

# CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

## 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Health Conference

### *Rural Healthcare Infrastructure: Vital to Population Health*

November 14-16, 2018 - Music Road Conference Center

Lodging – Music Road Hotel & Inn, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

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#### **Purpose and Goal**

The Rural Health Association of Tennessee (RHAT) Conference is an annual event whose purpose is to educate participants about health concerns affecting rural Tennessee. The goal of this year's conference is to explore the impact rural healthcare has on our population health, our rural workforce and economic base, and quality of life.

The conference reaches a diverse audience, ranging from hospital administrators, coordinated school health personnel; public health workers and administrators; county executives; legislators; school health nurses; health professions students and faculty; physicians, nurses and other providers; health educators; county health council members; rural business leaders; rural citizens and other community leaders and policy makers.

#### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

Breakout sessions last one hour and occur starting on the afternoon of November 14 through the afternoon of November 15, 2018 at the Music Road Conference Center in Pigeon Forge, TN.

Sessions should highlight positive, replicable programs and elements of health in rural Tennessee, or research that aims to improve rural health. The three focus areas are: **Health Policy and Economic Concerns, Lifestyle, Life Cycle, and Behavioral Concerns, and Access Concerns.**

Some of the topic areas that can be addressed include but are not limited to:

- Health Policy and Economic Concerns**
  - Federal funding opportunities
  - Understanding the Healthcare sector's impact on rural communities
  - Assessing the midterm elections
  - State health update
  
- Lifestyle, Life Cycle, and Behavioral Concerns**
  - Community tools to address drug abuse issues
  - Opioid epidemic
  - Smoking cessation
  - Aging issues
  - Healthy lifestyles
  - Healthy community based initiatives
  - Partnering to improve health outcomes

- Health issues for children & youth
- Unique challenges of older rural populations

□ **Access Issues**

- Innovative rural delivery models
- Small & rural hospitals, critical access hospitals & rural health clinics
- Accessing primary care providers
- Diversity issues
- Dental access for uninsured adults
- Mental health issues
- Broad band & telehealth in rural health
- School health update
- Healthcare workforce development barriers: unique challenges of rural scholars

**NOTE: Each presenter must complete a speaker information form.**

- **Deadline for receipt of proposals is May 31, 2018. Please submit via email to ([rhat@rhat.org](mailto:rhat@rhat.org)).**
- **The speaker form must be completely filled out for your session to be considered.**
- **Please feel free to share this call with colleagues.**