



FEBRUARY 2019

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MEMBERSHIP

A Letter from Alan Reed

Executive Director of the Chicagoland Food & Beverage Network

February is a challenging time in Chicagoland, since it's when many of us start to lose our patience for winter, and more actively yearn for Spring to begin (any day now would work for me!) Despite the cold weather, we continue to host a series of fun and informational industry events. Within the past month, we hosted a terrific event with member, [Technomic](#), to discuss this year's foodservice industry trends. We also partnered with our member [SPINS](#) to examine natural food trends (rescheduled due to the Polar Vortex) and partnered with our friends at [Fifty Gazelles](#) for an incredible Innovation Breakfast. This month's breakfast discussion focused on the migration experiences of three incredible women, and their journeys from roles in big food companies, to smaller start-up businesses. Fear not, if you haven't yet had the opportunity to attend a CFBN event this year,



we're just getting started! We have several events to look forward to including: *Financial Transactions in the Food & Beverage Industry* with our member [CohnReznick](#), *Evolving Supply Chains for New Global Challenges* with our partners at [Loyola University](#), and *Leveraging Healthier Food Trends to Grow Your Business* with our partners at [Partnership for a Healthier America](#). See details and registration instructions below.

We continue to be humbled by the growth of the Network. As of the end of January, we accomplished an important milestone – our 100th corporate member! We welcomed organizations, including: [ADM](#), [KeHE Foods](#), [Curion Insights](#), [Cresco Labs](#), [CohnReznick](#) and [IdealPop](#). We've also had the pleasure of bringing more start-ups aboard, such as [Mudlrk](#), [Stout](#) and [Tempo](#) Beverages. Thanks to all of our new members, and to our existing members who have welcomed them warmly. If your company is considering membership, now is a great time – please email me at alan@chicagolandfood.org for more information.

As Spring approaches, we're looking forward to celebrating our second anniversary in April. Be on the lookout for special events and activities to mark this event. We're honored to continue to grow the food & beverage industry locally through the Chicagoland Food and Beverage Network. We certainly look forward to your guidance and continued support as we continue to make Chicagoland the “Silicon Valley of Food and Beverage.”

Best Regards,

Alan Reed, Executive Director

EVENTS

Supply Chain Solutions Workshop: Evolving Supply Chains for New Global Challenges

Feb. 21, 2019: 7:30 am - 9:30 am

Lawson Products, 8770 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. #900, Chicago

The logistics and supply chain operating environment is in a constant state of flux – especially in the food and beverage industry – with the managers behind these processes always looking for new ways to get products more efficiently to an ever more demanding industry marketplace.



[Register Now](#)

Behind the Scenes: *Financial Transactions In the Food & Beverage Industry*

Feb. 27, 2019: 8:00 am - 10:00 am

100 S. Wacker Dr., South Wacker Room, Chicago

Join us for a look behind the scenes of what it's like to sell or re-capitalize your food, beverage, ingredient, or other industry-related company.

Your company has been built, sustained growth, and developed within the marketplace. But now, as company leaders, you must decide as to the direction you wish to head next - towards growth and internal expansion or towards potential sale. [CohnReznick](#) will moderate a discussion examining the considerations and implications of these two major paths. Investment bank and private equity industry insiders will provide actionable insights into what matters most for a potential transaction.



[Register Now](#)

Leveraging Healthier Food Trends to Grow Your Business

March 6, 2019: 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Edelman, Aon Center, 200 E. Randolph St. #63, Chicago

Convenience and on-demand purchasing practices are becoming the new normal for consumers. Technology is disrupting the food space at a quicker pace than ever before. In this environment, healthy innovation and market disruption are necessary to make nutritious foods more accessible to American families. The food and beverage industry has a pivotal role to play! Are you and your company prepared for what tomorrow will bring? Learn how organizations like MARS are thriving by being a part of the next phase of the healthy revolution



[Register Now](#)

New Frontiers in Food: Network and Learn from European FoodTech Companies

March 20, 2019: 8:45 am - 11:00 am

Michigan Plaza Conference Center (Plaza Room), 205/225 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago

Join us as we host 22 innovative European food and beverage companies for a morning networking event, to learn about the cutting edge technologies and companies emerging in the international market. With just three stops in the U.S. on their innovation tour - this is an opportunity you don't want to miss. CFBN is bringing global innovation, best practices and collaboration right to Chicago!



