



REMEMBER

August 26, 2026 • No. 32

for the Bellwether Community

BLFIRE19 • November 16, 2026 • ATTEND • DONATE • SPONSOR

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

- **BLFIRE19 approaches:** If you haven't received your invitation, completed and submitted your registration and booked your hotel room for the 19th Annual Bellwether League Foundation Induction & Recognition Event (BLFIRE19), scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2026, at Georgia Southern University's Armstrong Center, Savannah, GA, do so quickly. Contact BLF headquarters if you need the invitation, registration form and hotel list sent to you. Hotel room blocks are filling up. Remember 1-1-1-6-2-6 and register today so you don't miss it!
- **On the road again:** Several BOD and AC members are traveling to a variety of industry events during the next two months. Board Chairman **Barbara Strain** (*Bellwether Class of 2021*), Board Secretary **Rachel Anderson** (*Future Famers Class of 2023*), BOD Outreach Ambassador **Fred Crans** (*Bellwether Class of 2020*), and AC members **Carl Meyer** (*Bellwether Class of 2019*), **Jake Groenewold** (*Bellwether Class of 2021*) and **Angie Bruns** (*Future Famers Class of 2024*) will be at the Fall IDN Summit in Phoenix, August 31-September 2; **Crans** and AC member **George Godfrey** (*Bellwether Class of 2025*) will be at the Vizient conference in Las Vegas, September 21-26; **Meyer** will be at the HIDA Streamlining Conference in Chicago, September 22-24; **Strain** will be at the 2026 AHVAP Conference in Grapevine, TX, October 5-8; AC member **Ryan Burke** (*Future Famers Class of 2022*) will be at the Premier conference in National Harbor, MD, October 6-8; and **Godfrey** will be at the SMI Fall Forum in Tampa, FL, October 12-14.
- **Precious medaling update:** We continue to appreciate the generosity of our Sustaining Partners, Donors and Alumni. Their commitment to the Bellwether League Foundation allows us to support and promote healthcare supply chain leadership through our events and media content. Look for our "Keepers of the Lighthouse" recognition display at BLFIRE19. "Keepers of the Lighthouse" represents all the Sustaining and Event Partners, Donors and Alumni that have supported BLF since the very beginning. We are proud to share it and are equally proud to recognize everyone's dedication and devotion by giving back to BLF to support its charitable mission and vision for the industry and profession. Together, we all can make a difference. We salute and thank the following Sustaining Partners that have renewed with BLF in 2026: Platinum-level **Northwestern Medicine**



BLFIRE19 VIP Reception room at Georgia Southern University's Armstrong Center

This is our
way of
saying
thank you
for making a
difference.



BELLWETHER LEAGUE
F O U N D A T I O N

and Silver-levels **BJC Health, HSCA, Mayo Clinic** and **St. Onge** in March; Silver-level **OmniChannel Health** and Bronze-level **Geisinger** in April; Founding-level **Vizient**, Platinum-level **GHX**, Silver-levels **Capstone Health** and **Medline**, and Bronze-levels **Advocate/Atrium Health, Stanford Medicine** and **Texas Health Resources** in July; Gold-level **LogicSource**, Silver-level **GS1 US Healthcare** and Bronze-level **PIH Health** in August. To all of BLF's Sustaining Partners at the Founding, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze levels, we sincerely appreciate your continuing generosity and ongoing support because it keeps BLF moving forward to honor colleagues and customers.

