

2026 Peer Recovery Call for Proposals

The 2026 Wisconsin Peer Recovery Conference will take place on **April 29 - May 1st, 2026** at the Kalahari Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI.

The WI Peer Recovery Conference Planning Committee, in conjunction with Independent Living Resources, and UW-Stevens Point (made possible by funding from the WI Department of Health Services, Division of Care and Treatment Services) is now accepting proposals for interactive **90 minute workshops**! Presenters may submit multiple proposals, panels, or proposals with a part 1 and part 2 if desired. Compensation for presenters includes a complimentary conference registration and one night of lodging.

What are we looking for? Proposals that align with our track objectives and/or demonstrate evidenced-based practices, support various pathways of recovery, as well as highlight the direct inclusion of people with lived experience following the movement of Peer Support and WI Certified Peer Specialists and Certified Parent Peer Specialists are encouraged to apply.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- 1) Speaker Qualifications- including lived experience
- 2) Session Topic/Category
- 3) Inclusion of resilience principles and practices
- 4) Promotes evidence based information and best practices
- 5) Demonstrates aspects of effective peer support within community services of mental health and substance use recovery.
- 6) Enhance individual skills to provide more effective personal support.
- 7) Explore innovative applications of peer support.
- 8) Integration of experiences of under-served, marginalized, and/or at-risk populations and communities.

Proposals are due by 11:59 PM CST Wednesday, December 31, 2026.

The Conference Steering Committee thanks you for your willingness to submit a proposal and your patience during our approval process. If you have any questions regarding the proposal submission process, please contact Nicole Ravens at nicole.ravens@ilresources.org.

Overview of questions

1. Provide a Presenter Short Biography that would be used to introduce you - Please limit to 500 characters.
2. Presenter has:
 - Certification as a Peer Specialist (CPS)
 - Certification as a Parent Peer Specialist (CPPS)
 - Lived experience with their own mental health and/or substance use recovery
 - Lived experience as a caregiver to children/youth with social, emotional, behavioral, mental health and/or substance use challenges
 - Other
3. Do you identify as a member of any of the following communities?
 - LGBTQ+
 - Racial or Ethnic Minority Group
 - Historically Marginalized
 - N/A
4. Do you have any ADA Accommodation requests or ways we can communicate more effectively together? If so, please explain.
5. Do you have a Co-Presenter?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes, provide Co-Presenter's information and same questions (2-4)

Proposed Session Information

1. Session Title
2. 2-3 sentence description for the conference brochure
3. Please provide a more in depth description of your proposed session for the Conference Steering Committee.
4. Please list 3 learning objectives for your session.
5. Please explain how you plan to tailor your presentation to those working within WI Peer Services, peers, and their allies.
6. One of our main goals for the 2026 conference is to fulfill CEU requirements of Peer Specialists. Please select which track your session most closely aligns with.
 - Parent Peer Specialist
 - Supervision of Peers
 - Cultural Humility
 - Ethics and Boundaries

- Mental Health Specific
- Trauma Informed Care
- Peer Specialist Specific