



BLFIRE19 • FALL 2026 • ATTEND • DONATE • SPONSOR

December 22, 2025 • No. 28

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:

- **Celebrate:** On behalf of the BOD and AC, we wish the Bellwether Community the happiest of holiday seasons, including Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and New Year's, among others.
- **Salute:** We salute all six Bellwether Honorees inducted into the Bellwether Class of 2025 and the two Ammer Honorees and three Future Famers recognized at BLFIRE18 on November 10 at Wayne State University in Detroit, as well as all those who successfully made it to the event. See photos on our web site's Gallery page at <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/sliders/gallery.php#gsc.tab=0> and videos on the Videos page at <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/sliders/videos.php#gsc.tab=0>.
- **Salute again:** We also salute those who endured and pushed through tremendous challenges and roadblocks to get to Wayne State during a time when a federal government shutdown slammed air travel and hazardous snowy weather wreaked havoc on highway travel. They clearly and truly demonstrated their dedication and devotion to BLF's mission and vision, which should be an example and inspiration to all. A number of people saw their flights delayed, delayed and then delayed again, only to be canceled. One AC member drove across four states with another AC member riding shotgun and the son of a Bellwether Honoree in tow. A BOD member finally arrived a few moments before having to introduce a Bellwether Honoree to be inducted. Another AC member scheduled to speak at BLFIRE18 actually arrived at 3 a.m. the morning of the event. These are the types of people who lead, own and run supply chain and support doctors, nurses, physicians, surgeons, administrators and patients – proving once again that everything runs on and because of supply chain.
- **Nominate:** Nominate someone for the Future Famers, Ammer Honoree and Bellwether Classes of 2026. Nomination forms are available for download on the Nominations page of the web site

at <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/nominations.php#gsc.tab=0>. The deadline is Groundhog Day, Monday, February 2, 2026. Unlike the film, however, there are no do-overs if you miss the deadline in a time loop estimated to last nearly 34 years or nearly 12,400 days.

- **Capstone:** We salute the 2025 Collegiate Capstone Project student team from Wayne State University that partnered with Corewell Health. You can watch their video as part of the Bellwether Leadership Symposium. The 2026 Collegiate Capstone Project student team hails from Georgia Southern University and will be partnering with Piedmont Health. You'll see the fruits of and insights from their research at BLFIRE19 next fall. Stay tuned for more details, including a specific date and location in Georgia.
- **Research:** If you work with a nearby college or university – or would like to establish a relationship with one – contact BLF for assistance in making the connection and consider applying for the 2027 Collegiate Capstone Project, which will be presented during BLF's 20th anniversary celebration. Reach out to BLF via email at info@bellwetherleague.org for more information.
- **Scholarly:** Encourage college students studying supply chain to apply for any or all of BLF's three scholarships for 2026. The scholarships are open to students and interns as well as active professionals taking classes to further their careers. Contact BLF for more information or visit our online Philanthropy page at <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/scholarships.php#gsc.tab=0>.
- **Uplevel:** Would you like to contribute to BLF's scholarship fund? Consider joining the four Sustaining Sponsors who "upleveled" in 2025 by adding \$1,000 to their annual commitment – Founding Vizient, Platinum GHX, Bronze Allina and Bronze BJC HealthCare. You and they will be glad you did. Make an individual professional donation or uplevel your sustaining or event sponsorship. Contact BLF headquarters today.
- **Covered:** *Leaders & Luminaries* edition 8 went live last month that features a look to 2030 and a special tribute to the military as BLFIRE18 was held on the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps. and Veterans Day Eve.
- **Write on:** Mark Van Sumeren, Bellwether Class of 2021, recently released his latest book, *A Return to Strategic Leadership: Judgment in the Age of AI*, as a business novel about a problem every leader likely now faces ... "How do we lead in a world where AI accelerates everything except judgment?" It's available for purchase on Amazon, as well as his earlier business novel, *A "Trip" to Strategic Leadership*.
- BLF's newly updated **Supply Chain Maturity Assessment Tool (SCMAT)** is available for licensing. This useful tool enables healthcare provider organizations to self-evaluate the development, growth and quality of their supply chain operations. Contact BLF by email at info@bellwetherleague.org for licensing details. Proceeds are applied to BLF's scholarship fund to support the next-generation supply chain executives, leaders and professionals. We encourage suppliers to help BLF spread awareness of this tool and to promote this valuable and worthwhile opportunity to their provider customers.
- **Linked:** Sign up for and/or routinely 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 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!

- **Champions:** We continue to appreciate the donations from a growing number of Future Famers, Ammer Honorees and Bellwether Honorees during our four philanthropic email campaigns, "Becoming a Bellwether Beacon and Help Spread the Light About Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Excellence" that occurred in May-June, July-August, September-October and November-December. Next year, we plan to move to a quarterly donation campaign, likely in February, May, August and November.
- **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.
- **Finish the year strong with a tax-deductible donation to BLF 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.