Courageous Board Leadership

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BIT OF BACKGROUND

Sparking ideas. Connecting people. Inspiring positive change.

Since 1988, Principal, Non-Profit Works

Wide Angle Coaching™ Certified ICF/PCC Coach
Certified Daring Way™ Facilitator
Leadership Development Coach
Longtime board service
Champion of BoardSource
What Does Courageous Board Leadership Mean to You?
Welcome and Overview
What is Courageous Board Leadership?
Putting Courageous Board Leadership into Practice
Closure: Making a Courageous Commitment
A BOARD IS…. 

….a committed group of carefully selected volunteers who are financially, legally, morally and ethically responsible to ensure an organization is meeting the public need and who are authorized to govern in a manner that upholds the organization’s mission.
BOARD ROLES

Sets Direction—develops and maintains a focus on mission.

Ensures Resources—identifies, establishes policies; determines how board members will participate in resource and board development.

Provides Oversight—program, financial policies, legal and ethical standards.
BOARD ROLES-FUNDAMENTALS
FOUR HATS

1. Governance = Policy
2. Support = Volunteer (hands-on)
3. Advisor = Expertise
4. Ambassador = Voice/Advocate
Effective Governance...

1. Concerns itself with do or die issues central to institutional success

2. Driven by results that are linked to defined timetables

3. Has clear measured of success

4. Requires the engagement of the organization's internal and external constituencies
“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better.”

“The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood ... who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly ...”

- THEODORE ROOSEVELT
Identify Your Arena

Think about an arena:
Where you want to show up, be seen, live brave so that you can be the most effective leader possible?
“YOU CAN CHOOSE COURAGE OR YOU CAN CHOOSE COMFORT, BUT YOU CANNOT HAVE BOTH.”

BREné BROWN
1. ASKING FOR WHAT YOU NEED
2. SPEAKING YOUR TRUTH
3. OWNING YOUR STORY
4. SETTING BOUNDARIES
5. REACHING OUT FOR SUPPORT
The role of VULNERABILITY

Vulnerability is ..................

Vulnerability feels like ............... 

I feel most vulnerable when .....
1. Long titles will size to fit.
2. Numbered lists should appear in 24 point font.
3. Icons are optional.
   1. Use high resolution PNG file for icon, aligned with the top of the text box.
   2. Icon itself should be a brand color, preferably yellow.
“VULNERABILITY IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF LOVE, BELONGING, JOY, COURAGE, EMPATHY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND AUTHENTICITY.”

BRENÉ BROWN
You can't get to courage without walking through vulnerability.

-Brene Brown
How might you encourage vulnerability on your board?
VALUES LIGHT THE WAY
CONNECTION IS THE ENERGY THAT IS CREATED BETWEEN PEOPLE WHEN THEY FEEL SEEN, HEARD, AND VALUED; WHEN THEY CAN GIVE AND RECEIVE WITHOUT JUDGMENT.
“Empathy is... communicating that incredibly healing message of, ‘You’re not alone.’”

-Brené Brown
4 Elements of Empathy

- See their world
- Appreciate them as human beings
- No judgement
- Communicate understanding

CC Michael Sahota 2012
COURAGEOUS BOARD LEADERSHIP

- Arena
- Vulnerability
- Values
- Connection
- Compassion and Empathy
- Courage
Putting Courageous Board Leadership into Practice

1. Name and claim your arena— as individuals and as a board
2. Get to know one another in a deep and meaningful way by discussing and then committing to being vulnerable.
3. Commit to the five tenets of “courage.”
4. Clarify and share individual core values
BOARD ACTIVITY: Courage is asking for what you need

1. What brought you to this board?
2. What are your fears or concerns about this group?
3. What would a successful board experience look like for you?
4. What support do you need from this group to do the work?
CHARACTERISTICS OF COURAGEOUS BOARD LEADERSHIP

- Arena
- Vulnerability
- Values
- Connection
- Compassion
- Courage
Closure: Making a Courageous Commitment by December 31, 2017

1. What will you commit to doing in order to boost your own courageous leadership rating? Be specific.

2. What will you commit to doing in order to support your board’s courageous leadership? Be specific.
Let’s Dare Greatly
TOGETHER!