communities of excellence 2026 2023 Fall Conference



inspire INCLUSIVITY • inspire INNOVATION • inspire IMPROVEMENT

Monday, October 16 • Milwaukee, WI

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7:30 – 8:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:00 am Welcome Session: Stephanie Norling

9:00 – 9:50 am Opening Keynote: Duane Reynolds, MHA

Duane Reynolds, MHA, is the Chief Health Equity Officer and President of the Chartis Center for Health Equity & Belonging. Recognized by countless organizations as a change maker within healthcare, Duane has helped to lead the national conversation around health equity and belonging.

10:00 - 10:50 am BREAKOUT SESSIONS

inspire IMPROVEMENT: Getting Started with the National Learning Collaborative Develop an understanding of what is needed to form a community excellence group.

inspire IMPROVEMENT: Cohort Sessions

Reconnect and network with fellow cohort members and prepare for the year ahead.

11:00 - 11:50 am BREAKOUT SESSIONS

inspire INCLUSIVITY: Inclusive Leadership

Discover best practices for engaging others and discuss the importance of diverse perspectives in your community excellence journey.

inspire INNOVATION: Designing Processes to Drive Innovation

Understand and practice the fundamentals of process architecture and discover how process design can support innovation.

inspire IMPROVEMENT: Making Sense of Metrics

Learn about new resources available through Tapp Network as part of the Common Community Scorecard Toolkit and learn how one community is using data for more informed decision-making.

12:00 – 1:00 pm Networking Lunch

1:00 – 2:15 pm inspire INNOVATION: Lightning Round Sessions

Hear from communities about their community excellence journey in this interactive, rapid-fire session.

2:30 – 3:20 pm inspire INCLUSIVITY: Using Data to Develop Inclusive Strategies

Expand your knowledge of how data segmentation can lead to more equitable and inclusive strategies.

inspire IMPROVEMENT: Making the Most of the Assessment Program

Gain helpful tips for writing a COE application and for effectively using your feedback report.

2:30 - 3:20 pm

inspire INNOVATION: Leveraging Innovative Communication Strategies for Resource Development

Understand how innovative and effective communication can help accelerate your resource development goals.

3:30 – 4:30 pm Closing Keynote: Paul Schmitz Keynote

Paul Schmitz builds the collective leadership of organizations and communities to achieve greater social impact through his roles as Senior Advisor at The Collective Impact Forum and CEO of Leading Inside Out. He is also the author of Everyone Leads: Building Leadership from the Community Up, and the former CEO of Public Allies, where he helped more than 5,000 diverse young adults begin careers working for community and social change.

5:00 pm Alliance for Performance Excellence Reception

All sessions on Monday will take place at the Italian Community Center located in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. The Italian Community Center is located approximately a half-mile from the conference hotel.

