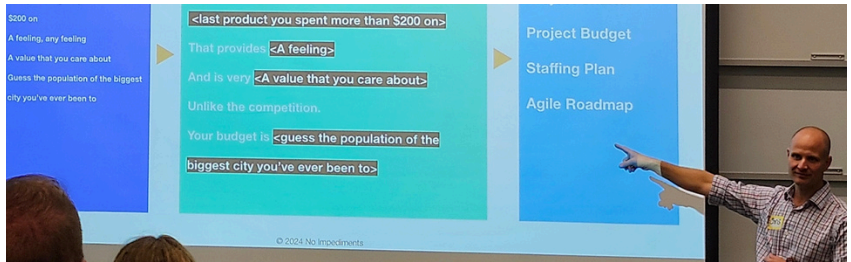


Chris Leonard

PRESS KIT



about Chris

Chris Leonard builds high-performing teams around complex problems and helps leaders do the same.

He founded No Impediments in 2023 where he serves clients in higher ed, retail, life sciences, and more.

Chris came to coaching as a second career after 10 years on the road in the music industry.

He lives in Nashville, Tennessee with his wife, two kids, a dog and a cat.

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offerings

- Keynotes
- Half-day and full-day workshops
- Professional development days
- Chapter meetings

audiences

- Founders
- Small Business Owners
- Chief Technology Officers
- Project Managers
- Business Analysts
- Agilists
- Product Managers



testimonials

The event's NPS score of 80 speaks volumes about the quality of his delivery and the value attendees derived from his insights. Chris created a truly memorable learning opportunity that will undoubtedly benefit our attendees moving forward.

Ezekiel Meyer
Project Management Institute
Greater St Louis Chapter

I wholeheartedly recommend this confident speaker and creative storyteller.

Renée Anne Poulin, KC Agile

Chris' energy brought KPIs into a new light for our chapter members. I have already received requests to bring Chris back next year!

Liz Menne, Project Management Institute
Columbus GA Chapter

Chris's ability to connect with the audience and convey his message clearly made a significant impact.

Greg Campeau, Michigan Agile Groupies

themes

- Leadership development
- AI product delivery
- High performing teams
- Enterprise agility
- Product strategy
- OKR / Vision & Values Workshops
- Emotional Intelligence



Lean and Clean

THE ART OF GIVING AND RECEIVING CRUCIAL FEEDBACK

We all know good leadership requires giving effective feedback, and we can all improve at it.

What's so often neglected is that how a leader receives feedback directly relates to how well they give feedback.

Learn how to foresee and manage your behavior; plan for the best outcome; and follow through for maximum impact.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Give feedback directly, empathetically, and intentionally.
- Received feedback with openness, curiosity, and a wise grain of salt.
- Develop practical skills to manage, plan, and teach the practice of feedback in everyday work

Persuasion Agility

MASTERING THE ART OF INFLUENCE

How do we lead a change without using or even having power over the person we seek to redirect? Influence and persuasion are crucial to any kind of leadership, yet they get so little attention.

This talk uses colorful storytelling, humor, and a tested persuasion method from an unlikely source to show learners how to persuade more effectively, especially in dealing with stakeholders relationships where influence alone wins the day.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Bypass resistance and successfully persuade stakeholders
- Overcome common stakeholder alignment problems
- Avoid common misconceptions about how behaviors support or undermine performance.

AI Tools for Effective Leaders

How can AI help a leader become more effective?

In this session, learners will get started with AI tools and immediately begin augmenting their creative problem-solving skills.

They will learn how to flex AI's expansive power to streamline common and time-consuming tasks with higher quality than ever before.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand the current landscape of AI tools for text, images, audio, and video generation.
- Develop and build on basic fluency with prompt engineering to iteratively refine their abilities.
- Apply AI tools to common tasks in content creation, group facilitation, and problem-solving.

Weighing the Cost of Intervention

Speaking up always incurs a price. Is the benefit worth it?

This talk shows audiences when to intervene, what it really costs, and how to excel at it.

The attendee can carefully assess when to keep silent and when and how best to step in.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Recognize and categorize the costs of intervention
- Identify sound and unsound reasons for intervention in teamwork or meetings
- Minimize the tradeoffs of stepping in once the decision is made

Leading AI-Enabled Product Development

This session orients participants to the essential knowledge for managing AI technology initiatives.

Through a combination of exposition, discussion, individual and group activities, participants will refine their approach to project management with the market and technical context in view.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Confidently navigate technology programs in which GenAI is a crucial part of the solution (last link in the chain)
- Understand the unique implications of AI projects to schedule, budget, and scope
- Refine techniques for managing AI Projects and programs

Mindsets for Better, Shorter Meetings

Meetings are hard. So much advice about them focuses on leaders, but what about participants?

This talk is all about how every contributor and facilitator can make meetings short, fun and productive.

This talk exposes the gnarled roots of meeting dysfunctions, teaches learners how to reverse the cycle, and gives practical tips for getting this crucial practice right.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Improve meetings as either participant or facilitator.
- Increase awareness of team mindsets around meetings.
- Orchestrate more effective interactions.
- Solve common time management problems.