

2026

LEAD

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT



BUILD THE SKILLS TO LEAD WHAT'S NEXT.

OCTOBER 7-8 | WAITE PARK, MN

Not just another conference. LEAD is two days built around the real skills emerging community bank professionals need as they take on more responsibility: leading people, navigating change, understanding the bigger picture and making stronger decisions.

2

Days of focused development

3

Keynotes centered on leadership + well-being

6

Breakouts covering issues that matter

1

Stronger network of peers across Minnesota

FEATURED KEYNOTES

Beyond High Performance: What Great Leaders Do That Good Ones Don't

Austin Walker,
Novus Global, LLC, Coach

Expand what you believe is possible, identify where you want to go, and build the mindset and momentum to move beyond high performance.

Reset Your Algorithm: Building Habits for Better Well-Being

Jen Holper, *HealthPartners*

Explore how stress affects your energy, performance, and mental well-being, and learn practical strategies for building resilience and sustainable self-care habits.

Don't Act Like a Leader. Be a Leader.

Larry Williams,
ExecutiveSense Consulting

Consider authenticity, vulnerability, and service as qualities of effective leadership, and explore practical ways to lead with greater purpose and impact.

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Leading in the Middle: Developing People, Strengthening Teams & Building Future Leaders

A candid conversation about the challenges and opportunities of middle management — from staffing, accountability, communication, and culture to developing employees, identifying future leaders, and building a strong succession pipeline.

WHO IS LEAD FOR?

Rising talent, emerging managers and professionals who are beginning to take on greater responsibility — no management title required.

WHY SEND SOMEONE?

They come back with a broader bank perspective, practical leadership tools, stronger industry connections and ideas they can use immediately.

CHOOSE YOUR LEARNING PATH

Six Breakouts. Real Banking Issues.

Focused education gives attendees the flexibility to choose sessions most relevant to their role, their bank and the challenges they are navigating right now.

THE LEAD EXPERIENCE

The Art of Branding: Mastering the Storytelling Narrative

Kathrynn Cavanaugh, Kameo

Learn how strong storytelling shapes perception, drives engagement and differentiates a brand. Translate your bank's values, purpose and culture into stories that connect with employees and customers.

The Regulation E Playbook: Dispute Resolution Strategies That Protect Banks and Customers

Kristen Larson, Winthrop & Weinstine

Walk through consumer dispute investigation and resolution requirements, including timelines, documentation, provisional credit and communications.

The New Fed Roster, and the Bond Market's Expectations

Gerry Hart, The Baker Group

Review the Federal Reserve landscape, monetary policy and market expectations for interest rates. Explore what changing conditions can mean for the bond market and community bank profitability.

Fraud Watch - Emerging Threats

Reese Orman, CPA & Manager, and Megan Peterson, CLA

Examine current fraud trends, evolving scams and warning signs affecting banks and customers. Take away practical ideas for strengthening prevention, employee awareness and customer education.

Navigating Compliance: Today's Hot Topics & Regulatory Trends

Carrie Helmle, United Bankers' Bank

Get a high-level look at timely compliance issues including BSA, Special Purpose Credit Programs, CRA and other regulatory topics worth watching as the compliance landscape continues to evolve.

The Problematic Employee: Employee Performance Management

Andrew Johnson, Wagner, Falconer, & Judd, Ltd

Learn why performance documentation matters, where employers create unnecessary risk and how stronger practices can support more consistent discipline, performance management and termination decisions.

PEER ROUNDTABLES

Talk through challenges and ideas with bankers who are growing in their careers alongside you.

NETWORKING + VENDOR HAPPY HOUR

Build relationships across the industry in a relaxed setting designed for real conversation.

BIG-PICTURE BANKING

Step outside your day-to-day role and better understand the people, priorities and issues shaping the whole bank.



READY TO LEAD WHAT'S NEXT?

Registration is open.
Invest in a rising leader — or in your own next step.

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