

2023 Physician Leadership Development Conference a Success

The 2023 Physician Leadership Development Conference was held **in person** March 10 and 11 in Kohler, WI for the first time since 2019. Click [here](#) for a summary of the conference, and [here](#) for the photo gallery.



Nearly 100 attendees gathered at the 2023 WHA Physician Leadership Development Conference on March 10 & 11 in Kohler for a slate of interactive presentations focusing on enhancing leadership skills, tools, and knowledge in an ever-changing health care environment. CEOs, medical executives and physician leaders at all stages of their careers connected with their own teams as well as with their peers in organizations across Wisconsin throughout this annual leadership education event.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



William Melms, MD

Dr. William Melms, Chief Medical Officer of Marshfield Clinic Health System and Chair of the WHA Physician Leaders Council, welcomed the group and set the tone for the conference.

Shelley Smith of the LAK Group kicked the conference off by discussing tools, techniques and perspectives to excel in authentic leadership. Noting that a title doesn't define a leader, Smith discussed purposeful leadership skills focused on communication, nurturing relationships and helping others understand their value in ensuring organizational success.



Shelley Smith

WHA President and CEO Eric Borgerding closed out the morning by talking about the myriad external challenges facing health care providers and the health care delivery system. Understanding these external challenges can help physician leaders better communicate to their staff the "why" and "how" these factors drive disruption and change.



Eric Borgerding



Jeff Chan

Jeff Chan, instructor at the WSB Center for Professional & Executive Development, led a robust session about leading through change. His afternoon session covered the importance of:

- Understanding the difference between change and transitions;
- Building resiliency in team members so they can thrive in the midst of change; and
- Prioritizing and selecting the right changes as leaders.

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