

Function Leader Development Experience

The world has been disrupted in profound ways. So too have the expectations for what it takes to lead effectively in a post-pandemic world.

“I loved the focus on innovation and strategic thinking. In addition, I learned about my own leadership style, how to delegate better, and how to capitalize on my team to better execute strategy.”

Corey Walther, COO & Chief Compliance Officer, Allianz Life

That is why MDA Leadership is pleased to offer a unique, transformational **Function Leader Development Experience (FLDE)**. This innovative 3-month development journey enables busy function leaders to accelerate their business impact, improve their leadership effectiveness, and enhance their resilience and well-being as they navigate the “new normal.”

Why Attend FLDE?

Called the “linchpin” of organizations, function leaders have arguably the greatest impact on your business performance. A future of disruptions and uncertainty puts a premium on organizational capabilities to rapidly learn, pivot, and execute with agility. Function leaders are the “critical middle” who exercise these capabilities, serving as executors and reshapers of strategy in real time, vital talent developers, change leaders, internal influencers, and results drivers. As your function leaders succeed, so too does your organization. Their development represents your best investment.

The criticality of function leadership to any high-performing organization led MDA to create FLDE based on our original research into the factors most predictive of excellence in a function leader role. The career path of the function leader leads increasingly to the senior leadership table, with positions like CMO, CFO, and CHRO. Function leader development is an investment in those who play a central role in the current success of the business and will play an increasingly more critical role in its future success.

To Register/RSVP

Please visit:
mdaleadership.com/programs

Email us at:
info@mdaleadership.com

or call: 612.332.8182

Attendance is limited;
please RSVP early.



Function Leader Development Experience

MDA's learning design ensures an exceptionally engaged and energizing experience that optimizes learning. The design includes carefully sequenced, multimodal activation experiences, simulations, small and large group discussions, on- and offline refreshers, and networking events with cross-organizational peer leaders.

Participation in this intensive and immersive program enables leaders to practice the leadership capabilities they must increasingly master to lead in the future. MDA has specifically designed this development experience to emphasize:



Today's organizational disruptions

A contextualized program to equip function leaders with the understanding and experience to engage in vital conversations and successfully lead through significant organizational disruptions. An emphasis on strategic thinking, change leadership, building resilience and developing the self-wisdom to become a more collaborative, inclusive, and human-centered leader.



Experiential learning

The "E" for experience in FLDE is emphasized more than ever, taking participants from initial assessments to cohort learning sessions and applications to one-on-one coaching to become better leaders in their organizations.



National peer connections

An unprecedented opportunity for participants to learn with and from other function leaders, and make individual and network connections to last a lifetime. MDA creates data-informed growth groups, matching participants with the right peers to maximize learning and growth.



Multiple modalities

Based on the latest neuroscience research, this developmental experience unfolds over time with coaching, digital platform sharing, microlearning, and in-person sessions for deep social learning. Participant's stakeholders support core learning.

Who Should Attend FLDE?

Someone who is serving as a function leader—a director, executive director, vice president, or senior vice president—and who is:

- Assuming an expanding role or in consideration for a more strategic leadership role
- In a leadership role, but wants to become a stronger enterprise leader
- Virtually leading a distributed workforce and wrestling with today's most pressing leadership demands
- Leading an operations, manufacturing, marketing, sales, finance or human resources function, or a business unit, geographic region, product group or customer segment

Targeting the development of your function leaders is one of the smartest investments an organization can make to boost performance.

When confronted with new and challenging leadership disruptions, it's normal for any leader to suddenly feel stressed and isolated. This cohort-based development experience is specifically designed to provide all participants with the confidence, connection, and collaborative support they need to lead more effectively as function leaders.

Participant and Executive Sponsor Testimonials

"The highlight of the FLDE program was learning about the roles of functional leaders and how to apply them. I really appreciated the networking where I received valuable coaching from others based on their experiences. Overall, it was a phenomenal investment of time."

Shailesh Bhor, Vice President, Technology, Sleep Number

"The highlight of the FLDE program was the change management content and how it re-energized me to think about my role differently."

Karla Wiles, VP, Marketing Communications, EBSCO

"We had a great experience with the Function Leader Development Experience (FLDE). The payoff has been even beyond what we expected for the business. The people we selected to attend now have a close cohort relationship. Since then, a few of the participants have been promoted and are well positioned as successors to senior executive roles."

Alixandra Colehour, Vice President, Human Resources, Sleep Number

Key Business/Learning Outcomes

FLDE delivers targeted development experiences, such as robust assessment, strong experientially based formal learning programs, cohort learning, and challenging work applications to better equip function leaders to maximize their development and contributions.

FLDE is built on a validated research model of the five pivotal roles that drive function leader success. Participants will grow in each of the following roles:

Strategist: Ability to bridge where the function is now with where it needs to go

Change Leader: Acts as a skillful sponsor and champion of effective change initiatives

Talent Developer: Applies the mindset and tools to attract, develop, and retain key talent

Internal Influencer: Thinks and works collaboratively across functions to influence

Results Orchestrator: Achieves consistent, timely, high quality results through others



Award-winning Facilitators and Content Experts



Jim Laughlin,
M.F.A.

Jim is Practice Area leader of MDA's Leadership Development Programs, which enable leaders, teams, and organizations to accelerate their growth and impact through leading-edge development solutions and practices. He combines 30 years of business knowledge, experience, and passion to help senior leaders achieve strategic priorities and drive business outcomes.



Cori Hill,
M.A., SPHR

Author, coach, and advocate for inclusive leadership, Cori is an expert in business change and transformation. Her innovative approaches have advanced ROI and organizational capability in global organizations. Cori obtains results through building high-trust relationships and promoting performance across business lines to drive results.



Erik Williams,
M.B.A.

Erik is an experienced leadership development professional who finds joy in helping others unlock their potential as leaders and people. His human-centric approach as a designer, educator, and consultant emphasizes inclusion, participation, and ownership in co-creating development experiences that deliver positive impact and transformative change.



Kathy Pearson,
Ph.D.

An award-winning educator, Kathy works extensively with mid- to senior-level executives, where she teaches on a variety of topics including executive decision-making, strategic agility and change management and execution. Kathy also teaches in executive education for the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

FLDE Pre-Program Activities

- Assessment experience
- Feedback meeting with deep insights
- Manager Alignment
- Microlearning

FLDE In-person Experience

- Expert Facilitation
- Asynchronous Learning Platform
- Development Support Group

FLDE Post-Program Activities

(8 weeks)

- Manager Alignment
- Coaching
- Growth Planning
- Microlearning

Investment and Benefits

FLDE is a multi-month development experience that includes:

- Robust, multi-instrument assessment and feedback process
- Developmental coaching from experienced executive coaches
- 3.5 consecutive day in-person experience
- Collaborative asynchronous learning platform
- Searchable leadership microlearning tool
- Ongoing peer support network
- \$11,500 per participant

Early Bird: Secure your spot for the Spring program by December 15, 2022, or the Fall program by June 2, 2023, and save \$500

2023 Schedule

FLDE In-person Experience

March 27-30, 2023
Phoenix, AZ

September 11-14, 2023
Minneapolis, MN