

POWER OF PLAY CONFERENCE

Request for Presentations

Deadline for Submission: September 18, 2025



The National Inclusion Project (NIP) invites you to submit a proposal for the 15th annual Power of Play conference. The conference will convene virtually Monday-Friday, November 3-7, 2025. As always, the conference provides participants the strategies, resources, and best practices needed to make inclusion possible across all settings, in all activities, for all children.

The purpose of NIP's Power of Play conference is to provide an annual event for professionals from various fields to learn from and network with each other. The conference connects hundreds of educators, therapists, advocates, researchers, academics, and specialists who are passionate about inclusive play and committed to ensuring no child sits on the sidelines.

The National Inclusion Project operates on three core beliefs: EVERY child can participate, EVERY child can make a friend, and EVERY child can succeed. It is our mission to make the inclusion of children with disabilities the EXPECTATION, not the exception. We provide community organizations, schools, and recreation programs the training, tools, and support needed to ensure children with disabilities are included in ALL of their activities and programs.

Presenting at Power of Play helps to build a world-wide community of practice in inclusive recreation. It connects you to like-minded colleagues and programs doing similar mission-driven work. It provides you complimentary conference registration and 6-month free access to all presentation recordings, materials, and resources. Above all it helps NIP shine a spotlight on the extraordinary things you and your program are doing to make inclusion a reality for the children and families you serve.

Important Dates

- September 18, 2025: Presentation proposals due (email as attachments to amandakloo@inclusionproject.org)
- September 20, 2025: Notification of presentation acceptance
- September 20-October 8, 2025: Optional NIP-guided recording sessions for presenters needing technical support
- October 8, 2025: Final recordings of all LEARN and ADAPT presentations due. Supplemental materials/files for all LEARN, ADAPT, and EMPOWER presentations due. (Dropbox link will be provided.)
- November 3-7, 2025: Power of Play!

Presentation Types

LEARN - "Learn" presentations are 30-45 minute pre-recorded sessions that are aligned to the [Standards for Inclusive Recreation Programs](#). The format mirrors a traditional conference presentation during which the speakers share content, information, research, strategies, etc. via a slide presentation (PowerPoint, Canva, Google Slides, or similar platform).

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- Presenters will submit a recorded video of the presentation along with any downloadable handouts or materials that supplement the content. (NIP will provide technological assistance and support for recording, if needed.) The recording and materials will be posted on the conference website starting November 3rd for attendees to view anytime with follow-up opportunities for live discussion/interaction with you during the “Include” sessions via Zoom November 5th and 6th.

ADAPT - “Adapt” presentations are 15-20 minute pre-recorded mini-sessions that demonstrate an inclusion strategy, inclusive game, creative craft, accessible activity, adaptation tip, etc. The format should be a walk-through or demonstration of practical strategies or engaging activities to be a resource, idea, or tool practitioners can add to their repertoire/inclusive programming toolbox.

- Presenters will submit a recorded video demonstrating the tip/activity/strategy along with any downloadable instruction sheets or additional materials to guide implementation. (NIP will provide technological assistance and support for recording, if needed.) The recording and materials will be posted on the conference website starting November 3rd for attendees to view anytime with follow-up opportunities for live discussion/interaction with you during the “Include” sessions via Zoom November 5th and 6th.

INCLUDE - “Include” sessions are 30-minute live Q&A sessions scheduled for November 5th and 6th featuring session presenters. They are open discussion forums during which conference attendees will comment on/ask questions about the presentations viewed and topics discussed throughout the conference.

- No proposals are required for these sessions-- all “Learn” or “Adapt” presenters will be asked to schedule an “Include” session upon acceptance of their proposals. Presenters are required to submit starter discussion prompts in item 7 of their presentation proposal (see below) to spark audience discussion/engagement.

EMPOWER - “Empower” sessions are new to Power of Play this year in response to experienced professionals’ demand for more advanced content. These are 1.5 hour live/synchronous virtual sessions on Friday November 7th via Zoom. Each features multiple veteran professionals and field experts who will dive deeply into crucial topics impacting inclusive practice. Speakers will present 45 minutes of high-level content then facilitate a 45-minute interactive panel discussion with conference attendees to unpack important issues, answer thought-provoking questions, and broaden viewpoints.

- Proposals should focus on challenging issues facing the field to stretch professional skills and enrich expertise. Sessions will include up to 3 speakers. If a proposal with fewer than 3 speakers is submitted, NIP may pair/team you with additional speakers to fill a panel. Presenters are required to submit sample discussion prompts in item 7 of the presentation proposal (see below) to foster deeper exploration of their topic with the audience. Presenters (and co-presenters) must be available to present live Friday November 7th. NIP will coordinate session times/assignments (TBD 9am-5pm EST) upon proposal acceptance.

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Presentation Proposal Form

(Please use this as a template for your proposal.)

Presenters are welcome to submit multiple proposals for different presentation types. Please submit a separate, complete proposal for EACH session including the following items. Submit all proposals as email attachments to amandakloo@inclusionproject.org by September 18, 2025.

1. Presentation Type:

- ☐ 30-45 minute “Learn” Session
- ☐ 15-20 minute “Adapt” Session
- ☐ 1.5 hour “Empower” Session

****NIP may suggest an alternative session type based on your proposal content to align with the overall conference structure.****

2. Presenter Information:

- **Presenter(s) Name(s) (Please detail information for all co-presenters as well.)**
- Title(s)/Role(s)
- Organization(s)
- Presenter(s') Contact Information (email, phone, address)
- Organization(s') Contact Information (website, social media)
- What best describes your allyship with NIP? (choose all that apply)
 - ☐ Past POP Attendee/Participant
 - ☐ Past POP Presenter
 - ☐ NIP Partner Program (Let's All Play, Inclusion Training(s), Inclusion Partnership, etc.)
 - ☐ NIP free Online Resources
 - ☐ NIP Accredited Program
 - ☐ NIP Inclusive Recreation Specialist Course
 - ☐ NIP/ASU Accessibility & Inclusion Advocate Course
 - ☐ New to NIP
 - ☐ Other

3. Presentation Audience/Level:

- ☐ Novice
- ☐ Emerging
- ☐ Advanced
- ☐ All Levels

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4. Presentation Title

5. Presentation Summary (100-word summary or abstract to be posted on the Power of Play website)

6. Learning Objectives (2-3 learning objectives or participant outcomes)

7. Discussion Prompts (2-3 reflection questions or conversation starters to prompt audience discussion about the presentation during the live INCLUDE or EMPOWER session!)

*** Ask questions & submit proposals to amandakloo@inclusionproject.org. ***

Thank you for your support of NIP's Power of Play Conference!