# Leaders Helping Leaders

A Content Marketing Campaign for CommLead's Alumni Fandom

Natalie Q. Godfrey December 14, 2022 COMMLD 513A

# **Executive summary**

Preliminary research overwhelmingly indicates a strong desire from alumni for **networking opportunities**, both professional and personal.

We propose an interactive, alumni-only **networking event series** that will **nurture alumni fandom** by helping engaged alumni build supportive relationships with each other and feel connected within our larger community.

# Outline

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# Campaign overview

Our alumni-only networking event series will be

- Held quarterly across various locations and platforms
- Annually/individually-themed based on surveyed alumni interests
- ✓ Include asynchronous resources uploaded to an online event archive
- ✓ Use interactive icebreakers and structured networking activities to engage participants
- ✓ Giveaway **swag** as incentive for participation



# Goals

Client goal	<b>To form a relationship with alumni</b> that encourages: (a) <b>connection</b> within the CommLead community, and (b) ongoing <b>contributions</b> to CommLead through participation, sharing, volunteering and/or donating
Project goal	To build a relationship with alumni through content
Marketing objective	To <b>nurture alumni fandom</b> - getting alumni to actively share, contribute to and champion CommLead
Campaign objective	To address <b>alumni networking needs</b> through an interactive, transformational event series

## Audience: Engaged Alumni

#### Start by rewarding existing fans

- Alumni who demonstrate high interest in and/or frequent engagement with existing content
- Alumni already attending events or following on social media, hoping for more incentive or chances to participate
- Alumni who have been vocal about what they would participate in



### **Audience: Motivations & Challenges**

#### Alumni need clarity

"[Information] needs to be clear and easy for alumni to make informed decisions about what they want to opt in."

#### Alumni trust alumni

"I go to CommLead events because CommLead people will be there. [W]e have a shared foundation and values that make it so I know I'm talking with someone who I can trust."

#### Alumni want opportunities to connect

"Make reasons for people to gather so connections can grow organically"

#### Alumni want other alumni to participate

"You need some critical mass to be successful. [...] You need a seeder group to get it started."

#### Alumni need various ways to engage

"I might not be able to make [an event] or [...] process all the information in one sitting. So, having a post-event recording or [...] write up with key takeaways goes a long way."

### Audience: Key Themes & Takeaways

#	Themes	Takeaways
1	Connection	Alumni value, trust and champion CommLead for access to other alumni
2	Trust	Strong connections form through shared values and experiences
3	Access	Multiple formats and points of access maximize audience engagement
4	Clarity	Clear, consistent messaging builds trust and encourages participation
5	Participation	Content must be engaging to encourage group participation

### **Desired Outcomes**

For Audience	For CommLead
This campaign will offer genuine opportunities for alumni to connect and learn through participation.	This campaign will get alumni to actively <b>share</b> our content and events, volunteer to <b>contribute</b> content and attend events, and <b>recruit</b> for CommLead.
Alumni will be able <b>to build supportive</b> <b>relationships</b> and feel connected within our larger community; to feel proud of the CommLead community.	Alumni will <b>champion</b> CommLead in their own communities.

## **Messaging Framework**

Under CommLead branding...

Community-Driven means... We make sure people in our community have opportunities to work together because we know it makes our program curriculum stronger, increases experiential opportunities, and builds long-lasting networks.



#### For this campaign...

Community-Driven means... We make sure alumni to feel listened to and engaged by CommLead because we know it makes our overall community stronger.

## **Messaging: Desired Attributes**

We know we're successful when alumni say: we are **community-driven**. Collaborative / Empowering / Supportive / Inclusive

I feel connected to the whole community

I see the commitment to help us connect with each other. I know I have a network that I can rely on. I feel supported both personally and professionally

I enjoy getting to know people and seeing that we care about each other's lives and share important values. It makes me feel safe and supported.

# I feel informed and included

We update our channels for alumni. I feel included because CommLead reaches out to me and lets me know I'm invited.

#### **Content Plan: Overview**

OUTLINE	PRE-EVENT	EVENT	POST-EVENT
Series overview Audience research Select themes Select speakers Select locations Publish calendar Procure swag	Video kick-off Registration page Email confirmations Instagram template Newsletter template	Milling / floor activities Introductions Group game Quick ice breaker Speaker (15 min max.) Rotating table groups Outro / swag winnings Exit flyer	Online survey Email thank you A&V archive Summary article Metrics review

#### **Event Components** 6 2 5 3 4 1 Milling / Floor Intro & **Speaker Lecture as Rotating Table** Outro & Exit Flyer Activities Ice Breakers **Conversation Starter** Networking Swag Winnings with Survey

#### Component 2 / 3 : Introductory game / ice breakers

Start each event with an interactive **group activity** that captures attention, sets the tone, and gets the jitters out

• Gamify it - get a plush, throwable "mic" (any soft object will do) and put questions to the audience. For example, "What did you want to be when you were little, and how does it relate to what you're doing now?" (Source: <u>Social Tables</u>)

How it supports our goal	✓ Gets audience interactive and invested
How it supports our audience	<ul> <li>✓ Allows audience to settle in</li> <li>✓ Aids participation</li> <li>✓ Shows CL is engaging</li> </ul>
How to measure its success	<ul><li>✓ Number of participants</li><li>✓ Exit survey responses</li></ul>

#### Component 4: Rotating table networking

Ask attendees to **self-select into groups** by pre-selected interest categories. Mark categories on tables (during prep). Encourage rotating tables every 15-20 minutes. Like long-form "speed-dating." Adjust to needs of the audience and space.

• Gamify it - incorporate social media, NFC tags and/or QR codes for check-in, information swapping, scavenger hunts and/or rewards

How it supports our goal	✓ Keeps audience interactive and invested
How it supports our audience	<ul> <li>✓ Allows audience to grow network in a fun way</li> <li>✓ Aids participation</li> <li>✓ Shows CL is engaging</li> </ul>
How to measure its success	<ul><li>✓ Number of participants</li><li>✓ Exit survey responses</li></ul>

### **Metrics: Audience Engagement**

#### **Digital Metrics**

- ✓ Social likes and comments
- ✓ Social shares and mentions
- ✓ Inbound links related to event

#### **Live/In-Person Metrics**

- ✓ Event rsvps and attendance
- ✓ Participation during events
- ✓ Exit survey responses

**Important:** Surveys for event feedback, suggestions, and testimonials help grow momentum and maintain consistency. Be sure to build a scannable, scalable feedback bank for future reference.

### **Next Steps / Appendix**

- Review <u>Content Plan</u>
- Assign Roles & Responsibilities
- Finalize Editorial Calendar

#### Thank you!



#### Keep in touch!

Natalie Q. Godfrey nggodfrey@gmail.com www.nggodfrey.com