

Walk the Bridge

New Board Member Training Packet

Welcome

Welcome to Walk the Bridge. This training packet equips new board members with a clear understanding of our mission, values, structure, and expectations. It is designed to be a reference you can return to at any time.

Who We Are

Walk the Bridge is a nonprofit initiative dedicated to building bridges between residents, staff, and the greater community. We believe healing, hope, and confidence are found through self-expression.

The Role of the Board

Boards typically consist of 4–8 members and meet at least once per week for 1–2 hours. Each member holds a defined role while supporting the group as a whole.

Walk the Bridge Values

Humility, Teamwork, Consistency, Helping Others, and Purpose.

Who Can Start a Board

In prison settings, individuals must be infraction-free for six months and approved by the facility. In the community, anyone with a heart for volunteerism and no recent felony convictions may start a board.

Board Principles

Walk the Bridge avoids public controversy, expects respectful conduct, requires shared responsibility for setup and cleanup, resolves disagreements by vote, and treats all members as equals with defined roles.

Board Roles

Roles include Producer, Tech Specialist, Speaker, Interviewer, Cameraperson, Recruiter, and Opener/Closer. Roles may be adapted as needed.

Events & Planning

Boards host at least one event per month. Larger events require advance planning, while smaller events can occur more frequently.

Forms & Documentation

Board members use standardized forms such as Call for Talent, Program Summary, Media Release, and Leadership Contract. Members do not need to memorize forms—only use the appropriate one when needed.

Media & Archive

Photos and videos document events. Media consent forms are required. Approved content may be uploaded to the Walk the Bridge Archive.

Next Steps

Select board members, assign roles, schedule weekly meetings, and begin planning your first Walk the Bridge event.