

## Director's Corner | SimLEARN: The Four I's Tour

By Eric Bruns, MBA | SimLEARN Executive Director



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Fall is approaching and I am excited to announce that I will be going on tour! Starting in October, I'll be visiting Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities across the country to showcase the incredible work we're doing at SimLEARN. This tour isn't just about handshakes and familiar faces — it's about putting our mission in the spotlight, highlighting the transformative power of simulation in health care, and showing how our innovations are actively improving care for Veterans.

At the core of what we do are the "4 I's" — **Involve**, **Immerse**, **Improve**, and **Impact**. These four simple words embody how we approach everything, from simulation-based training to health care evaluation, and most importantly, how we transform the care Veterans receive. So, let's break them down:

**Involve** is where it all begins. We actively engage health care professionals and Veterans throughout the learning and evaluation process. This isn't just a top-down approach — we value the feedback, collaboration, and insight from everyone involved. It's about creating a shared experience that evolves based on real needs and real stories, both from the frontlines and from the Veterans we serve.

**Immerse** is what sets our teams up for success. We create realistic, immersive simulations that mimic the complexities of real-world Veteran care. These aren't just "practice runs" — they are intense, hands-on experiences that challenge health care professionals in ways that directly translate into better care. Whether it's critical thinking, problem-solving, or teamwork, this immersive approach prepares our teams for anything that comes their way.

**Improve** is the goal that keeps us moving forward. At SimLEARN, we're constantly striving to improve patient outcomes. It's not enough to just "train" — we focus on equipping VA staff with the right tools, training, and technology to succeed. Whether we're reducing medical errors or boosting patient safety, our mission is to help teams deliver the best care possible.

And then there's **Impact**. This is where everything comes together. Through education, research, and evaluation, SimLEARN is impacting the entire Veteran health care experience. Whether it's cutting-edge technologies or new clinical procedures, the impact of our work is felt across every corner of VA. On this tour, I'll be sharing success stories from our work — real examples of how SimLEARN is using simulation to raise the bar for excellence in health care.

As I travel across the country, my goal is to reinforce what SimLEARN represents. Our work goes beyond training — it's about creating a system that constantly evolves, improves, and adapts to the needs of Veterans. This tour is a celebration of the progress we've made together and a look ahead at the road we're still building as we continue to push the envelope to ensure our Veterans receive the best possible care — through **Involvement**, **Immersion**, **Improvement**, and **Impact**.