[Register Now](#)

Industry Events!

- **2/19: Opportunities Abound: Exciting New Product Trends**, Presented by Healthy & Natural Chicagoland. Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member Discount](#) Available!
- **3/22-3/23: Good Food Expo**, Presented by with Network partner Family Farmed. Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member discount](#) available!
- **3/26-3/27: 2019 Clean Label Conference**, Presented by our member Global Food Forums. Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member Discount](#) Available!
- **3/26-3/28: ProFood Tech**, Presented by PACK EXPO, Koelnmesse and the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member Discount](#) Available!
- **3/27-3/28: Trends and Innovations Seminar**, Presented by our member Sosland Publishing & Food Business News. Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member Discount](#) Available!
- **4/7-4/9: 2019 SFA Business Summit**, Presented by the Specialty Foods Association. Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member Discount](#) Available!
- **4/8-4/11: HPP Short Course and Workshop** Presented by our member IIT/IFSH. Learn more about this event [here](#). CFBN [Member Discount](#) Available!

Our food & beverage industry wide events [calendar](#) is updated regularly and 2019 promises to have an exciting roster of events!

NEWS

Industry News & Highlights:

- Top Trends were the focus of Tuesday's [SPINS](#) event, ***Natural Foods Forecast 2019: What are the top trends in the market's hottest category?*** Check out our event recap [here](#)
- CFBN executive director Alan Reed tells us why there's never been a better

time to launch a food or beverage start-up t in this Industry Week [interview](#)

- We're discovering new ways to bring you the best CFBN content! [Follow 'chgofood'](#) to access footage from our latest Natural Foods Forecast event with our member Spins.
- Alan Reed shares insight on small business strategies in the Food & Beverage Industry with Business First for their "[Start Me Up](#)" segment.



Have news? We regularly [post news](#) and updates from around the industry on our CFBN news - make sure to include them in your daily reading, and [drop us an email](#) if your company has any newsworthy updates!

CAREER CENTER

Check out new opportunities in the Chicagoland area!

Our members are always looking for talented candidates to fill positions within their organizations. We're here to connect you to those wonderful opportunities. Check out these latest postings from our members!

Associate Project Manager - JelSert

Responsibilities Include:

- Successfully lead new product development from project kick-off to first production. New products include, but are not limited to, new formulas, packaging formats, and in-store displays across Jel Sert branded and licensed products.
- Provide input to the project scope as needed
- Initiate projects within Jel Sert's commercialization process
- Lead and collaborate with cross-functional teams through process to develop project plans with key milestones to ensure project success



Take me to this job [post](#).

Logistics Coordinator

Responsibilities Include:

- Deliver multi-level operational support for GlobalTranz's client shipments and transportation through tracking & tracing activity (inbound/outbound phone calls and e-mails), ensuring on-time delivery and pick-up
- Clarify load requirements with carriers, confirming drivers have proper information (pick up & delivery requirements)
- Utilize and update tracking methods through the use of GlobalTranz's load management system to create efficiencies



- Provide support to the OS&D department by gathering detailed information from external carriers, customers, and internal representatives to quickly resolve shipment issues
- Handle client problems in accordance with GlobalTranz's standard operating procedures (SOP's) and escalate to appropriate business function as needed; maintain customer satisfaction and provide high quality service and work ethic while representing GlobalTranz

Take me to this job [post](#).

MEMBERSHIP

Say Hello To Our New Members!

Our network continues to grow! We are excited to welcome **KeHe Foods, Mele, UniCreamer**, to our network, which includes over 70 corporate members and over 100 individual members (and counting). Thank you for being a part of the organization!



CFBN Member Profile: FONA International

In the world of flavor, [FONA](#) is the independent alternative for companies looking for innovation and expertise. At the heart of their success, is FONA's belief in true collaboration, with open access to their laboratories, personnel, and expertise. Whether [sharing insights into flavors](#), [curating a Flavor board](#) with great content, or [bringing attention](#) to their community education programs - FONA is getting involved.



FONA is a cornerstone member of CFBN - thank you again for your support!



Cottingham & Butler









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For all inquiries, please contact newsletter@chicagolandfood.org

OUR MISSION

To drive inclusive economic growth in Chicagoland by bringing together the region's food and beverage industry stakeholders to pursue collaborative opportunities.