



Call for Workshop Presentations

The Common Cents Conference is a 2 day conference designed for all types of practitioners who care about helping families build and grow their financial health. This regional conference provides an opportunity to learn about the financial problems facing residents and innovative program models to help residents achieve all their financial dreams. The organizers of the conference are free tax preparation and asset building coalitions from Maryland, Washington D.C., and Virginia. The 2017 conference will be held September 12-13 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bethesda, MD.

For more information, please visit the Common Cents Conference website:
<http://commoncentsconference.org/>

The organizers of the Common Cents Conference invite you to submit a proposal to be a workshop presenter during the conference. We are looking for educational presentations on a variety of asset building topics including: free tax preparation; financial education; community assistance programs; creative partnerships; financial products; microenterprise development; affordable housing; and consumer protection along with behavioral economics and related research. Presenters should seek to expand participants' knowledge about the program/product/service and connect it to the opportunity to assist low to moderate income families increase their financial stability. Presentations will be grouped into a panel format based on the themes identified below so selected speakers will be one of 2-4 speakers on a common topic.

The theme of 2017 Common Cents Conference is "Inclusive by Design" and presenters are encouraged to include strategies to address how their topic is accessible by all kinds of people and how the client/customer is involved in program/product/policy design. We are specifically interested in submissions that focus on closing the racial wealth gap and improving accessibility and impact for people with disabilities and specific vulnerable populations (immigrants/refugees, low literacy or those who speak English as a Second Language, foster youth, service members and veterans, older adults, LGBTQIA).

The Planning Team is very committed to showcasing speakers that represent the broad spectrum of clients served by our organizations. Please consider diversity when selecting speakers.

Proposals will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Innovation and originality of the content
- Clear and focused learning objectives
- Significance and depth of topic
- Timeliness of topic
- The professional experience and background of the presenter(s) as evidenced by time in the profession, current position and contributions to the industry

Proposals should be organized in the format below and submitted by March 31, 2017

- Presentation Title
- Area of Focus for presentation: VITA, Financial Capability Programs, Program Development, Consumer Protection, Behavioral Economics, Research, Advocacy
- Description (Please limit to two paragraphs)
- Length of Presentation
- Learning Objectives--Specific examples of what workshop participants will learn from your presentation that they can use/implement with their clients.
- Who is your targeted audience and how much previous knowledge should the participants have in your topic?
- Are you certified to be able to provide workshop participants CEUs?
- Are you willing to give your presentation more than once?
- Speaker biography, one paragraph
- Speaker contact information (Email and Phone Number)

Selected speakers will receive an email by **April 28th, 2017**. Incomplete or late proposals will not be considered. Questions may be directed to Sue Rogan at sue@mdcash.org. Presenters will receive 50% off registration to the Common Cents Conference. Presenters are responsible for all expenses associated with attending the conference and will not be reimbursed for travel and hotel costs.

Important Dates	
March 31, 2017	Proposal Deadline
April 28, 2017	Selected Speakers notified
May 15, 2017	Final Day for Speakers to Accept
August 1, 2017	Final Presentation Due to Conference Organizers
September 12 and 13, 2017	5 rd Annual Common Cents Conference

Speaker Agreement:

All Speakers MUST:

- * Adhere to scheduled deadlines;
- * Work cooperatively to refine the presentation and integrate it with other presentations;
- * Provide the PowerPoint presentation and any handouts to the Common Cents

Organizers for review;

* Provide a photograph electronically in .JPG, .PDF or .TIF format for use in marketing materials. Preferred resolution is 300 dpi;

* Refrain from using the presentation or handout materials to showcase or promote business, product or practice for profit;

* Agree to assign to the Common Cents Conference the rights to publish their presentations in any version or translation (including CD-ROM and Online Library), separately or with other presentations. Speakers must also grant the Common Cents Conference the right to use their name, photo, and biographical information in connection with their presentation, including for promotional purposes.