

# Learning Labs can aid business

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By Christine Charnosky

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The Delaware Valley Family Business Center of Sellersville holds Next-Generation Learning Labs to assist family businesses.

**The labs are meant to develop leadership and management skills.**

The labs meet on a monthly basis and are facilitated by former CEO's of family businesses, said Sally Derstine, managing director.

Currently two learning labs, consisting of about a dozen members each, meet regularly, but DVFBC is looking to start more learning labs.

The members for the learning labs are carefully selected so that members are not direct competitors and can feel free to share details of specific challenges, said Jessica Lester of Communication Solutions of Jenkintown, DVFBC's public relations firm.

The labs are meant to develop leadership and management skills, said Derstine.

"It's calling upon what we can do to develop the next generation," she said, "how to step up and plan for the future."

Members get the perspective from multiple well-run businesses in the region, Derstine said.

The DVFBC also holds four events per year for family-run businesses.

The next event, "The Art of Letting Go: Aligning Values, Hearts & Hands", will be held May 24.

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On September 20, "Ownership Transfer: How We Honored Both Generations and the Business" will be held with "The Passion, Power & Perils of Sibling Teams" scheduled for November 15.

More information on these conferences is available on-line at [www.dvfambus.com](http://www.dvfambus.com).

Business owners interested in joining a learning lab should call DVFBC to arrange for an admission interview.

**For more information about DVFBC, call (215) 723-8413, or visit [www.dvfambus.com](http://www.dvfambus.com)**

