

Leading for Impact® and Leadership Accelerator

The Bridgespan Group is partnering with The Samueli Foundation to help Orange County nonprofits boost their effectiveness and amplify their impact.

Every day, nonprofits perform a heavy lift: making the most of limited resources to solve the world’s most difficult challenges. To respond effectively, nonprofits need the right tools, skills, and strong leaders. For more than a decade, The Bridgespan Group has worked with hundreds of nonprofits to boost their effectiveness and amplify their impact through two cohort-based programs: **Leading for Impact® (LFI)** and the **Leadership Accelerator**.

Leading for Impact® Program Overview

Leading for Impact® is a comprehensive experience for nonprofit executive teams that helps them strengthen their overall leadership skills while also making progress on a specific strategic goal. The program can be particularly beneficial for organizations with new leadership or that are seeking to strengthen their leadership pipeline.

Classroom workshops: Participants join cohorts of 6-8 nonprofits for virtual executive team workshops on strategy, organization, and team effectiveness.

Achieving Strategic Clarity	Planning to Guide Strategy	Aligning Funding to Strategy	Making Strategic Decisions	Leading Strategy Implementation	Building Executive Leadership
Clarifying Intended Impact	Setting and Using Goals and Priorities	Building a Strategic Funding Plan	Aligning Programs to Strategy	Using Data to Manage Performance	Investing in Future Leaders
Clarifying Theory of Change	Optimizing the Work of the Executive Team	Codifying an Investment Concept	Creating an Effective Decision-Making Culture	Leading Effective Meetings	LFI Project Sharing and Next Steps

Project: Executive teams also complete a team-led project, in which they apply strategic management concepts to their most critical priorities with extensive Bridgespan coaching. While projects are tailored to each organization, common project topics include:



Setting and Leading Strategy

- Clarifying strategic focus/ goals
- Creating an adaptive plan
- Building an executive dashboard



Making Strategic Decisions

- Aligning programs to strategy
- Evaluating a growth opportunity
- Using strategic decision criteria
- Making effective decisions



Leading a Strong Organization

- Strengthening the executive team
- Advancing racial equity
- Improving a process or program
- Building future leaders

Leadership Accelerator Program Overview

Bridgespan's Leadership Accelerator is series of programs that help nonprofit leaders make progress on a specific strategic or organizational challenge. They are best for executive teams with a focused strategic need, or those who do not have the time or capacity to participate in a more comprehensive experience.

Each Accelerator program is divided into a series of "milestones." Each milestone takes ~2-3 weeks to complete and has three key components: individual self-study, team working sessions, and group and individual coaching with a Bridgespan expert. There are four Accelerator programs for participants to choose from:

			
Achieving Strategic Clarity	Investing in Future Leaders	Strengthening the Executive Team	Creating an Adaptive Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft an Intended Impact and Theory of Change naming WHAT you will achieve for WHOM and HOW• Craft a learning plan and implications for organization priorities and decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree on the skills needed to achieve your strategy• Identify priority development areas and draft development plans for direct reports• Prepare to cascade the process to the broader organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree on what the executive team should focus on• Institute practices for effective meetings and decision-making• Align on the behaviors that create a strong team dynamic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree on your 12-24 month impact goals• Identify the most critical priorities to focus on and associated risks/opportunities• Develop an action plan with contingencies and learning

Join us!

Cohorts launch twice a year from 2025-2027. The Samueli Foundation is providing a scholarship of ~80% of the cost for teams to participate in these programs. Organizations contribute a modest co-pay based on their organizational budget:

- For LFI, the co-pay is \$8,000 for organizations with <\$5M in budget, \$13,000 for \$5-10M, and \$18,000 for organizations over \$10M.
- For Accelerator, teams contribute \$2,000 per team regardless of budget size.

If this is of interest to you and your team, please click here to [submit this brief form](#).



"LFI has inspired us to think bigger as an executive team and as leaders of an organization that is ready to grow."

- Elmer G. Roldan, Executive Director
Communities in Schools LA