

# BOARDSTRONG™

FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM  
BY THE MONARCH GROUP



## BOARDSTRONG™ FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

BoardStrong Foundations is the core of the BoardStrong program. It is the essential starting point for boards and directors who want to strengthen how they govern, make decisions and work together.

Foundations brings the full board together for a practical, customized governance learning experience built around your organization, your board structure and the real challenges you are facing.

Rather than teaching governance in theory, Foundations creates a shared understanding of what good governance looks like, what the board is responsible for, where management begins, and how directors can lead with greater confidence and accountability.

### THE STARTING POINT

Foundations is completed as either:

One 4-hour intensive program or

Two 2-hour executive learning experiences

Delivered live, in person or virtually, for your full board.

Every Foundations session is customized to your organization. Your board leaves with a common governance framework, practical tools and a clearer understanding of how to work together effectively.

### YOUR BOARD WILL:

- Strengthen governance knowledge and confidence
- Clarify the roles of directors, the board and staff
- Improve meetings, discussion and decision making
- Strengthen oversight of strategy, finances and risk
- Build healthier board and Executive Director relationships
- Create greater accountability across the board
- Develop a stronger, more effective board culture

### The 8 Pillars Of Exceptional Governance:

These are the core of BoardStrong Foundations, providing the framework for the entire training experience. Together, they cover the essential areas every board needs to understand, from roles and responsibilities to meetings, strategy, finances, risk, culture and accountability. Boards build a shared understanding of strong governance and a practical foundation they can apply immediately.

## THE 8 PILLARS OF EXCEPTIONAL GOVERNANCE

### 1. Board Governance & Your Role

- The purpose of the board
- Director duties and legal responsibilities
- Collective vs. individual authority

### 2. Board-Staff Relationship

- Governance vs. management
- Supporting the Executive Director
- Healthy boundaries

### 3. Effective Meetings & Decision Making

- Agenda design and consent agendas
- Facilitation, discussion and debate
- Motions, voting and clear decisions

### 4. Strategy & Oversight

- Setting direction and priorities
- Monitoring progress and performance
- Asking the right strategic questions

### 5. Financial Stewardship

- Understanding key financial reports
- Budgets, internal controls and risk
- Fiduciary responsibility

### 6. Risk Management & Compliance

- Identifying and assessing risk
- Legal and regulatory responsibilities
- Effective risk oversight

### 7. Board Development & Culture

- Recruitment and orientation
- Working as a high-performing team
- Continuous improvement

### 8. Director Conduct & Accountability

- Code of conduct and ethics
- Conflicts of interest
- Accountability to the organization and community

## THIS PROGRAM INCLUDES

- Comprehensive participant workbook
- Practical tools and templates
- Certificate of Completion
- Digital credential to add to [LinkedIn](#)
- Access to additional one-hour online credentials

## CONTINUED LEARNING

### FOUNDATIONS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

Completing Foundations establishes the shared governance foundation for your organization and opens the door to continued BoardStrong learning.

Directors can then build on that foundation through focused BoardStrong Advanced Credentials and, if they choose, continue toward the BoardStrong Certified Board Leader credential.