



Launched as a pilot test in fall 2023, FOCUS BoardBridge is designed to connect nonprofit organizations with potential board candidates through a matching process. This program is currently offered at no cost for nonprofits and individuals interested in serving on boards, with matching rounds held in the spring and fall.

BOARDBRIDGE FOR CANDIDATES

For individuals, serving on a nonprofit board offers the opportunity to:

- Support causes you're passionate about
- Get more civically involved and give back to your community
- Strengthen your leadership and professional skills and make new connections

Before being matched, candidates must participate in a virtual Orientation, which will provide an overview of the board matching process, along with best practices and tips for serving on a board.

BOARDBRIDGE FOR NONPROFITS

BoardBridge is for 501(c) nonprofit organizations who:

- Desire to expand their circle of potential board candidates
- Are looking to welcome new board members

Before being matched, each nonprofit must have a staff/board member participate in a virtual Orientation, which will provide an overview of the board matching process, along with best practices and tips for recruiting and onboarding new board members.

"This is one of THE most significant and effective programs we have been a part of. The need for board members is always present and this process was truly exemplary ... not complicated, not a ton of time and 100% effective in introducing us to future board members." - Tami Timmer, Flance Early Learning Center

Based on their experience, 92% of past participants would recommend the program.

Take the Next Step

Applications are now open for our spring 2025 round of matching! Visit www.focus-stl.org/BoardBridge to learn more and apply. Space is limited, and applications will close on April 18 (or earlier if capacity is reached).

About FOCUS St. Louis: Recognized as a national model for civic leadership development, FOCUS provides leaders with the civic awareness and powerful connections needed to be collaborative changemakers who advance a thriving region for all. Our continuum of civic leadership program are designed to meet participants where they are. As a neutral convener and facilitator, FOCUS brings together community members to deliberate on critical regional issues in a trusted, nonpartisan space.

Special thanks to our volunteer planning committee:

- Anna Crosslin, Retired President & CEO, International Institute of St. Louis
- Betsy Cohen, Executive Director, St. Louis Mosaic Project
- Nhi Doan, Board Member, Asian American Chamber of Commerce-St. Louis
- Angela Batnasan, Board Member, Asian American Chamber of Commerce-St. Louis
- Robin Feder, Executive Director Emeritus, Central Institute for the Deaf
- Martha Garcia Kampen, Executive Director, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Metro St. Louis
- Linda Ogbah Faas, President, St. Louis African Chamber of Commerce
- Arinola Solanke, Board Chair, St. Louis African Chamber of Commerce
- Ben Molina, Chair, Hispanic Leaders Group of St. Louis

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