



Helping Companies Develop a Lean Culture of Continuous Improvement Since 2012!

Build a Lean Culture to Ensure Long-Term Success

MWCC has held regional Lean Peer Groups throughout Maryland since 2012. This program is now available to organizations regardless of company location. Whether you are a manufacturer, distributor, service organization, or a non-profit, this program should be part of your Continuous Improvement plan. This is a unique learn/assess/apply Lean culture development process which includes the monthly meetings along with member follow-up actions.

The Lean Peer Group Process – A Catalyst for Developing a Culture of Continuous Improvement

- MWCC Virtual Lean Peer Group Monthly Meeting (2 hours)
 - Follow-up Review - Discuss previously provided video or article.
 - Training/Discussion
 - Topic Examples - Lean Leadership, Resistance/Reluctance to Change, Influence/Motivation, Lean Principles, Support System Alignment, Engagement Methods, Office Lean, Lean Fundamentals, Key Lean Tools
 - Company Presentation
 - At each meeting, a member company will provide a short presentation on Lean practices or activities in their organization, such as a company project, challenge, or Lean plans, for Group learning and/or to obtain member input.
 - Open Discussion
 - Members have an opportunity to share experiences for others to learn and/or to request Group input on issues and challenges.
 - Follow-up Activities
 - Article or Video - Review for discussion at the next Lean Peer Group meeting.
 - Proposed Action Item/Assessment - Based on Training/Discussion topic(s).
- Suggested Approach for Member Follow-up Activities
 - Lean Peer Group Meeting Review - Those who attended the Lean Peer Group meeting, lead a review of topics/discussion from the meeting. (Lean Peer Group facilitator slides and other shared information is provided to members.)
 - Assessment/Application - Assess current condition based on Follow-up Action Item and develop appropriate plans. (Members are at various stages on their Lean journeys, so specific actions may vary greatly.)
 - Next Meeting Prep - Determine who will be attending the next meeting and complete any preparation items. (Article or video reviews should be broadly reviewed, not only by those attending the next meeting.)

Program Features

- Member Locations - Participation will not be restricted to any particular region within Maryland, nor is participation exclusive to Maryland organizations. The videoconference format enables participation of organizations regardless of location.
- Number of Members - Since room capacity limitations are not a concern with videoconferencing, we will increase the maximum number of participating organizations to fourteen (vs previous count of nine). Number of participants per company is not restricted (within reason).
- Number of Meetings and Additional Events - There are 12 Lean Peer Group meetings per round, and MWCC Quarterly Conferences are no-cost to members. Also, optional MWCC facility tours will be available to increase learning.
- "Members Only" - Each Group has their own area on the MWCC website. This member area will have a location for materials such as meeting presentation slides and other shared information.

Who Should Attend?

Organizations - Our Lean Peer Groups have a mix of companies from a broad range of industries and Lean maturity levels, from those who are just getting started to some who would be considered Lean-mature organizations. The only real requirement is a sincere desire and commitment to moving forward on this never-ending journey of excellence.

Meeting Attendees - There are no restrictions as to company position, but typical attendees include Lean facilitators and company leaders. Specifically, front-line leaders would gain greatly from ongoing participation. Though anyone in the organization is welcome to participate.

What is the cost?

The company cost for the 12-month program is \$3000. Lean Peer Group participation includes a one-year MWCC membership, a \$1250 value. Most Maryland companies qualify for grant reimbursement of 50% of the \$3000 fee at the end of the Peer Group round. (*This reimbursement is subject to availability of funding and adequate appropriation.*) Considering these factors, the effective cost for Maryland members would be \$250 for the whole organization. (Non-Maryland organizations should check grant availability in their states.)

Your Lean Peer Group Facilitator

Dave Rizzardo has been the Associate Director of MWCC since 2014. In 2012, he co-developed the Lean Peer Group service and has been facilitating multiple groups since that time. His Lean experience predates the time when Lean became synonymous with business excellence. His recently published book, ***Lean - Let's Get It Right! How to Build a Culture of Continuous Improvement***, dives into many of the topics discussed during the Lean Peer Group meetings.

Questions?

If you have questions about this program, contact MWCC Associate Director, Dave Rizzardo (dave@leanmaryland.com, 717-855-0765), or MWCC Managing Director, Joyce La Padula (joyce@leanmaryland.com, 410-960-3785). If you would like to attend a Lean Peer Group session as a guest, contact Dave for the next available opportunity and the meeting link.