

# Request for Presenters

## Developing Vibrant Communities Conference

August 6-7, 2020

Detroit, MI

The Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD) and the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM) are currently seeking innovative and engaging speakers and presenters focused on community economic development and financial empowerment in Michigan for the annual Developing Vibrant Communities (DVC) conference.

The Developing Vibrant Communities (DVC) conference is designed to inspire and equip practitioners and advocates with the **community economic development** and **financial empowerment strategies** needed to positively transform their communities. This is CEDAM & CDAD's premier training event for those working to make their communities empowered, sustainable, and vibrant.

CDAD and CEDAM welcome proposals from regional, statewide, national, and international speakers and presenters who wish to bring their expertise and passion to the conference.

CDAD & CEDAM are committed to creating an equitable conference. We welcome and encourage those who live or identify within marginalized communities to submit proposals.

Interested presenters should submit a proposal including name, affiliation, contact information, and a brief description of the proposed session. The description should include:

- Session title
- Objective
- Audience
- Content level (beginner, intermediate or advanced)
- Method of delivery, if unique,
- Indicate if a plenary speaker position or a breakout session is sought.

We encourage you to submit a video of prior presentations if available. Free conference registration will be offered to session presenters. Sessions will be 75 minutes (suggested content length is one hour with 10-15 minutes for questions) and keynote presentations will be one hour.

This is an opportunity to showcase topics critical to community economic development and financial empowerment in a way that engages the audience, facilitates discussion of new ideas and moves ideas to action!

***We encourage session submissions looking at topics through an equity lens.***

Topics of interest for the 2020 conference include (but are not limited to):

**Neighborhood-based housing and real estate development**

- Permanent supportive housing/ senior housing
- Cost engineering from a green perspective
- Small-scale housing development
- Engaging residents in housing development processes

**Financial empowerment**

- Servicing persons with disabilities
- Municipal-based financial empowerment solutions
- Advancements in financial technology (fintech)
- Student debt and college affordability

**Policy and advocacy**

- History of fair housing legislation
- Current fair housing rules
- Proactive advocacy strategies
- Affordable housing policy or other community economic development policy issues

**Capacity Building**

- Nonprofit fund development
- Nonprofit communications
- Developing the next generation of community economic development professionals

**We are also seeking creative and engaging topics that explore innovative models and alternative approaches to community economic development.**

Please contact Emily Reyst at 517.485.3588 or [emily@cedamichigan.org](mailto:emily@cedamichigan.org) if have any questions or would like to discuss your session idea.

Proposals are due by **Friday, March 6, 2020**. Proposals can be electronically submitted through this [google form](#). More information about this event is available [here](#).