



Roadmap to Successful Leadership Succession



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Specifically, a Leadership Succession Plan...

Anticipates transitions – planned, unplanned, and emergency

Helps manage leadership transitions to minimize disruption to the organization

Today's Roadmap

Elements of Your Plan

Crafting Your Plan

Getting Started

Elements of Your Plan

Roles

Situations

Duties & Resources

Elements of Your Plan: Roles

Executive Director or CEO

- Board Members (Directors or Trustees)
- Board Leadership (Officers)

Elements of Your Plan: Situations

Long-term

1

Dismissed (or wins the lottery) "Departuredefined," e.g., retiring

Temporary

Leave, e.g., emergency medical Vacation or other planned leave

Sudden



Planned

Elements of Your Plan: Duties & Resources

 Recurring Duties: Daily, Monthly, Annually

- Where to Find Resources
 - Passwords and keys
 - Client, volunteer, and staff records



Crafting Your Plan

- The Big Picture
- Getting Down to Brass Tacks

Crafting Your Plan: The Big Picture

Written

Expresses commitment to continuity & stability



Sets forth a process or assigns responsibility

Crafting Your Plan: Brass Tacks



- 1. Template/Structure
- 2. RASCI
- 3. Tailor & fill in gaps
- 4. Distribute/Post/File

Template/Structure

Executive Director

- A. Job Description
- B. Planned/Temporary Leave
- C. Sudden/Temporary Leave
- D. Permanent Departure
- E. Locations of Organization's Records
- F. Recurring Duties

II. Board Members

- A. Job Description
- B. Recruitment & Selection
- C. Orientation & Onboarding
- D. Off-Boarding

III. Officers

Crafting Your Plan: Brass Tacks



- 1. Template/Structure
- 2. RASCI
- 3. Tailor & fill in gaps
- 4. Distribute/Post/File

Succession Pla					
for	R	Α	S	C	ı
ED					
Board Members					
Officers					
	Responsible	Accountable to	Supported by	Consult with	Inform

RASCI Example 1: Small Staff

Succession Pla	nning					
for	R A		S	С	I	
ED	ED	board	0	exED	cook, board	
Board Members	ED	board	0	board	board	
Officers	ED board		0	officers board		
	Accountable to Responsible		Supported by	Consult with	Inform	

RASCI Example 1: Small Staff

Succession Planning										
for	1-Sep	1-Oct	1-Nov	1-Dec	1-Jan	1-Feb	1-Mar	1-Apr	1-May	1-Jun
ED	Write		Share							
Board Members				Write	Confer	Revise	Share F	inal		
Officers							Write	Confer	Revise	Share Final

RASCI Example 2: Large Staff

Succession Planning					
for	R	Α	S	C	1
ED	ED	board	admin	exED	staff, board
Board Members	chair	board	ED	board	board, funder
Officers	chair	board	ED	officers	board
	Responsible	Accountable to	Supported by	Consult with	Inform

RASCI Example 2: Large Staff

Succession Pla	anning									
for	1-Sep	1-Oct	1-Nov	1-Dec	1-Jan	1-Feb	1-Mar	1-Apr	1-May	1-Jun
ED	Write		Share							
Board Members		Write	Confer	Revise	Share Fi	inal				
Officers	Write	Confer	Revise	Share F	inal					

Crafting Your Plan: Brass Tacks



- 1. Template/Structure
- 2. RASCI
- 3. Tailor & fill in gaps
 - Governance docs
 - Bylaws
 - Mission & vision
- 4. Distribute/Post/File



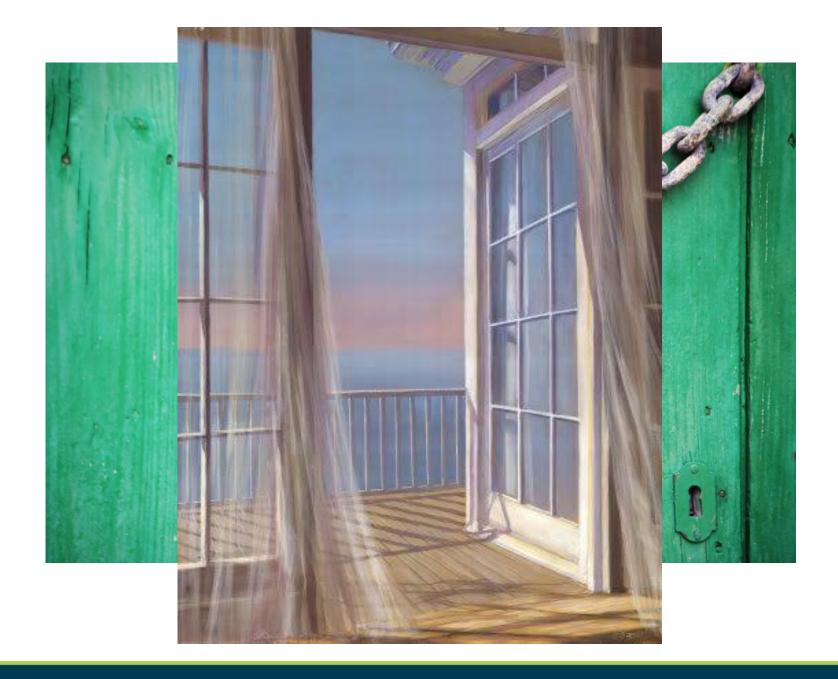
Getting Started

Fears & Obstacles

Creating Change

Getting Started: Fears & Obstacles

- I don't know where to start [OR] I don't know what one even looks like.
- We don't have time; we have more pressing priorities.
- We don't need one; we're too small.
- We can't predict the future; we'll deal with it if something happens.
- We already agree on what to do; why take the time to write it up?
- The board/leadership isn't willing to think about it.
- Our board is so geographically dispersed! It's hard to have the conversations.



Getting Started: Motivation

- ➤ Meaning
- ➤ Creation
- ➤ Challenges
- **>** Ownership
- **>** Identity

Getting Started: Change

- ◆People love to learn, and they are curious, innovative and adaptable.
- ◆People resist change.

Huh?

Getting Started: Change

Push v. Motivation

"Creating an open will to change."

Getting Started: Moving Forward



Trust

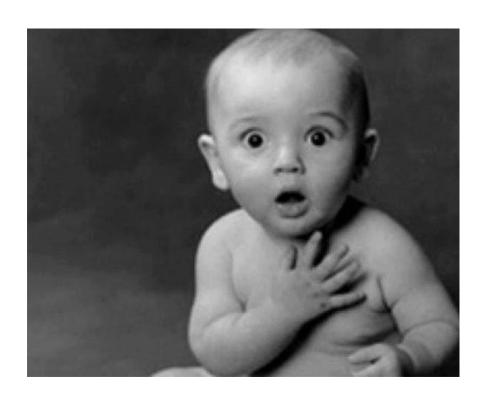
Urgency

Inspiration

Small Increments

Getting Started: Strategies

- > Prepare
- ➤ Look outside your box
- ➤ Listen well
- ➤ Be willing to amend your idea
- > Remember the board is individuals
- > Find an ally
- ➤ One-on-one conversations
- > Full group discussions



Don't be caught by surprise!



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