



COLORADO

**Division of Homeland Security
& Emergency Management**

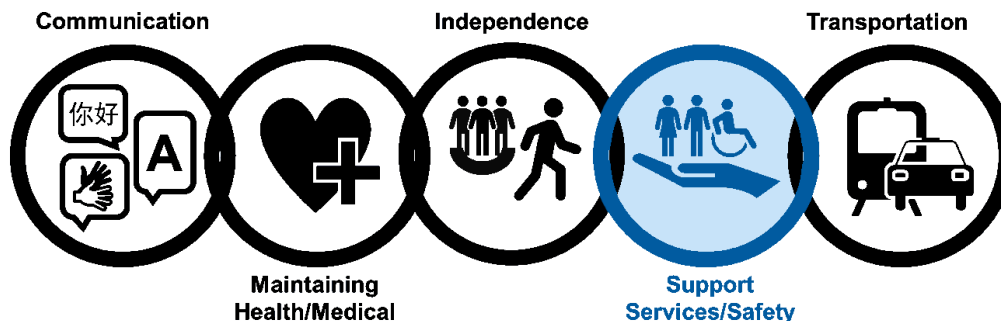
Department of Public Safety

Know Before You Go

2024 Access and Functional Needs Conference

April 9-11, 2024 | Great Wolf Lodge, 9494 Federal Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Website: [2024 AFN Conference](https://www.coafn.com) | Social Media: #COAFN2024



2024 Theme: Support Services and Safety Resources

This year's conference will feature presentations, panels, and discussions focused on Support Services and Safety Resources (the "S" in CMIST). For more information about the CMIST Resource Memory Tool, see the [Access and Functional Needs Resource Framework flyer](#).

Schedule and Location

To view panel descriptions, speaker information, break and meal times, and more, see the [Conference Agenda](#).

For a brief overview of the schedule, see the [Schedule At A Glance](#).

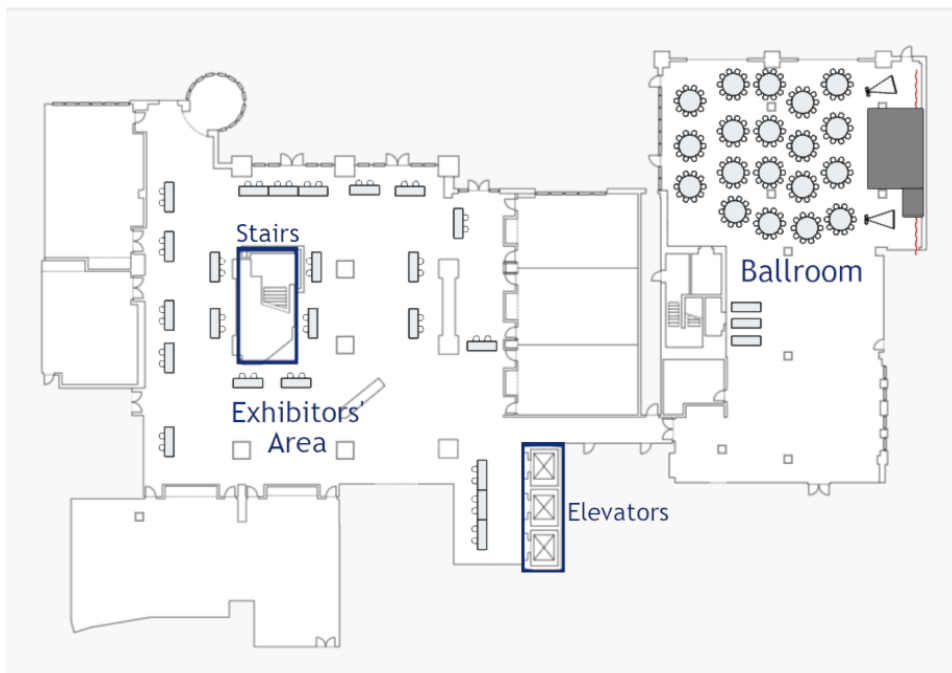
Location

Great Wolf Lodge, 9494 Federal Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80921.
For directions, see the [Great Wolf Lodge website](#).



Facility Map

Conference sessions will be held in the White Pine Ballroom on the basement level of the Great Wolf Lodge.



Accessibility

Accommodations

For questions about conference accommodations, email cdps_dhsem_afn@state.co.us or call 720-610-1691. The following accommodations will be provided:

- American Sign Language Interpretation
- Spanish Interpretation
- Hearing Loops
- Mobility Access
- Closed Captioning



For information about hotel accommodations, visit the [Great Wolf Lodge website](#).

Service Animals

Service animals as defined by the ADA are allowed in all areas of the Great Wolf Lodge. Please note that service animals are not allowed in hotel pools or waterparks. All other non-service animals and pets are not allowed at the Great Wolf Lodge.

Quiet Rooms

Three quiet rooms will be available throughout the conference.

Get Involved

Panel Questions

Panel sessions and presentations will include time for audience questions. To submit a question, use the [online form](#) (click the link or scan the QR code below):



Questions may also be submitted using alternate formats:

- In-person attendees: Fill out a blank notecard provided on ballroom tables.
- Virtual attendees: Use the Zoom Q&A tool (questions submitted via Zoom Chat may not be addressed).

Networking

To maximize your networking opportunities at this year's event:

- Use hashtag **#COAFN2024** to connect with attendees on social media, post and view event photos, and share your favorite conference moments.
- If you are attending in person, we encourage you to attend the Exhibitors' Networking Social on April 10th at 5:30 PM MST!
- If you are attending virtually, use Zoom features like chat and Q&A to actively engage with speakers and attendees.

