



Illinois Leaders – Class of 2026

IHCA's Illinois Leaders Program works to develop leaders within the Association and Illinois' long term care profession. This exclusive IHCA-member program takes a group of long term care professionals selected for their demonstrated leadership skills, support of the Association and an interest in improving their personal and professional leadership skills through a carefully crafted curriculum to help them become better, stronger leaders. The class of 2026 will kick off in January and culminate with a graduation at the Annual IHCA Convention & Expo.

What to Expect

There is no cost to participate in the IHCA Illinois Leaders program. There may be some incidental program or travel expenses the participants may have to pay, but they should be minimal. *You must be employed by an IHCA member in good standing to be considered part of this program.*

Participants in the Illinois Leaders program will receive reading materials at the initial class meeting and are expected to participate in all meetings in person. If an issue arises and you need to make alternative arrangements, please contact Ashley Caldwell, IHCA Director of Education & Program Development, and Program Chair Tom Annarella immediately. If meetings are missed without correspondence with the class liaison, participants may be asked to step down from the program.

About the Program

The IHCA Illinois Leaders program kicks off with a full-day event, which includes an overview of the vision and purpose of the program and other key leadership topics. Participants will receive complimentary reading material that will be discussed during the in-person meetings to help instill leadership qualities. Throughout the program, participants will have the opportunity to network with the IHCA Board of Directors, staff and key stakeholders through a variety of activities, including class meetings, the IHCA Lobby Day event and a class graduation event at the Annual IHCA Convention and Expo.

Reading List:

- The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People | Stephen Covey
- The Five Dysfunctions of a Team | Patrick Lencioni
- The Motive | Patrick Lencioni
- The Four Obsessions of an Extraordinary Executive | Patrick Lencioni
- The Truth About Employee Engagement | Patrick Lencioni
- Employalty | Joe Mull

- Crucial Conversations | Joseph Grenny, Kerry Patterson, Ron McMillan, Al Switzler and Emily Gregory
- Crucial Accountability | Joseph Grenny, Kerry Patterson, Ron McMillan, Al Switzler and Emily Gregory

Tentative Schedule:

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| • Class of 2026 Kickoff / Lunch with IHCA Board and Staff | January 2026 |
| • IHCA Public Policy Forum / Lobby Day | March 2026 |
| • Class Meeting | March 2026 |
| • Class Meeting | May 2026 |
| • Class Meeting | July 2026 |
| • Class Graduation / IHCA Convention & Expo | September 2026 |

Location:

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, will be held at the IHCA office in Springfield.

IHCA
1029 S. Fourth St.
Springfield, IL 62703
800-252-8988 / 217-528-6455

If you have any questions about the IHCA Illinois Leaders Program, please contact Ashley Caldwell at acaldwell@lhca.com.



CONSONUS
HEALTHCARE

***Thank you to Consonus Healthcare for sponsoring the
Illinois Leaders Program – Class of 2026!***



Illinois Leaders Program Nomination Form - Class of 2026

The Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA) applauds those individuals that want to continue their career in long term care. The Illinois Leaders program works to develop professionals within the Association and Illinois' long term care profession.

Application

To be considered for the IHCA Illinois Leaders Program:

- Must be employed as an administrator or direct care staff supervisor in an IHCA Member Center or Associate Member company.
- Attend the IHCA 76th Annual Convention and Expo in East Peoria, Illinois.
- Pledge to continue to work in an IHCA member center/organization for at least one year.
- Agree to complete participate in all program meetings in person.
- Provide resume/bio.
- Provide letter describing why you want to be in the *Illinois Leaders Program*. **(Please limit to one page.)**
- Please provide a letter of recommendation from the person providing the nomination OR your supervisor if you are self-nominated. **(Please limit to one page.)**

Please provide the information below and submit it to the IHCA office no later than **December 15, 2025**.
Failure to provide ALL requested information will result in disqualification.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Tele: _____

Email (required): _____

IHCA Member Center/Organization: _____

Position at Center: _____ Length of Employment: _____

Nominated by: _____

Applicant's Signature

Date

Completed application and all required materials must be mailed to the following address:

Illinois Health Care Association

1029 S. 4th Street
Springfield, IL 62703

Email to: acaldwell@ihca.com

Fax to: 217.528.0452