BridgeUp

Certified Interim Nonprofit Executive Program

Tennessee Nonprofit Network

Every year, nonprofits lose their executive director with no plan for what comes next. *BridgeUp prepares seasoned leaders to step into that gap, not as a placeholder, but as a skilled interim who earns trust quickly, steadies the organization, and hands off something stronger than they found.*

You already know how to lead. BridgeUp shows you how to lead in the middle of a transition. Over four and a half days together in person, you'll tackle the challenges interim leaders face most, from the first week on the job to the final handoff. You'll learn alongside a small group of experienced peers through role-plays, case studies, and honest feedback each day. On the final half day, you'll bring it all together in a handoff plan for an incoming leader. You'll leave with your certification in hand.

What You'll Learn

B	**Believe in the Role** Step into interim leadership with clarity about your purpose, your limits, and your ethics.
R	**Read the Organization** Quickly assess what's working, what isn't, and what needs attention first.
I	**Immediate Stabilization** Steady finances, operations, and daily work so the organization can keep serving its mission.
D	**Direct the Board** Build a strong working partnership with the board during a time of uncertainty.
G	**Galvanize the Culture** Earn staff trust and rebuild morale after a leadership change.
E	**Engage Stakeholders** Reassure funders, partners, and the community that the organization is in good hands.
U	**Upgrade and Build Capacity** Decide what to change now, what to leave for later, and what to leave alone.
P	**Pass the Torch** Prepare the organization and the next leader for a smooth, lasting transition.

Schedule

All times Central

FULL-DAY SESSIONS, 9:00 A.M.–4:30 P.M.

- Monday, April 5, 2027
- Tuesday, April 6, 2027
- Wednesday, April 7, 2027
- Thursday, April 8, 2027

FINAL HALF DAY, 9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

- Friday, April 9, 2027

Location: Memphis, Tennessee

Who Should Attend

BridgeUp is for experienced leaders ready to guide a nonprofit through a leadership transition. It is a strong fit for:

- Current or former nonprofit executive directors and CEOs
- Current or former C-suite leaders, such as COOs, CFOs, and chief program officers
- Leaders who want to serve as interim executives or build an interim practice

Application Process: Admission to BridgeUp is competitive, and not every applicant will be selected. Each applicant completes a brief experience inventory so we can confirm readiness and build a cohort with a strong mix of backgrounds.

Cohort Size: Limited to 12–16 participants to support hands-on practice and individual feedback.

Credential: Graduates earn the designation Certified Interim Nonprofit Executive (TNN), valid for three years.

Applications Opening Soon!