

2025 NASW–NE Annual Conference Social Work: Compassion + Action

Thursday and Friday, September 18th and 19th, 2025

Nebraska Innovation Campus, 2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE 68508

Breakout Sessions

Submission Deadline: [July 21st, 2025](#)

The NASW-NE Conference Committee invites community leaders, educators, practitioners, and innovators to be a part of a dynamic and impactful conference experience. With more breakout sessions across two full days and expanded CEU opportunities, this year’s event is designed to inspire, challenge, and connect professionals across the state.

The NASW-NE Conference Committee is now accepting proposals for **75- or 120-minute** breakout sessions at the 2025 Annual Conference. We invite submissions that reflect bold ideas, grounded practice, and real-world impact.

Whether your work is rooted in research, lived experience, innovation, or interdisciplinary collaboration, we welcome proposals that contribute meaningful dialogue and practical tools to social work and other helping professionals.

Help shape this year’s conference by presenting on one of the topic areas below.

Political Anxiety & Collective Grounding

- Strategies for navigating political fear; activism burnout, or climate anxiety; Tools for civic resilience and collective healing; Therapeutic tools, historical trauma, civic empowerment, and communal coping strategies rooted in justice.

Displacement and Grief

- Environmental displacement, refugee experiences, adoption/foster grief, or cultural erasure; Grief models, community restoration, and identity anchoring.

Mutual Aid Networks

- Reframe mutual aid as a model of community care, housing justice, disaster response, and food sovereignty.

Immigration & Migration Justice

- Advocacy and healing with immigrant and refugee communities; DACA, asylum systems, family separation, or bicultural mental health practices, advocacy and healing in migration work; Legal, ethical, and therapeutic intersections.

Nonviolent Protest & Resistance

- Protest as ethical social work practice; Tools for safety, solidarity, and story-based organizing; youth organizing, and historical lessons; or coalition-building.

Trauma-Informed Prevention

- Trauma-informed approaches in schools and communities, with individuals and families; harm reduction, and restorative models; Alternatives to criminalization and over-surveillance

Perinatal Mood & Mental Health

- Supporting birthing people through postpartum and beyond, addressing disparities and integrating support systems; Racial disparities, trauma-informed postpartum care, or integrating doulas and therapists in perinatal teams.

Eating Disorders Across Identities

- Beyond stereotypes: ED care for diverse populations; Addressing weight stigma and access barriers; Body image, food insecurity, medical bias, and culturally competent care in eating disorder treatment.

Identity, Gender, and Autonomy

- Explore affirming, evidence-informed approaches to working with LGBTQIA2S+ clients across the lifespan; Address the impact of current policies, political rhetoric, and identity-based harm; Gender affirming care, identity safety, and healing-centered practice; Ethical responsibilities in advocacy, referrals, and documentation.

Solving Radical Problems Together

- Interdisciplinary and intergenerational dialogue to tackle systemic oppression, climate change, and environmental injustice; Collaborative, justice-centered solutions; Strategies rooted in equity, community care, and climate action; Connect social work with public health, education, organizing, and environmental movements.

Stress Management, Differently

- Reframing meaningful self-care; Collective care and nervous system work; Restorative practices; Joy for healing and sustainability.

Student Athletes & Mental Health

- Supporting the whole person beyond performance; Addressing pressure, identity, and transitions; Elevate interdisciplinary campus approaches.

Advocacy In Action

- Teaching professionals and clients how to organize; Strategy and tools for civic action; Demystifying policy, budgeting, and systems change; Making macro approachable for students and clinicians; Storytelling as a tool for impact; Bold approaches to community and institutional transformation

Diagnosis & Treatment of Major Mental Illness

- Navigating Complex Diagnoses with Compassion and Competence; Deepen understanding of mood disorders, psychosis, and co-occurring conditions; Diagnostic nuance across race, culture, gender, and systemic oppression

Ethics in an Uncertain Landscape

- Navigating ethical dilemmas amid shifting laws, policies, and political agendas; Responding to legislation that conflicts with professional values and client rights; Applying the NASW Code of Ethics in real-world, high-stakes scenarios; Supporting ethical decision-making in practice, documentation, and advocacy

Please consider innovative and transformative ideas, approaches, skills and solutions that align with Social Work core values:

- Social Justice
- Integrity
- Competence
- Service
- Importance of Human Relationships
- Dignity and Worth of the Person

Presenter Perks and Benefits:

- **Exclusive Access:** Opportunity to connect with the keynote speaker in a private conversation or small-group setting
- **Discounted Conference Attendance:** Presenters receive 50% off conference registration, including access to all CEU-eligible sessions
- **Free NASW-NE CEUs for 12 months:** Presenters can register for future CEU opportunities offered by NASW-NE through August 2026. Promo code will be provided
- **Professional Feature Spotlight:** Highlight your experience, bio, and business/company in pre-conference promotion (e.g., newsletters, social media, website) and conference brochure
- **Post-Conference Platform:** Option to submit follow-up tools, information to be shared on NASW-NE website, newsletter, social media platforms, or to provide followup webinar to extend the impact of the session.
- **Free Access to Recorded Sessions:** Complimentary access to recorded conference content, offering continued learning and CEU's

- **Feedback and Evaluation Summary:** Presenters receive anonymized feedback summaries from attendees to support growth, grant applications, and future speaking opportunities.
- **Earn Recognition as a CEU Instructor:** Receive documentation that reflects your role as a CEU educator—results in additional CEU for presentation content planning.
- **Connection to Future Opportunities:** Presenters may be invited to lead additional NASW trainings, contribute to chapter events, or join working groups aligned with their topic.

***Audiovisual equipment**

LCD Projector, screen and Wifi will be available for all sessions

***Handouts**

Paper Handouts are the responsibility of the presenter. Digital copies will be made available to conference attendees.

Proposal Decision Timeline:

<p>July 21, 2025 RFP received by NASW-NE Conference Planning Committee</p>
<p>August 1, 2025 Notice of selection for conference presentation</p>
<p>September 12, 2025 Presenter electronic materials DUE to NASW-NE Conference Planning Committee (handouts, slides, etc)</p>
<p>September 18/19, 2025 Conference Presentations</p>

[SUBMIT PROPOSAL](#)