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## Nonprofit Leadership Quarterly News

Q2-2019



### *A New Year and a New Board*

I am now ashamed of how I used to orient new board members, as a new Executive Director myself. Much more is needed and deserved by these volunteer boards than a shiny board of directors manual handed out to the members, after a brief tour, and one-on-one coffee with the ED or Board Chair.

Because of all I've learned and experienced over the years as an executive director and interim executive director, I now know that there are critical leadership formation and transition processes required for nonprofits to be successful and that this success depends on a high-functioning, independent Board of Directors.

The quality of Board leadership and engagement, starts at their beginning – from board recruiting to the first convening of the newly assembled board. And (deep sigh because we all feel pressure of time) there must be deliberate, multiple gatherings in the first couple of months for:

- Socialization among the full board, to build relationships and trust;

- Information presented about market conditions facing the nonprofit (this can be presented by the CEO and also helps to position him/her as the business and operations expert);
- Discussions among board members about strategic direction, mission, and their own reason and connection to the organization's purpose, work and the community's need; and
- Board retreats with training and structured discussions around: finances & operations; ways to work effectively together and with staff; and Board roles and responsibilities (e.g. fundraising responsibility, how to be active ambassadors, and committee service.)

To access the full article "**New Year, New Board**", please go to LevRidge's [new blog](#).

## What We've Been Up To?

### Training

- We had a full house for our annual training overview for **New Nonprofit Board Chairs** on May 28.
- Our newest offering has also filled for our three-part series workshop for executive directors beginning to think about a transition, happening this summer, with guest instructors, Rev. Sally Johnson and Andy Calhoun, retired YMCA Charlotte, CEO.
- "**Mining for Gold, Using Donor Information to Develop Major Gift Prospects**," a training provided to ED's and Development Directors on April 26, in collaboration with Share Charlotte and presented by Katie Benston, CFRE, and Kathy Ridge, was a success with over 40 in attendance.
- In August and September, we are doing **Board Formation and Development training sessions and retreats** for NPO's convening their new boards with newly elected board officers for the beginning of the fiscal year.

If you are interested in training for your organization, call us at 704-710-6468 fill out the [inquiry form on our website](#).

## Where is LevRidge Resources Currently?

- **Bill Geiger** is consulting with **Crisis Assistance Ministry**.
- **Katie Benston** is serving as Interim Operations Manager for **Women's Impact Fund**.
- **Laurie Schwartz** is serving as Interim Development Director for **Apparo IT Consulting**.
- **Steve Bentley** is consulting with **Lincoln County Arts Council** and **First Book Charlotte**.
- **Barbara Spradling** is consulting with **Clayworks**.
- **Kathy Ridge** is providing Board formation and development consulting for **Wing Haven**.

[our upcoming events...](#)

- **Katie Benston, CFRE, and Kathy Ridge will speak** , "No More Needle in A Haystack", at the annual [North Carolina Philanthropy Conference](#) on August 5.

*To explore how to strengthen your staff or board leadership, review the sustainability of your nonprofit's business model, or discuss executive and organization transitions and succession plans, please call us at 704-710-6468*

**Thank you for your Interest!**

Meet us



Clients

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