2027 Catalyst Convening Summit: Reimagining Human-Centered Care

Rethinking how we design, deliver, lead, and experience care

Call for Proposals

The 2027 Catalyst Convening Summit is bringing together people working across healthcare, coaching, behavioral health, research, education, community settings, technology, and related fields to explore a shared question:

> ***How can we design and deliver care that works better for people—in the realities of their lives, their communities, and the systems around them?***

As care continues to evolve, new ideas are not enough. It is imperative that we understand what happens when those ideas meet real-world practice, including complex lives, busy teams, organizational constraints, changing technology, competing priorities, and imperfect systems.

The Catalyst Convening is designed for those conversations.

We are seeking proposals that move beyond information sharing and invite participants to learn, practice, question, problem-solve, and contribute.

Bring a real-world experience. Demonstrate a skill. Share an approach that is working or one you are still figuring out. Explore a challenge without an easy answer. Invite participants into a conversation that matters.

Bring forward the work, questions, and possibilities that can shape what comes next in human-centered care.

What We Are Looking For

Strong Catalyst Convening proposals will:

- Connect to the broader work of reimagining human-centered care.
- Be grounded in practice, implementation, lived experience, research, or evidence.
- Actively engage participants rather than rely primarily on lecture.
- Offer ideas, skills, tools, approaches, or questions that participants can use.
- Help us examine challenges from different perspectives.
- Create space for honest discussion about what works, what does not, and what we are still learning.

We are particularly interested in the questions that do not have simple answers.

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- How do we design care that works not only in theory, but in the realities of people's lives?
- How do we build systems and teams that support both the people receiving care and the people delivering it?
- How do we turn evidence, innovation, and good ideas into meaningful change in practice?
- How do we navigate competing priorities, perspectives, roles, and responsibilities without losing sight of the person at the center?
- How do we know when change is actually making care better?
- As technology changes what is possible, what should we preserve, rethink, or do differently?

These are the kinds of questions that invite us to look beyond what we already know, learn from one another, and explore what human-centered care requires in practice.

Areas of Exploration

The themes below are intended to provide direction and ideas, not boundaries. Proposals may address one or more areas or introduce another important dimension of human-centered care that has not been outlined here.

1. Reimagining Practice

How do we strengthen the skills and structures that support high-quality, human-centered practice?

Possible topics include:

- Applied skills and practice demonstrations
- Scope, ethics, and role clarity
- Documentation and goal writing
- Specialization and advanced practice
- Professional, legal, and practice considerations

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2. Reimagining the Workforce & How We Work Together

What does it take to build, support, and lead a workforce capable of delivering human-centered care?

Possible topics include:

- Interdisciplinary collaboration and team-based care
- Supervision, mentoring, and leadership
- Workforce development and professional identity
- Organizational culture and communication

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- Sustainable ways of working

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3. Reimagining Care in the Real World

How do we navigate the complexity, uncertainty, and difficult moments that show up in everyday care?

Possible topics include:

- Social and structural drivers of health
- Access, engagement, and trust
- Difficult conversations, conflict, and repair
- Safety, risk, and high-stakes situations
- Supporting care when life circumstances make implementation difficult

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4. Reimagining Mental Health & Well-Being

How might we rethink where, when, and how people are supported in their mental health and well-being?

Possible topics include:

- Prevention, early support, and upstream approaches
- Integration of mental and physical health
- New and evolving models of care and support
- Interdisciplinary roles, boundaries, and collaboration
- Access, equity, and continuity of care

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5. Reimagining What We Know & How We Know It

How do we build, interpret, and use evidence that helps us understand what actually makes a difference?

Possible topics include:

- Measurement and outcomes
- Implementation and quality improvement
- Research-to-practice and practice-informed research
- Patient, caregiver, and lived-experience perspectives
- Understanding impact beyond traditional measures

6. Reimagining Technology & Innovation

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How can technology advance care without losing what makes care human?

Possible topics include:

- Artificial intelligence and digital tools
- Technology-enabled care
- Ethics, trust, and transparency
- Digital equity and access
- Workforce implications of emerging technology

Have an Idea That Does Not Fit These Themes?

We still want to hear it.

If your proposal explores a meaningful challenge, question, innovation, opportunity, or emerging idea related to human-centered care, giving participants something useful to consider, apply, or build upon, we encourage you to submit it.

Session Formats

The Catalyst is designed for participation, not simply presentation. For your proposal, you will want to choose the format that best supports the experience you want to create.

Collaborative Panel

Bring together multiple perspectives around a shared question, challenge, or opportunity. Panels should be conversational and should include opportunities for meaningful participant engagement.

Case-Based Conversation

Bring a real situation, initiative, implementation experience, or challenge into the room. Explore what happened, what worked, what did not, what changed along the way, and what others can learn from the experience.

Skills Lab or Demonstration

Show participants what practice actually looks like. Sessions might include coaching or communication demonstrations, documentation, goal writing, difficult conversations, team interactions, or other applied skills. Whenever possible, participants should have an opportunity to practice, respond, or apply what they are learning.

Facilitated Conversation

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Bring forward a complex question, tension, or emerging issue that benefits from multiple perspectives. The purpose does not have to be finding a single answer. A strong, facilitated conversation helps participants examine assumptions, hear different perspectives, and identify what deserves further attention.

Design & Co-Creation Session

Invite participants to build something with you. Participants might rethink a workflow, test a model, improve a tool, design an approach, work through an implementation problem, or develop possible solutions to a shared challenge.

* *Presenters will be responsible for their own summit registration and travel fees. There is no payment for session presenters.**

Practice & Application Posters

Not every idea needs a full conference session to spark an important conversation.

The Catalyst is also inviting **Practice & Application Posters** that make research, innovation, and real-world learning accessible and useful to others. These are not limited to traditional research posters. We welcome research findings, program evaluations, practice innovations, implementation experiences, case examples, models, frameworks, tools, and other evidence-informed work.

What makes a Catalyst poster different?

The emphasis is not simply on what you studied, developed, or discovered. We want to know what others can learn from it and what they might do with that learning.

A strong poster should help participants quickly understand:

- **The challenge:** What problem, question, or opportunity were you addressing?
- **The approach:** What did you study, try, develop, or implement?
- **The learning:** What did you discover—including what worked, what did not, or what surprised you?
- **The application:** What could someone else take from this and use, adapt, test, or explore in their own setting?

Posters should be designed to start a conversation, not simply display information.

How Posters Will Be Shared

Selected posters will be featured during the **The Catalyst Poster Walk**, where participants can explore the work and talk directly with presenters.

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Some posters will also be selected for themed Poster Panels during the lunch hour. Presenters working in related areas will briefly introduce their work and then join a facilitated conversation focused on application, lessons learned, and questions from participants.

The goal is to make the poster experience another place for exchange, connection, and practical learning throughout the Convening.

Who Should Submit?

We welcome proposals from individuals and teams working to improve how care is designed, delivered, supported, or experienced.

You do not need to represent a particular profession, discipline, organization, or setting. If your work offers a useful perspective, practical insight, or real-world learning related to human-centered care, we encourage you to submit.

Before You Submit

Before submitting, consider:

1. What real-world challenge, opportunity, or question are you bringing forward?
2. What will participants learn, practice, apply, or see differently?
3. How will participants be meaningfully engaged?
4. What will they leave with that can inform their work?

The strongest Catalyst sessions do more than share information. They create space for participants to think differently, build skill, explore a difficult question, test an idea, or consider what they might do next.

Bring the work, the questions, and what you are learning, and help us reimagine human-centered care in practice.

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Submit Here

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