



**38th NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON SOCIAL WORK AND HIV/AIDS**

**Compassion to Action:
Renewing the Spirit of Service
in HIV Social Work**

MAY 20–23, 2026 • SAN ANTONIO, TX

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

***“Compassion to Action: Renewing the Spirit
of Service in HIV Social Work”***

WWW.PASWHA.ORG

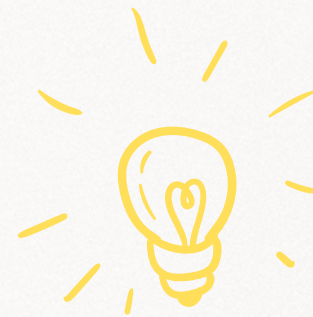
**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
January 12, 2026, 11:59 PM EST**





The Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV and AIDS (PASWHA), in partnership with Collaborative Solutions (CS), invites you to submit an abstract for presentation at the 38th National Conference on Social Work and HIV/AIDS (NCSWH).

WHY PRESENT?



Since 1988, this conference has been a cornerstone event for the HIV social work community. Presenting at NCSWH 2026 offers a unique opportunity to:

- Showcase your work to a national audience of social workers, healthcare professionals, and community advocates
- Contribute to critical conversations on chronic disease management, social determinants of health, and professional resilience
- Engage with peers through plenary sessions, pre-conference workshops, and breakout sessions focused on the evolving landscape of HIV/AIDS



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION TYPES

01

Advance Learning Intensive Pre-Conference (1/2-day session)

03

60-Minute Session:
Conversation on Best Practices

02

75-Minute Session:
Individual Workshop

04

Poster Presentation



ABSTRACT CATEGORIES



Advanced Learning Intensive Pre-Conference

The Advanced Learning Intensive Pre-conference sessions are designed to offer a deeper, more rigorous training experience than traditional breakout sessions. These sessions emphasize the practical application of social work theories and evidence-based practices, bridging the gap between conceptual frameworks and real-world implementation.



HIV & Aging

HIV & Aging sessions will explore recent advances in treatment and care. Today, people living with HIV are experiencing longer, healthier lives. As a result, more than half of individuals living with HIV in the United States are now over the age of 50.



Social Work Ethics

The Social Work Ethics session will explore the core ethical principles that guide social work practice, including respect for the dignity and worth of individuals, the importance of human relationships, and the commitment to social justice.



Innovative/Emerging Practices

Sessions will highlight cutting-edge approaches and forward-thinking strategies transforming social work practice. Participants will explore new models, technologies, and interventions that address evolving client needs and systemic challenges. Emphasis will be placed on innovation in service delivery, interdisciplinary collaboration, and culturally responsive practices that promote equity, resilience, and impact across diverse communities.

ABSTRACT CATEGORIES



Policy, Advocacy, and Systemic Change

Sessions will explore the critical role of supervision and leadership in advancing effective, ethical, and compassionate social work practice in the field of HIV/AIDS. Sessions may highlight leadership development, supervision frameworks, organizational change, and approaches to sustaining staff well-being and resilience.

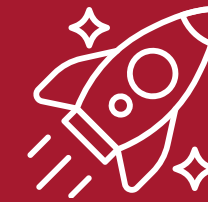


HIV 101-301

This foundational session will provide an overview of HIV, including how the virus is transmitted, prevented, and treated. Participants will learn about the stages of HIV infection, the role of antiretroviral therapy (ART), and the importance of early testing and ongoing care. The session also addresses common myths, stigma, and the social determinants that impact HIV outcomes. Ideal for those new to the field or seeking a refresher, this session equips attendees with essential knowledge to support individuals and communities affected by HIV.

HIV Criminalization

Session will explore the legal, ethical, and social implications of HIV criminalization and highlight advocacy efforts aimed at reforming or repealing these harmful laws.



