



BLFIRE18 • NOVEMBER 10, 2025 • ATTEND • DONATE • SPONSOR

October 20, 2025 • No. 27

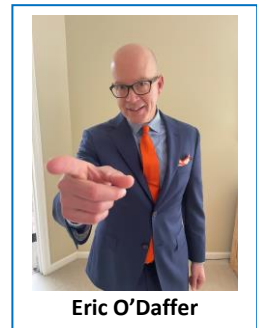
for the Bellwether Community

REMEMBER

What's happening with the Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Hall of Fame™

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

- BLFIRE18 at Wayne State University in Detroit is just three weeks away on Monday, November 10. If you'd still like to attend, donate or sponsor, contact BLF at info@bellwetherleague.org. Once the ceremony ends, BLF Founding Sustaining Sponsor+ **Vizient** is hosting an "after-event" at **FUELL** in the **Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center** on Monday night.
- **The trifecta at BLFIRE18:** BLF inducts the latest Bellwether class of honorees and recognizes the newest Ammer Honoree and Future Famers classes. **Eric O'Daffer**, leading healthcare supply chain lecturer, observer and researcher, will deliver the William J. McFaul Memorial Keynote, "Entrepreneurship in Healthcare Supply Chain." **Ed Hisscock**, Bellwether Class of 2022, and **Chico Manning**, Future Famers Class of 2024, will explore the topic, "Assessing Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Mid-Decade: Forging Ahead or Falling Behind?" during the Bellwether Leadership Symposium's Bellwether Leadership Roundtable, moderated by Piedmont Healthcare's Joe Colonna. **Wayne State University Supply Chain students** will present their "Transportation Research Optimization" project with Corewell Health as the 2025 Collegiate Capstone Project.
- BLF salutes its scholarship recipients for 2025. **Erin Belz**, a supply chain undergraduate student at University of Missouri-St. Louis, earned the **Lillian R. Matiska Scholarship**, which recognizes entrepreneurial motivations and performance in healthcare operations, and **Ryan Shea**, a supply chain and operations management undergraduate student at Purdue University, earned the **Jamie C. Kowalski Scholarship**, which recognizes critical thinking around leadership development and succession planning. BLF congratulates Erin and Ryan!



Eric O'Daffer

- We give another shout-out to our **2025 scholarship sponsors**: Founding/Platinum+ Sustaining Sponsors **GHX** and **Vizient** and Bronze+ Sustaining Sponsors **Allina** and **BJC HealthCare**!
- **SCMAT is ready**: BLF's newly updated **Supply Chain Maturity Assessment Tool (SCMAT)** is finalized and ready for licensing. This useful tool enables healthcare provider organizations to self-evaluate the development and growth of their supply chain operations. Contact BLF by email at info@bellwetherleague.org for details on how to access for your organization.
- In the next edition of REMEMBER (No. 28 in December), we'll briefly recap BLFIRE18 and reveal the student team that will be conducting the **2026 Collegiate Capstone Project** with a notable integrated delivery network in the southeast.



- National Health Care Supply Chain Week may be over, but the honor and recognition should continue throughout the year. Why not invest in BLF's new lapel pins? They are designed to elicit questions about the acronym on display and motivate people to appreciate and celebrate healthcare supply chain's essential role in high-quality healthcare operations and patient care delivery. If you'd like to invest in a small batch to distribute, be sure to click on the gold "DONATE" button on the BLF website and complete the form. Or complete the official order form and email it to BLF headquarters.

- **Military salute**: Because BLFIRE18 is scheduled to occur the day before Veterans Day, (and likely a similar scheduling for 2026), we'd like to salute our veterans by asking those with military experience to share the following information about themselves with us:
 1. Branch(es) served:
 2. Years served:
 3. Highest rank at honorable discharge/retirement:
 4. How/what does military experience contribute to the healthcare supply chain?
 5. How did your military experience contribute to your career in healthcare supply chain?

Thank you to those who have responded already. This is a living, ongoing project. Please email your responses today to Rick Barlow at rickdanabarlow@bellwetherleague.org.

- **On the road again**: Regularly visit BLF's LinkedIn page for photos and references to valuable news and views you can use about the foundation, including conferences we're attending, events we're hosting and content we're posting. If you took photos you'd be willing to share with us to share with the Bellwether Community, please email them to us for posting! **Visit BLF's LinkedIn page frequently and follow us at** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bellwether-league/>. Connect with others to learn about BLF and share insights with industry thought leaders, pioneers, mentors, innovators, influencers and executives!
- **Making a difference**: To date at press time, the following 22 Sustaining Sponsors have renewed for another year. They are Founding+ **Vizient**; Founding **Premier**; Platinum+ **GHX**; and Platinum **Northwestern** and **Wingfoot Media**; Gold **LogicSource**; Silvers **Capstone Health Alliance**, **Healthcare Purchasing News**, **HSCA**, **Mayo Clinic**, **Medline**, **Omnicell**, **OmniChannel Health**, **Share Moving Media/IDN Directory**, and **St. Onge Co.**; Bronze+ **Allina Health** and Bronze+ **BJC HealthCare**; and Bronzes **Atrium Health**, **Froedtert ThedaCare**, **Ochsner Health**, **PIH Health** and **Texas Health Resources**. Those designated at the "+" level also donated \$1,000 each to BLF's scholarship fund for 2025. We thank them for their continued generosity and their appreciation

of supply chain educational efforts. Care to join them? If you would and/or you would like to “uplevel” your organization or to donate to or sponsor the Collegiate Capstone Project and/or scholarship fund, email BLF HQ at rickdanabarlow@bellwetherleague.org.

- **Champions:** We continue to appreciate the donations from a growing number of Future Famers, Ammer Honorees and Bellwether Honorees during our first two philanthropic email campaigns, “Becoming a Bellwether Beacon and Help Spread the Light About Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Excellence” that occurred in May through June and late July through mid-August, respectively. We’re holding a third campaign right now and likely will hold one more before the end of the year. Starting in 2026, we plan to move to a quarterly donation campaign.
- **Online updates:** Visit BLF’s “Leaders & Luminaries” page (<https://www.bellwetherleague.org/leaders-luminaries.php>) (or use the QR code on the far right below) for all the printed and audio-visual content developed and produced by BLF. The “Awards” page also features a full list of all Bellwethers, Ammer Honorees and Future Famers in a single-page downloadable document titled “BLF’s Hall of Fame and Wall of Acclaim.”

- **Code read:** We’ve released a variety of **QR codes** for you to access information about BLF more conveniently and easily than clicking on a live link to a webpage. The QR



codes link you to useful content on the website about nominating, donating, sponsoring and industry intelligence. Take each for a test drive.

- **DONATE TO BELLWETHER LEAGUE FOUNDATION IN 2025.** Your donation or sustaining sponsorship helps to educate, honor, inform and research healthcare supply chain performance excellence. *BLF is an **independent** 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable foundation, so donations are tax-deductible.*

Become a Sustaining, Event or Program Sponsor or donate! Opportunities include:

- Bellwether Leadership Symposium
- *Leaders & Luminaries* multimedia content
- Hall of Fame VIP Reception
- Hall of Fame Photography Session
- REMEMBER e-newsletter
- Beacon Awards (e.g., crystal lighthouses)
- BLFIRE Videography
- BLFIRE Event Program
- Collegiate Capstone Projects
- Philanthropic grants and dedicated scholarships

Join with us to honor exceptional people doing extraordinary things, and also to recognize and grow your customer base and influence.

Visit www.bellwetherleague.org or email us at info@bellwetherleague.org.