**Show your organization how your attendance at the 2023 Accelerating Health Equity Conference will strengthen your performance and benefit those you serve.**

**Overview**

Attending the Accelerating Health Equity Conference is a cost-effective professional and organizational development choice. It is the most relevant and densely packed educational and networking opportunity available to community health professionals like you. You will experience a full year of benefits in the form of new and greater knowledge that you can apply directly to achieving your organization's goals.

Here are tips for getting support to attend the Accelerating Health Equity Conference:

* Explain in specific terms what you will gain by attending and how that will benefit your work, your organization's goals and your community.
* Offer to prepare and deliver a briefing to your colleagues and/or the leadership team to share what you learn so that others in your division will receive the benefits of your attendance.
* Share speaker handouts and slide decks with your colleagues. As an attendee, you will have unlimited access to speakers' materials.
* Explain the need to stay abreast of new developments and to acquire valuable tools, perspectives and relationships that will help your organization anticipate and adapt to the future.
* Prepare a plan showing who will cover for you and how critical work will get done while you are attending the conference.
* Highlight the list of reputable organizations that support our conference. Please visit our 2022 and 2021 archive pages to see a complete list of supporters:

  [2022 Accelerating Health Equity Conference | Equity Conference (aha.org)](https://equityconference.aha.org/2022)

[2021 Accelerating Health Equity Conference | Equity Conference (aha.org)](https://equityconference.aha.org/2021%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**Talking Points**

Use or adapt any of the points below to help you communicate the purpose of this conference and why it is important for you to attend.

What is the Accelerating Health Equity Conference?

* The conference is the annual meeting organized by AHA Community Health Improvement (ACHI) network and the Institute for Diversity and Health Equity (IFDHE), both part of the American Hospital Association.
* The three-day event focuses on sharing considerable expertise, evidence-based tools and resources, and success stories from the field to help hospitals, health systems and community partners improve the health and well-being for all people.
* The conference attracts more than 700 attendees, particularly frontline leaders from hospitals, health systems, public health and community-based organizations. It provides educational programming and networking opportunities for professionals working to improve the health of the communities they serve.

What is ACHI?

* The AHA Community Health Improvement network, an affiliate of the American Hospital Association, is the premier national association for community health, community benefit and population health professionals. We provide educational resources and tools, professional development and networking opportunities to help health leaders expand their knowledge and enhance their performance in achieving community health goals.
* ACHI is a personal membership group of the American Hospital Association and is one of AHA's primary vehicles for supporting hospitals and health systems in fulfilling their community health and community benefit program activities.

What is IFDHE?

* The [Institute for Diversity and Health Equity](https://ifdhe.aha.org/) advances diversity, health equity and inclusion by working closely with hospitals and health systems to achieve health equity. IFDHE serves as a trusted partner by disseminating evidence-informed practices, resources and innovations that lead to sustainable transformation in health care.
* IFDHE envisions a society of equitable and just communities where all individuals reach their highest potential for health. Through strategic partnerships, innovative frameworks and data collection, IFDHE seeks to eliminate structural barriers that compromise diversity, equity and inclusion.

Why attend the Accelerating Health Equity Conference?

* Health equity and community health are the future of the U.S. health care system, and the field is adapting to new requirements and opportunities. Be at the forefront of this evolving environment by learning and networking at the Accelerating Health Equity conference. Learn what strategies, tactics and organizational capacities are being adopted by your peer organizations to make an impact on community health, equity and inclusion.
* The Accelerating Health Equity Conference is a symposium that takes a systems approach of health improvement through its unique blend of community health, health equity, diversity, inclusion, and population health. Educational content includes leading edge practices across the country and the latest research on how health care systems can collaborate with community partners to improve health.
* Now is the moment to address long-standing health disparities that prevent individuals from achieving their highest potential of health. The conference unites thought leaders and prominent stakeholders to build, strengthen and develop more integrated approaches to advance health equity. Attendees will learn the latest proven practices that will improve health outcomes among historically disadvantaged communities.
* It is the largest gathering of hospital-based community health vice presidents, DE&I officers, managers and division heads, with more than 700 attendees. You can see who is attending and connect with other attendees via the conference mobile app,

**Benefits of Participation**

Continuing Education Credits

We are proud to offer [American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE)](http://www.ache.org/) credits. A Certificate of Attendance will be available after the conference to those who complete the evaluation.

Benefits from the educational program

State your organization’s specific goals or needs, and then explain how components of the conference will help meet those needs.

Session content: Which topic tracks or specific sessions have relevance to your department or organization's priorities and goals? Are there sessions that will provide insight into a particular challenge or goal your organization is facing? Identify specifically what you can use and how.

Training and skills development: Which sessions are most relevant to your professional development goals or your organization's expectations of you? What new skills or approaches will you bring back?

Strategic benefits from the educational program

“The field is changing rapidly and in uncertain ways. Our organization needs to anticipate, understand and adapt to changes both in the policy environment and in professional practice. The Accelerating Health Equity Conference will show how hospitals and their community partners are leading the health care transformation to promote community health improvement.”

“Attending the Accelerating Health Equity Conference will enable us to see how the field is changing: population health management, the evolving role of community benefit professionals, the need for developing an equitable approach in hospital policies and practices and a multisector collaboration for improving population health.

Networking benefits

“This conference will enable us to meet and interact with stakeholders, hospital and community health leaders and health system professionals in similar roles from organizations around the country. We will be able to take the pulse of what our peer organizations are talking about and planning for and how they are accomplishing [specific goal or activity].”

Team capacity-building benefits

“The conference will help build our team by providing a forum for team members to learn and discuss best practices, new tools and emerging trends. Doing this together will build a shared knowledge base for applying this information to improve our strategies, programs, processes and outcomes.”

Exhibit hall benefits

“The conference will showcase leading vendors with tools and services for health promotion, program design and evaluation, community health assessment and community benefit. The Accelerating Health Equity Conference is an opportunity to meet a variety of vendors, collect information and compare competing firms.”

**Post-Conference Key Learnings**

Commit to preparing and sharing a conference report with your team to convey key information about the conference to people who did not attend. Examples of information you might include are:

* Executive summary of key themes, concerns, ideas and promising practices.
* Keynote session highlights.
* Specific breakout session highlights (e.g., program ideas or recommendations).
* Networking opportunities (e.g., who you met, why they are important, and the professional benefits of building a relationship with them).
* Information about products and services gathered from conversations with vendors in the exhibit hall.

We look forward to seeing you at the Accelerating Health Equity Conference!