The Board of Directors (BOD) and Advisory Council (AC) are working on these key projects:

1. First off, on behalf of the BOD and AC, we wish you all the happiest, healthiest and safest holiday seasons and thank you all for your support during 2022.
2. Secondly, we apologize for the delays in updating the website with the photographic and videographic content from the 2022 Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Forum and the 15th Annual Bellwether League Foundation Induction & Recognition Event (BLFIRE15). We continue to populate a new BLF YouTube channel that will free up bandwidth on our website so that content loads much faster for everyone. While we hoped for much faster progress … for those who attended to remember and for those who didn’t to see what they missed … we continue to experience delays. Stay tuned. We are making progress and look forward to rekindling interest and memories.
3. While BLFIRE15 returned to a live, in-person event and at a college campus for the first time, BLF’s Bellwether Philanthropy division also had the opportunity and privilege during the Forum to share details of its first capstone project involving college students and a Michigan-based IDN with support from a major sustaining sponsor. One of the many benefits to emerge from the event? An attending college student met with a Future Famer who made a connection with a company that resulted in a job offer for that student. If you would like more information about how to support BLF’s Bellwether Philanthropy division, which oversees capstone projects, grants and scholarships, contact BLF headquarters via email at rickdanbarlow@bellwetherleague.org. It’s a great opportunity for you, your brand, your company and your customers.
5. BLFIRE16 is scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2023, at Marquette University, Milwaukee.
6. Last week, BLF elected its 2023 BOD and appointed its AC for the year. Jamie Kowalski (Bellwether Class of 2017) was elected Chairman, Barbara Strain (Bellwether Class of 2021) was elected Secretary and Rick Barlow was re-elected Treasurer. Current Chairman Deb Templeton retires at year’s end and will serve as Chairman-Emeritus.
during 2023. Meanwhile, the following were appointed as AC members (listed in alphabetical order by surname): Ryan Burke (Future Famers Class of 2022), Fred Crans (Bellwether Class of 2020), Jake Groenewold (Bellwether Class of 2021), Jack Koczela (Future Famers Class of 2020), Mike Langlois, Tom Lubotsky (Bellwether Class of 2022), Carl Meyer (Bellwether Class of 2019), Gary Rakes (Bellwether Class of 2021), John Strong (Bellwether Class of 2011), Mark Van Sumeren (Bellwether Class of 2021) and Donna Van Vlerah (Future Famers Class of 2015 and Ammer Honoree of 2021). Van Sumeren also will serve as Administrator of BLF’s Bellwether Philanthropy division. The AC will be assisted by several dedicated volunteers, including Jun Amora (Future Famers Class of 2019), Joe Colonna, Marisa Farabaugh, Ed Hisscock (Bellwether Class of 2022) and Sue Tyk (Bellwether Class of 2022).

7. Looking back on 2022, we salute those organizations that made Gartner’s Healthcare Supply Chain Top 25 for the year. A number of Bronze Sustaining Sponsors made the list: Ochsner Health (5), Geisinger (9), Northwestern (12), Stanford Health Care (13) and Allina (20). Further, Bellwethers and Future Famers also lead and/or represent a number of the organizations on the list: Banner (2), Ochsner Health (5), BJC HealthCare (8), Geisinger (9), Trinity (11), Novant (18) and Allina (20).

8. Once again, we thank all the Sustaining and Event Sponsors that continue to support BLF and its mission and vision. BLF’s Sustaining Sponsors include:
   - **Founding/Platinum**: GHX, HealthTrust, Owens & Minor, Premier, Vizient, Wingfoot Media
   - **Silver**: ASP Global, Capstone Health Alliance, GS1 US Healthcare, Healthcare Purchasing News (HPN), Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA), Mayo Clinic, Medline Industries, Omnicell and Resource Optimization & Innovation (ROi).
   - **Bronze**: Allina Health, Atrium Health, Froedtert Health, Geisinger Health, Northwestern Memorial HealthCare, Ochsner Health, Stanford Health Care and Texas Health Resources (THR)

If you would like to join these dedicated and devoted organizations, contact BLF headquarters via email at rickdanbarlow@bellwetherleague.org.

**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO BELLWETHER LEAGUE FOUNDATION IN 2023!**
Your donation helps educate, honor, inform and research healthcare supply chain performance excellence. *BLF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization so all donations are tax-deductible.*

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3 Ways to Build Trust with Your Suppliers
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- Bellwether Philanthropy capstone projects, grants and scholarships

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Rick Dana Barlow
Co-Founder and Executive Director, Bellwether League Foundation
Administrator, Hall of Fame for Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership

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