Supervision & Leadership

Session will explore the critical role of social workers in dismantling HIV criminalization laws and advancing equitable access to care. Participants will examine advocacy strategies to secure fair and sustainable funding for HIV services, with a focus on marginalized communities. The session will also highlight how community-based participatory research (CBPR) can be leveraged to drive meaningful policy change, amplify lived experiences, and promote justice-centered approaches in HIV social work.

Housing and Social Determinants of Health

Sessions will address housing-first models for people living with HIV and experiencing homelessness. Addressing food insecurity and transportation barriers in HIV care. Leveraging Medicaid waivers and managed care for supportive housing.



Research and Evaluation

This session type is designed to showcase empirical research, program evaluations, and data-driven insights that inform and advance social work practice in the context of HIV/AIDS. Presentations in this category should highlight rigorous methodologies, innovative approaches to data collection and analysis, and findings that contribute to the evidence base for HIV-related services, policies, or interventions. Sessions may include quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods studies, as well as evaluations of community-based programs, clinical interventions, or policy initiatives.



PRESENTER QUALIFICATIONS

ADVANCE INTENSIVE PRE- CONFERENCE SESSION

- Hold a minimum of a master's degree in social work or a closely related field (e.g., Public Health, Psychology, Nursing).
- Ten or more years of leadership and hands-on experience in HIV/AIDS-focused service delivery, policy development, or research initiatives.
- Demonstrate leadership and impact in clinical, community-based, or policy-focused settings relevant to HIV/AIDS and social work.

60-MINUTE SESSIONS

- The lead presenter is a faculty member of an accredited undergraduate or graduate school of social work.
- The lead presenter has completed specialized graduate or postgraduate training in the subject matter of the program

75-MINUTE SESSION

- The lead presenter is a faculty member of an accredited undergraduate or graduate school of social work.
- The lead presenter has received specialized graduate or postgraduate level training in the subject taught in the program.
- The lead presenter has extensive experience including no less than five years of practical application or research involving the subject taught on the course.

POSTER SESSIONS

- The lead presenter has received specialized undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate level training in the subject taught in the program.

PRESENTATION FORMATS

▶ In-Person Session

To maximize interaction and collaboration, in-person sessions are highly encouraged and will receive priority over virtual options.

▶ Mixed Hybrid Session

A mixed hybrid session blends in-person delivery with virtual participation options, offering flexibility for presenters and attendees

▶ Poster Sessions Only

Poster sessions must be presented in person onsite at the conference venue. Virtual or hybrid options are not available for this format. This ensures that presenters can engage directly with attendees, answer questions, and foster meaningful dialogue during the scheduled poster session.



ABSTRACT LAYOUT

Session Content & Relevance

- Session Title?
- Session Description?
- Provide three learning objectives. What will participants learn or gain?
- How does your session connect to the conference theme? (Compassion to Action: Renewing the Spirit of Service in HIV Social Work)
- What social work theories, models, or frameworks will be applied or discussed?

Presenter Expertise

- Briefly describe your professional background and experience related to HIV/AIDS and social work.
- What qualifies you to lead this session? Include leadership roles, publications, or relevant projects.

Session Format & Engagement

- What format will your session use? (e.g., lecture, interactive workshop, panel, case study)
- How will you engage participants in active learning or discussion?
- Will you include any multimedia, handouts, or tools to support learning?

Impact & Innovation

- How does your session address current challenges or gaps in HIV/AIDS social work?
- What innovative practices or emerging trends will be highlighted?
- How can participants apply what they learn in their own practice or communities?

Logistics & Accessibility

- Are there any special equipment or room setup needs for your session?
- Do you have any accessibility considerations for your presentation?

Lived Experience Statement (Optional but Encouraged)

As part of our commitment to equity, inclusion, and honoring diverse perspectives, we invite presenters to include a Lived Experience Statement in their abstract submission.

This optional section allows presenters to reflect on how their personal, professional, or community-based experiences have shaped their work in HIV/AIDS-related social work.

Note: Lived experience statements are not scored for eligibility but may be considered in the overall review to ensure diverse representation and meaningful engagement.

CONTACT US

Phone

205-939-0411

Email

Valencia@collaborative-solutions.net

Website

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