Tips for Virtual Attendees

Zoom

Virtual attendance will be provided via Zoom. We recommend logging in 5-10 minutes early to ensure you can access the Zoom link, test your audio/video, and access requested accommodations.

Audio/Video

You are welcome to leave your camera on or off for the event. Please keep your microphone muted to minimize possible disruptions.

Tips for In-Person Attendees

Name Tags and Materials

Check-in at the conference registration table located outside of the White Pine Ballroom (basement level) to receive your conference name tag and materials.

Wi-fi

The Great Wolf Lodge provides complimentary high speed wireless Internet in the ballroom area.

Meals

All meals and refreshment breaks listed below are provided for conference attendees.

****Please review the [Meal and Snack Selections](#) to plan your meals and bring snacks according to your dietary needs****

- **Tuesday, April 9**
 - ****Please note that lunch will not be provided. Please plan to eat ahead of time and bring snacks if needed****
 - Light refreshments | 2:15 PM MT
 - Dinner | 5:30 PM MT (advanced notice required)
- **Wednesday, April 10**
 - Lunch | 11:00 AM MT
 - Light refreshments | 1:55 PM MT
 - Exhibitors' Networking Social | 5:30 PM MT (Two complimentary drinks provided, additional cash bar available)
- **Thursday, April 11**
 - Breakfast | 7:30 AM MT
 - Light refreshments | 10:40 AM MT
 - Boxed lunches To-Go | 12:30 PM MT

Exhibitors and On-Site Services

Exhibitor booths will be open on Wednesday, April 10th. Stop by to learn about a variety of support service partners and enjoy several on-site services, including:

- Professional headshots: Visit Monica Gilliam's booth. No appointment necessary. The service is complimentary (optional recommended donation of \$20). This opportunity is brought to you by the Rocky Mountain Medical Reserve Corps.
- Interactive Accessibility Experience: Stop by the University of Colorado Denver's Center for Inclusive Design and Engineering (CIDE) booth for an interactive accessibility experience, including backup power resources.
- Acupuncture: The Colorado Acupuncture Medical Reserve Corps (CAMRC) team of licensed acupuncturists will be offering acupuncture services to conference attendees. We have been deployed in a variety of situations to help calm stress, alleviate pain, and promote resiliency and wellness before, during, and after a disaster response. Stop by to receive a treatment or to learn more about this service. Please eat a snack and refrain from alcohol consumption prior to treatment.

Hotel Amenities and Area Attractions

Conference attendees and their guests staying at the Great Wolf Lodge may take advantage of many on-site activities and amenities. For more information, see the [Great Wolf Lodge resort amenities](#). For recommended area attractions, see [Great Wolf Lodge suggestions](#).

Health and Wellness

To protect the health of conference attendees, we encourage the following:

- Please be up-to-date on COVID-19 boosters and flu shots. If you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, are experiencing symptoms, or have a positive test, please do not attend the event. Here is the updated [Respiratory Virus Guidance](#).
- Face masks are welcome.
- Please limit the use of fragrant products (e.g. perfumes, colognes, lotions, powders) in consideration for attendees with sensitivity and/or allergies to fragrant products.
- Color-coded stickers will allow guests to indicate their preferred social distancing:
 - **Red** = Greet from 6 feet
 - **Yellow** = Elbows only

- **Green**= Handshakes and high-fives allowed

Weather, Altitude, & Wildlife

April temperatures in Colorado Springs range from 30-60 degrees (average of 48 degrees) and snowfall averages 5.5 inches. Weather can be unpredictable and change quickly. Dress in layers to prepare for a range of temperatures, sunshine, and snowfall.

Colorado Springs is at an altitude of 6,035 feet. To minimize altitude sickness, drink plenty of fluids prior to arriving in Colorado and stay hydrated throughout the event.

The city is adjacent to many natural areas and you may encounter wildlife. For the safety of yourself and the animal, do not approach or attempt to feed wildlife.

Health and Medical Services

Within 5 miles of the Great Wolf Lodge:

- Emergency Room: UC Health Emergency Room, 13510 Meadowgrass Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80921
- Urgent Care: UC Health Urgent Care, 13445 Voyager Pkwy, Colorado Springs, CO 80921
- Behavioral Health: Family Care Center, 9524 Federal Dr, Suite 120, Colorado Springs, CO 80921
- Pharmacy: Walmart Pharmacy, 8250 Razorback Rd, Colorado Springs, CO 80920
- Local Resource Assistance: United Way 211 Help Center, (Dial 2-1-1)
- Non-Emergency Dispatch: Colorado Springs Police Department, (719) 444-7000

Need Help?

During the event, volunteers in orange vests will be on-site to assist with conference information and requests. Volunteers will also be stationed at the check-in table throughout the event if you need assistance.

Contact Us

Questions? Email us at cdps_dhsem_afn@state.co.us. The Colorado DHSEM AFN team looks forward to seeing you in April!



Sadie Martinez

Access and Functional Needs Program Supervisor

Email: sadie.martinez@state.co.us | Cell: 720.610.1691



Tim Mann

Regional Whole Community Inclusion Planning Specialist

Email: tim.mann@state.co.us | Cell: 720.483.5715



Hannah Hoffmann

Regional Whole Community Inclusion Planning Specialist

Email: hannah.hoffmann@state.co.us | Cell: 720.391.6287