

LEADING WITH CLARITY UNDER PRESSURE

Leading with Clarity Under Pressure is a **four-module executive leadership course** designed for senior care leaders. Participants will work through practical tools, guided reflection, facilitated discussion, and application exercises focused on emotional intelligence, employee engagement, critical thinking, problem solving, and sustainable leadership rhythms.

MODULE 1: EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE UNDER PRESSURE

This module helps leaders understand how self-awareness, self-regulation, tone, trust, and emotional steadiness shape leadership credibility under pressure. Participants will examine how executive presence, emotional control, and communication habits influence difficult conversations and team confidence.

Participants will:

- Identify at least two ways emotional self-awareness affects trust and communication during pressure-filled leadership moments.
- Apply a practical pause-and-choose response model to improve steadiness during difficult conversations.
- Select one leadership communication behavior that can strengthen tone, clarity, or trust within their organization.

MODULE 2: ENERGIZING AND ENGAGING EMPLOYEES

This module focuses on the leadership conditions that shape discretionary effort, engagement, and employee experience. Participants will examine how clarity, recognition, consistency, communication, and perceived value either energize employees or contribute to disengagement.

Participants will:

- Explain how clarity, consistency, recognition, and perceived value influence employee engagement.
- Differentiate between leadership behaviors that energize employees and behaviors that unintentionally drain morale or effort.
- Create one practical engagement action that can be implemented with a team, department, or direct-report group.

MODULE 3: CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING FOR LEADERS

This module provides leaders with a practical framework for diagnosing leadership and cultural challenges beyond surface-level symptoms. Participants will practice separating evidence from assumption, identifying patterns, asking better questions, and matching the leadership response to the actual level of the problem.

Participants will:

- Use a root-cause questioning framework to examine a leadership or culture challenge beyond its surface symptoms.
- Distinguish between evidence, assumption, and recurring patterns when evaluating organizational problems.
- Determine a more appropriate leadership response by identifying whether a problem is behavioral, communication-based, structural, cultural, or resource-related.

MODULE 4: OVERCOMING BURNOUT WITHOUT LOWERING STANDARDS

This module reframes burnout prevention as a leadership responsibility tied to clarity, rhythm, standards, communication, and sustainable execution. Participants will examine how reactive leadership habits, unclear expectations, and inconsistent follow-through increase fatigue, then build a practical leadership rhythm that protects energy while preserving accountability.

Participants will:

- Describe how unclear expectations, reactive leadership, and inconsistent communication intensify burnout conditions.
- Assess one organizational or leadership habit that contributes to fatigue, reactivity, or avoidable stress.
- Build one practical leadership rhythm that protects energy, reinforces accountability, and supports more sustainable performance.

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

CURT STEEL



Curt Steel is a law enforcement professional and leadership trainer whose career has been rooted in public service, practical leadership, and training development. He began his career with the Riley County Police Department in Manhattan, Kansas, in 2006 and achieved the rank of Lieutenant, serving as the Patrol Lieutenant. His experience includes working as a K-9 Handler, Police Training Officer, Special Investigations Unit member, and Crisis Hostage Negotiator Team Leader.

Curt earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Central Christian College of Kansas and a master's in public leadership and administration from Arizona State University. He also serves as a part-time adjunct instructor for Central Christian College of Kansas and as a senior instructor at the National De-Escalation Training Center.

Tyler Siefkes is a public safety leader, trainer, and communicator with a background in media, dispatch, adult learning, and operational leadership. A graduate of the A.Q. Miller School of Media and Communications at Kansas State University, Tyler began his professional career in sports radio before entering public service as an emergency dispatcher with the Riley County Police Department in 2008.

During his career at RCPD, Tyler has served as a Dispatch Trainer, Shift Supervisor, and Communication Center Manager. His leadership work has included major operational projects such as radio infrastructure implementation and accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Tyler also revamped the dispatch training program at RCPD by incorporating Problem-Based Learning, Emotional Intelligence, and adult learning principles.

TYLER SIEFKES



PATRICK TIEDE



Patrick "Pat" Tiede is a Police Lieutenant, leadership instructor, and organizational development professional with more than 27 years of public safety experience. His background spans operational, investigative, tactical, training, and command roles, providing a broad perspective on effective leadership and team performance.

A graduate of Kansas State University and the University of Kansas Law Enforcement Leadership Academy, Pat is passionate about developing leaders and building high-performing teams. As a facilitator with Steel Built Leadership Solutions, he brings practical experience, relatable insights, and an engaging approach to leadership development.

Jennifer White-Slough, MSN, APRN, FNP-C is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner and owner of Prairie Winds Family Care, one of Kansas' pioneering APRN-led rural primary care practices. Since 2008, she has provided compassionate, patient-centered care while advancing healthcare access and innovation in rural communities.

With extensive experience in emergency medicine, primary care, healthcare leadership, and business ownership, Jennifer is passionate about building strong teams, fostering meaningful relationships, and helping individuals and organizations thrive. She holds degrees from Kansas State University, Missouri Western State University, and Fort Hays State University, and is board-certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Jennifer brings a unique perspective that blends healthcare, leadership, and resilience, drawing on decades of experience serving patients, leading an innovative medical practice, and supporting the well-being of her community.

JENNI WHITE-SLOUGH



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