and panelists. Proposals are due February 15th, 2025.

About the Conference

The annual NJAAW conference focuses on the full realm of issues facing older adults in NJ. We expect more than 300 professionals interested in making a difference in the lives of older adults. Our audience includes stakeholders in government, age-friendly initiatives, housing, health care, social services, recreation, transportation, philanthropy, education, academia, and journalism.

As one of the most diverse states in the country, New Jersey faces a broad range of challenges, strengths, and possibilities as we follow trends towards an older population. This year's theme, *“The Faces of Aging,”* will highlight the diversity of New Jersey's older residents, their distinct needs, and their common goals.

We are interested in and encourage a range of presentation styles, including expert panels, slides, videos, research, audience interaction and engagement that explore the many faces of aging here in the Garden State. Themes and topics of interest include – but are not limited to:

- Aging has many faces. Since one size does not fit all, what are the different needs, strengths and contributions of older adults? How do we address/recognize/plan for them?
- Clinically, socially, and economically, NJ's older residents have had different experiences that shape their overall wellbeing and ability to age well. What do we have in common? What are the differences we should celebrate, and which should we address?
- New Jersey is one of the most diverse states - how is that reflected in our older population? What do they *need* regarding housing, transportation, recreation, and employment? What do they *want*? And how do we listen?
- How do we address the impact a lifetime of inequity has had on many people? Can we address or undo the damage/inequities later in life?
- How can a Multi-sector Plan on Aging (MPA) help New Jersey prepare not only for a larger proportion of older residents, but how changing demographics affect all residents? And what can we learn from other states pursuing MPAs?
- How can we dispel ageism and bring aging into conversations on diversity, equity, and inclusion? Why are our older residents “lumped together” and subjected to stereotypes while we strive to celebrate diversity for younger cohorts?

- With a growing number of age-friendly communities, how successful is our progress towards becoming an age-friendly state? How are we realizing the Age-Friendly Blueprint that came out of the Age Friendly Advisory Council? What more must we do?

The conference will have two breakout sessions with the morning session starting at about 10:00 AM and the afternoon session at about 1:30 PM. Each breakout session will run approximately one hour and 15 minutes. Please build in time for questions and answers from the audience.

Proposals must be submitted by February 15th. Please answer all questions listed below, save as a .pdf and email to crowe@njaaw.org with "Conference Proposal" in the subject line. All proposals will be reviewed and speakers notified by March 1st. If accepted, you will be able to adjust details and speakers closer to the conference, and you and your fellow panelists will have complimentary admission to the complimentary.

We ask that you list all proposed speakers, not to exceed 4 per breakout session. If you feel your breakout session requires a larger number of speakers, please e-mail Cathy Rowe at crowe@NJAAW.org or call 609-421-0206 to discuss.

Speaker Proposal Questionnaire

1. Presentation title/topic:
2. Speaker information: Please list all presenters, with a maximum of 4 per breakout session.

Main speaker – this person will be the main contact and organize the other participants:

- Name and credentials as you would like it to appear in conference materials (ex: Cathy Rowe, DrPH or John Smith, MSW, MBA)
- e-mail
- Organization/affiliation
- Job title
- A brief bio (not to exceed 750 characters)

Speaker 2

- Name and credentials as you would like it to appear.
- e-mail
- Organization/affiliation
- Job title
- Bio (not to exceed 750 characters)

Speaker 3

- Name and credentials as you would like it to appear.
- e-mail
- Organization/affiliation
- Job title
- Bio (not to exceed 750 characters)

Speaker 4

- Name and credentials as you would like it to appear.
- e-mail

- Organization/affiliation
 - Job title
 - Bio (not to exceed 750 characters)
3. Please provide a description of the proposed presentation (not to exceed 2500 characters).
 4. Would you prefer to do your presentation in the morning or afternoon breakout session?
 5. Please list 2-3 learning objectives for your presentation.