Fostering Leadership in a Crisis Response System

Bringing It Home
May 21, 2019
Participant Worksheets
BIOS

BETH BORDEAUX, MSW, PRINCIPAL AND FOUNDER, PARTNERS FOR IMPACT

Beth Bordeaux is analytical, insightful, passionate, dedicated, and genuine. She cares about organizations, their systems, metrics, budgets, and processes . . . because ultimately, she cares about people. She knows that in order to provide community members with the support they need to live and to thrive, human service systems must be strong from the inside out. And she knows how to make this happen.

Beth is an executive leader with over 28 years of nonprofit and local government experience working across various levels of organizations and service systems from Volunteer to Social Worker, Program Director, Evaluator, Funder, Community Developer, Executive Director, Advocate, Coalition Builder, Consultant, Coach, Board Member, and more. She has worked in programs supporting individuals and families with many types of needs: mental health, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, housing, childcare and child care quality, early intervention, maternity care, domestic violence, faith support, education, and basic needs such as food and shelter.

Beth lives in Apex, NC with her husband of 27 years and their 19-year-old daughter. She also has a son who is recently graduated from UNCW and launching a career in Environmental Science. Beth loves to hike, paddle, watch movies, take long walks, and enjoy good food and special time with family and friends.

Contact Beth at 919-612-6634 or beth@partnersforimpact.com

STAN HOLT, PHD, SENIOR ADVISOR, PARTNERS FOR IMPACT

With over 28 years in nonprofit development, executive leadership and grantmaking, Stan is an accomplished nonprofit professional who believes in the power of the collective. Innovative and impactful solutions can be created for complex human service problems by groups that come together, share their diverse perspectives and experiences, create a common goal, assess and develop their collective resources, and build a plan. When Stan works with a group, he builds a space where each individual’s authentic voice contributes to the emerging group voice within the group process.

Stan brings a set of skills that transcends issues. He works with arts, environmental, health and human services, and educational organizations, drawing out the common elements for building community change. Stan’s constant inquiry coupled with his ability to synthesize diverse perspectives are at the heart of helping leaders define a common goal. Mapping systems, creating a space to share experiences as a basis for problem solving, building the capacity for group learning, and moving conversations beyond personal positions are some of the tools Stan uses to help build successful partnerships. As structures and plans emerge, the efficient use of human, intellectual, and financial resources become an essential part of creating momentum for community impact.

Contact Stan at 919-475-3857 or stan@partnersforimpact.com
**WHAT IS YOUR CHANGE INITIATIVE?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Describe the Current Reality</th>
<th>Describe the Desired Situation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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## Technical vs. Adaptive Challenges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technical</th>
<th>Adaptive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear definition</td>
<td>Unclear definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear solution and implementation</td>
<td>Unclear solution and implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspectives aligned</td>
<td>Legitimate, competing perspectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader has primary responsibility</td>
<td>Stakeholders primarily responsible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What are some examples of technical challenges?

What are some examples of adaptive challenges?

**What are technical and adaptive aspects of your change initiative?**
The Adaptive Cycle

EXPLORATION

GROWTH

DEVELOPMENT

MATURITY

RELEASE
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PERFORMANCE LOOP
WHAT DOES DISRUPTION LOOK LIKE?

INDIVIDUALLY

ORGANIZATIONALLY

LOCAL HOMELESS SYSTEM
Characteristics of the Renewal Loop

Release

Exploration
WHERE ON THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE?

PERSONALLY

ORGANIZATIONALLY

HOMELESS SYSTEM
WHERE IS YOUR CHANGE INITIATIVE IN THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE?
SKILLS NEEDED IN THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE
NONPROFIT SKILLS FOR THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE

1. Building capital and reserve funds
2. Succession planning
3. Communications planning
4. Clear vision and values that drive to the center
5. Self-care routine
6. Support network development
7. Ability/willingness to ask for help

ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP SKILLS

1. View from the balcony
2. Identify the adaptive challenges
3. Regulate distress
4. Maintain disciplined attention
5. Give the work back to the people
6. Protect the voices of leadership from below
APPLYING THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE AND ASSOCIATED SKILLS TO ORGANIZATIONAL CHALLENGES

Choose one of six topics to work on with others from the group. It is best if this is not related to your change initiative at this point.

- Board development
- Staff and volunteer development
- Evaluation and continuous improvement
- Fund development
- Resource management - facility
- Communications

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some technical challenges associated with this organizational issue?

2. What are some of the adaptive challenges associated with this organizational issue?

3. Describe how this issue may manifest on the adaptive cycle.

4. What specific skills (technical and adaptive) are needed to move it through the adaptive cycle?
APPLYING THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE AND SKILLS TO THE LOCAL HOMELESS SYSTEM (CoC)

Choose from among these four table topics depending on where your local homeless system might be.

- Development
- Growth and Maturity
- Release
- Exploration

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Jump to the balcony and describe what is happening on the dance floor with your homeless system.

2. What are some technical challenges with your homeless system? What are some of the adaptive challenges with your homeless system?

3. Whose voices are present? Whose voices are missing? How will you engage all the stakeholders’ voices?

4. Where is the distress, what is the nature of the distress, and how can you regulate it?

5. How do you share the responsibility back to the stakeholders?
APPLYING THE ADAPTIVE CYCLE AND ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP SKILLS TO YOUR CHANGE INITIATIVE

Refer back in this workbook and remind yourself of the answer to these questions:

1. What is the nature of your change initiative?

2. What are the technical and adaptive challenges associated with your change initiative?

3. Where is your change initiative on the adaptive cycle?

Work in groups of three to complete this exercise.

1. What do you see when you take a look from the balcony?

2. What do you need to focus on? What things are most likely to distract you and others? How might you help yourself and others to keep your eyes on the target?

3. What are the points of distress, disruption or dis-ease? How can you regulate the distress?

4. Whose voices are present? Whose voices are missing? How will you engage all the stakeholders’ voices?

5. How do you share the responsibility back to the stakeholders?

6. What next steps and strategies can you identify today? Is there low-hanging fruit? What are the highest priorities?
RESOURCES


