



Deadline April 1st!

The Street Medicine Institute is excited to announce the 15th annual International Street Medicine Symposium, to be held Monday, October 21 – Wednesday, October 23, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. A special pre-symposium *Street Medicine 101* workshop will also be offered on Sunday, October 20, 2019 for interested participants. Many thanks to Pittsburgh Mercy's Operation Safety Net and the Center for Inclusion Health at Allegheny Health Network for hosting this special celebration of 15 years of street medicine symposia.

Information about registration and lodging, and the preliminary program schedule will be posted at www.streetmedicine.org by June 2019. The symposium will be held at the iconic [August Wilson Center](#) in the cultural district of Pittsburgh.

Call for Presenters

The organizing committee of the International Street Medicine Symposium (ISMS) is pleased to extend an open invitation for presentation proposal submissions. **All submissions should be completed via this website:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ISMS15proposals>.

While we are particularly interested in exploring themes related to sustainability and longevity of Street Medicine programs, clinical topics in Street Medicine, street-based addictions treatment models, inter-agency collaboration across the spectrum of homelessness, streets-to-housing initiatives, integration of Street Medicine programming into local hospitals and academic institutions, advocacy and policy work aimed to improve the lives of rough sleepers, and Street Medicine-specific data collection and research, submissions in any topic area related to the health care of UNSHELTERED OR ROUGH-SLEEPER homeless populations are welcome. Topics that apply broadly to all people experiencing homelessness, without a specific focus on rough sleepers, will not be considered. Street Medicine providers and related organizations are encouraged to submit proposals for one of the following three presentation format categories:

A. Lecture (35 minutes large-group presentation + 10 minutes discussion)

This format is well-suited for the dissemination of new/updated information relating to the field of Street Medicine, review of clinically-pertinent innovations and best practices, and reporting of outcomes data from field research or interventions. Research-oriented submissions may be work-in-progress. **Encouraged topic areas include, but are not limited to:**

- Innovations in street-based care
- Sustainability and longevity of Street Medicine programs
- Street-based addiction treatment models
- Socio-environmental determinants of health (environmental threats, health care access, housing access, community building, advocacy)
- Morbidity, mortality, and vulnerability assessment
- Integrated management of common complicating co-morbidities (mental illness, substance abuse/addiction, and traumatic brain injury)
- Comprehensive primary care and outreach models that foster continuity and coordination of care across the spectrum of homelessness (streets, shelter, hospital, respite, housing)
- Research and/or cost-analysis specific to the provision of Street Medicine services

B. Workshop (50 min. interactive, small-group presentation)

This format is well-suited for highly interactive sharing of practical knowledge, skills, and personal/professional/organizational enrichment strategies by presenters with particular expertise in any of the following topics or other relevant topic areas. Methods for creating an interactive learning environment must be addressed in the proposal.

- Acute disease diagnosis and management
- Chronic disease management and quality of care measures
- Street-based treatment of substance use disorders
- Creative patient engagement and motivational strategies designed to reduce barriers and enhance care access for the most marginalized individuals
- Medical education and training approaches related to unsheltered homelessness, including curriculum development and implementation, educational resource networking, and faculty mentoring of student-led organizations
- Initiating and nurturing relationships between service organizations and local hospitals, academic medical centers, and educational institutions
- Creating effective inter-agency and inter-disciplinary collaboration with respect to service, advocacy, and consumer involvement
- Fundraising approaches, skills, and resources relevant to Street Medicine practices
- Maintaining care access and quality during times of financial and/or political constraint
- Ethical challenges commonly encountered in providing care to unsheltered or rough-sleeper homeless populations
- Prevention of burn out among clinicians and service agency staff
- Creative approaches to sharing the experiences of Street Medicine teams and the unsheltered people with whom they work.

C. Poster (scientific poster format with dedicated viewing time)

This format is well-suited to clinical vignettes, highlighting program development/updates, description of service models, research on Street Medicine or unsheltered/rough-sleeping people, or exhibition of medical education approaches to service learning and outreach. Students and student organizations are particularly encouraged to submit in this format category, though non-students are also welcome to submit poster presentation proposals. (Students are not limited to this format

category and may submit in a different category if more appropriate. “Students” includes undergraduate students, graduate/professional students, and medical residents in training).

Approval Process:

All proposals submitted will be reviewed and judged by a panel that includes members of the ISMS organizing committee and other invited experts. **Strict adherence to the criteria below is required in order for the organizing committee to review your proposal.** Reviewers will evaluate proposals for presentation based upon the following three criteria:

1. Specific written learning objectives (active voice preferred).
2. An abstract describing the presentation content, approach, and intended format (lecture, workshop, or poster) presentation. Abstracts will be judged relative to achievement of the following goals:
 - A. *Focus on Unsheltered/Rough-sleeping People* – To what extent will your presentation focus on the unsheltered or rough-sleeping homeless population or highlight comparisons between rough-sleepers and other populations?
 - B. *Target Audience* – How appropriate is the topic for an audience of clinicians, outreach workers, service agency representatives, and community stakeholders dedicated to improving the health and well-being of unsheltered or rough-sleeper homeless populations?
 - C. *Innovation* – How novel is the information or approach in addressing a problem related to the health care of rough-sleeper populations?
 - D. *Impact* – How potentially beneficial are the findings, interventions, or programs to the care of patients/clients, development of services, training of providers, or sustainability of programs?
 - E. *Applicability* – How accessible and generalizable are the findings, interventions, or programs to other practice sites around the world?
 - F. *Knowledge Advancement* – How valuable is the information or approach to the growing body of Street Medicine knowledge and clinical expertise? Have data/findings been collected, analyzed, and presented in a rigorous and scholarly way?
 - G. *Mission Advancement* – How substantially does the information or approach promote/advance the values and vision of the Street Medicine Institute and International Street Medicine Symposium?
3. Adherence to submission guidelines:
 - A. All proposals must be submitted through Survey Monkey, using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ISMS15proposals>. Proposals will not be accepted via email this year.
 - B. Email questions regarding submissions to lfrye@streetmedicine.org.

Submissions must be received by midnight (EST) on Monday, April 1, 2019.

For each *lecture* or *workshop* proposal selected for presentation, the primary presenter only will be eligible to receive a stipend of *up to* \$500.00 (US) to help defray travel and lodging expenses personally incurred and paid for by that presenter only. For top-scoring *student* poster proposals, the

primary student presenter will be eligible for a stipend of *up to* \$500.00 (US) to help defray travel and lodging expenses personally incurred and paid for by that presenter only. Stipends are paid as reimbursement following the event only after all appropriate documentation of travel expenses have been submitted and approved. In addition, for each accepted lecture and poster proposal, only the primary presenter will be exempted from any symposium registration fees. For each accepted workshop, the primary presenter and one co-presenter (if applicable) will be exempted from any symposium registration fees. Submitters will be notified of the review committee's decision no later than May 31, 2019.

Questions about the ISMS or presentation proposal submission process can be addressed to the organizing committee at lfrye@streetmedicine.org.