

QUINCY AREA FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE

RISE PROGRAM

Refine. Inspire. Strengthen. Expand.

NEI/LEAD COHORT ALUMNI PROGRAM

RISE (Refine. Inspire. Strengthen. Expand.) is a comprehensive follow-up leadership development initiative for nonprofit organizations that have completed the NEI (Nonprofit Excellence Initiative) or LEAD (Leading, Empowering, and Advancing Directors) programs. Built to sustain momentum and deepen organizational capacity, RISE provides a structured pathway for continued growth through individualized executive coaching, targeted training, strategic consultations, and collaborative peer group opportunities. Each component is designed to help nonprofit leaders refine the skills gained during their initial program experience.

Coaching

Each organization will receive individualized executive coaching designed to build on the strong foundation established during the NEI or LEAD program. This personalized support will help leaders apply and expand the strategies introduced in the program, while addressing real-time challenges and opportunities unique to their organizations. Organizations will have access to **up to 12 hours of coaching in the first year** following program completion of the NEI or LEAD program and **up to 6 hours in the second year**. Through these sessions, leaders will refine mission-driven goals, strengthen operational practices, and gain practical tools to navigate change with confidence and position their organizations for long-term success and growth.

Training

Participants will have access to a range of relevant and practical training opportunities at no cost, designed to reinforce and extend the progress achieved through the NEI or LEAD program. These offerings include

- **eligibility to attend specialized sessions hosted for current cohort participants** based on evolving needs within the nonprofit sector will be offered. Each session will be intentionally structured to be responsive, actionable, and aligned to empower leaders to strengthen fundraising strategies, enhance operational effectiveness, and sustain long-term impact.
- **a paid annual membership to the Tri-State Area Fundraising Professionals (TSFAP)** during active participation in the RISE program.

One-on-one Consultation

Each organization will be offered a **one-on-one consultation** with a member of the Quincy Area Funder's Collaborative, designed to build on the strategic insights gained through the NEI or LEAD program. This personalized session provides a comprehensive review of local and regional grant opportunities, guidance on aligning funding strategies with TFF's Nonprofit Roadmap Assessment, and targeted support for identifying resources to sustain and expand organizational growth. Beyond funding alignment, the consultation serves as a strategic touchpoint for refining development plans, addressing emerging challenges, and exploring collaborative opportunities. The goal is to equip participating organizations with actionable strategies and connections that strengthen their long-term sustainability and position them for continued success.

Peer Group

Participants will be invited to **quarterly, 90-minute in-person peer group sessions** designed to foster collaboration and shared learning. Each session will feature revolving topics selected by participants in advance, ensuring discussions remain relevant and responsive to current challenges. Guided by an experienced facilitator, these gatherings will include dedicated time for problem-solving and case study exploration, as well as open dialogue for sharing organizational updates, celebrations, and emerging issues. The goal is to create a supportive environment where nonprofit leaders can exchange ideas, build connections, and strengthen strategies for long-term success.

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Strong Nonprofits Matter

