



**Chris Layden**

**Chief Executive Officer  
Kelly®**

[Chris Layden](#) became Chief Executive Officer of Kelly, a global workforce strategy and solutions provider, in September 2025. A dynamic leader with more than 20 years of industry experience, Chris has an impressive track record of transforming enterprises, executing go-to-market initiatives, and accelerating profitable growth.

Chris is leading Kelly with a customer-centric and growth-focused mindset. Passionate about Kelly's iconic brand and its legacy as a pioneer in the workforce solutions industry, he is spearheading the company's specialty strategy by fostering a culture of collaboration, accountability, and purpose. He is widely recognized for his ability to identify emerging market needs, design innovative solutions, and execute with speed and precision.

Prior to joining Kelly, Chris served as Chief Operating Officer at Prolink, a workforce solutions provider focused on the healthcare, technology, and skilled labor sectors in the United States. Under his leadership, Prolink achieved rapid organic growth and significantly strengthened its competitive positioning by enhancing its operational capabilities, innovating its service delivery, and transforming its technology platforms.

Previously, Chris spent nearly two decades at ManpowerGroup, a global workforce solutions company, serving in a range of senior roles spanning general management, regional leadership, corporate strategy, and sales. During his tenure at ManpowerGroup, Chris successfully led enterprise-wide initiatives, executed multiple business transformations, and was a significant contributor to the company's growth in the life sciences, engineering, and technology verticals.

Chris began his career in staffing as an intern while pursuing his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy at Boston College, where he graduated magna cum laude. He is a member of The Aspen Institute's 2026 Class of Henry Crown Fellows and serves on the Boards of Directors for the American Staffing Association, Business Leaders for Michigan, the Detroit Regional Chamber, and the Detroit Economic Club. He previously served on the boards of the Milwaukee Public Library, the Milwaukee Academy of Science, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the United Way Emerging Leader Council in Milwaukee, and the Three Harbors Council of Boy Scouts of America. A recognized workforce solutions and labor market expert, he regularly shares his expertise on employment trends at industry events and with the media.

A native of Milwaukee, Chris resides in Detroit, Michigan with his wife and two children.