

# Sands National Conference 2022: Call for Abstracts

Kia ora koutou. The organising committee of the Sands National Conference 2022 invites all prospective presenters to submit abstracts of up to 250 words for the forthcoming conference in Hamilton, New Zealand on February 24-26, 2022, hosted by Sands Waikato.

## Key Information

- Abstract submission deadline: **Friday, August 20, 2021**
- Email abstracts to [sandsconference2022@gmail.com](mailto:sandsconference2022@gmail.com)
- Notification of acceptance of abstracts by: Wednesday, September 22, 2021

## Abstract Topics

We invite you to submit an abstract on any aspect of pregnancy, baby and infant loss, grief, and bereavement. Possible topics include miscarriage, supporting fathers, twin loss, loss with IVF, fertility aspects of loss/conception, subsequent pregnancy, parenting after loss, working with Māori and Pasifika families, stillbirth, making decisions following an unexpected diagnosis, cultural diversity, and baby loss, religion and loss/death, neonatal death, sudden unexplained infant death, grandparent support, older losses, shock and trauma, supporting children/siblings, funerals and saying goodbye, art/craft therapy, recovering from loss, resilience in loss, peer support, and support programs for clinicians, post-traumatic growth, and perinatal mental health.

This list is an example of possible topics, please feel free to include other topics under pregnancy, baby, and infant loss not mentioned here. We also invite you to consider our theme of '[Finding your flow in grief and resilience](#)' when you submit your abstract.

All conference sessions are open to professionals, parents, families, or anyone working in the area of pregnancy, baby, and infant loss. Abstracts may be academically focused, research-oriented, practice-based, or from personal experience.

## Types of Presentations:

### Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent sessions are small group presentations providing an opportunity for conference participants to hear information on a topic or learn a skill from individual presenters in a more intimate setting. Ideal for small, interactive seminars that address practical topics for health and caring professionals, and/or bereaved parents, families, and whanau. These presentations can be verbal or interactive.

- Concurrent sessions will be 50 minutes long (please allow time for questions etc within this time period). Additional details about the presentations will be provided at the time of abstract acceptance.
- Attendance may be limited in size to encourage highly interactive sessions.

- Major criteria used for selection will include learning objectives that are clear and appropriate, a format that maximises audience participation and/or learning outcome.

## Plenary Sessions

Plenary Sessions are whole conference presentations providing an opportunity for all conference participants to hear information on a topic or learn a skill from individual presenters. These presentations can be verbal or interactive but must include all conference attendees.

- The total length of a session is one hour.
- If tools (such as art supplies) are used this must be available for all.
- Prefer topics directly relating to the conference theme.

## Guidelines for Submission

The submission of an abstract implies your consent to have it published in the conference booklet. As Sands is a registered charity, we would greatly appreciate if you can donate your time as a speaker for conference. As appreciation for your time donated, we will showcase yourself and your services on our conference social media, website, programme, booklet and marketing communications. All presenting authors of accepted abstracts can attend the conference for FREE as gratitude for your time donated during your presentation/workshop. However, if you can't attend the whole conference, that is fine too, we just appreciate your time given thank you.

- Abstracts should be submitted by email to [sandsconference2022@gmail.com](mailto:sandsconference2022@gmail.com)
- Abstracts should be submitted in English.
- The maximum number of words is 300 (an abstract of 250 words and a brief bio of 50 words).
- Please clarify whether you would prefer your abstract be considered for a concurrent session or plenary session. Sands Conference 2022 may request your choice be changed from what was requested if we feel it is better suited elsewhere.

For more information about the conference please visit our website at [sandsconference.weebly.com](http://sandsconference.weebly.com) and if you have any questions, please email us at [sandsconference2022@gmail.com](mailto:sandsconference2022@gmail.com)

We look forward to hearing from you,

The organising committee of  
the Sands National Conference 2022