- **Beacons on the shore:** We salute the growing number of Future Famers, Ammer Honorees and Bellwether Honorees during our quarterly alumni philanthropic email campaigns, "Becoming a Bellwether Beacon and Help Spread the Light About Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Excellence." Our first quarter campaign happened in March and the second in June. Next month, our third quarter campaign continues throughout September. Please consider donating to this worthy cause if you haven't already.
- **Reward scholars:** Encourage college students studying supply chain, interns at your organization or staffers pursuing additional education to apply for any or all of BLF's three \$1,000 scholarships for 2026. The scholarships are open to students, interns and active professionals taking classes to further their careers. Applications are available and open now. Contact BLF or visit BLF's Philanthropy page at <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/scholarships.php#gsc.tab=0>.
- **Level up:** Interested in contributing to BLF's scholarship fund? Consider upleveling your Sustaining Partnership by adding \$1,000 to your annual commitment or making an individual professional donation or increasing your event partnership. Contact BLF HQ with questions.
- **Assessing outcomes:** BLF's newly updated **Supply Chain Maturity Assessment Tool (SCMAT 2.0)** is ready for you to license and implement for your team. This practical, easy-to-use 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.
- **Around the industry:** Bellwether Community members have been active in the conference circuit during the last two months with BOD and AC members as well as Bellwether Honorees, Ammer Honorees and Future Famers attending and supporting such events as the AHRMM annual conference in San Antonio earlier this month. Did you see them? What follows are some photos snapped during their recent appearances. BLF thanks the shutterbugs for sending us visual evidence of excellence in action. Contact BLF headquarters if you'd like us to share your photos, too.



BLF Board Chairman Barbara Strain, Bellwether Class of 2021, BOD Outreach Ambassador Fred Crans, Bellwether Class of 2020, and Randy Bradley, Ph.D., Ammer Honoree Class of 2020.



Ryan Burke, Future Famers Class of 2022, snaps a selfie with BLF Board Chairman Barbara Strain, Bellwether Class of 2021.



Reuben Philip, Future Famers Class of 2025, poses near the BLF table at AHRMM 2026.



Jake Groenewold, Bellwether Class of 2021, next to BLF's Healthcare Supply Chain Leadership Hall of Fame sign.



BLF's general session, "Navigating Supply Chain Leadership Through Crises Today and Tomorrow," featured (left to right) moderator Amanda Chawla, Ammer Honoree Class of 2024; Randy Bradley, Ph.D., Ammer Honoree Class of 2020; René Gurdián, Future Famers Class of 2022; and Jake Groenewold, Bellwether Class of 2021.



AHRMM Advisory Board Chair-Elect Pam Bryant, Bellwether Class of 2026 honoree, welcomes attendees to AHRMM 2026.



Helen Brann from BLF Silver Sustaining Partner OmniChannel Health, visits the BLF table at AHRMM 2026.

Scholarships. SCMAT.
Symposia. Success.



Connection. Conversation.
Collaboration. Celebration.



Leaders on display: (left to right) Amanda Chawla, Ammer Honoree Class of 2024; Ed Hisscock, Bellwether Class of 2022; Régine Villain, Ammer Honoree Class of 2023; Randy Bradley, Ph.D., Ammer Honoree Class of 2020; Mark Van Sumeren, Bellwether Class of 2021; Karen Kresnik, Future Famers Class of 2017; Fred Crans, Bellwether Class of 2020; Karen Conway, Bellwether Class of 2023; and Pam Bryant, Bellwether Class of 2026 honoree.



BLF Board Chairman Barbara Strain, Bellwether Class of 2021, with Jake Groenewold, Bellwether Class of 2021.



Fred Crans, Bellwether Class of 2020, demonstrates his celebrity status, left with Karen Conway, Bellwether Class of 2023, right with Jean Sargent, past BLF BOD member.

- **BLF Spotlights:** We recently rebranded our “Fireside Chats” to “BLF Spotlights.” Be sure to visit BLF’s “Leaders & Luminaries” page on the website (click on <https://www.bellwetherleague.org/leaders-luminaries.php#qsc.tab=0> or the QR code on the far right below) to watch the latest episode (No. 5), where BLF Board Secretary Rachel Anderson (*Future Famers Class of 2023*) interviews Tom Lubotsky (*Bellwether Class of 2022*) for the first part of the two-part series “Advancing Supplier-Provider Relationship Management.” Look for the second part to air in the fall before BLFIRE19.
 - **Keep in touch:** 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. Visit BLF’s LinkedIn page and follow us at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bellwether-league/>.
 - **Make a tax-deductible donation to BLF in 2026.** Your donation or sustaining partnership 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 to the extent provided by law. Please note that no goods or services are exchanged for any of the donations, gifts and sponsorships received by Bellwether League Foundation.*
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Join with us to honor exceptional people doing extraordinary things.



REMEMBER: Your bimonthly record of professional recognition.

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