

# THE PROCESS

## 1. RECRUIT



## 2. TRAIN



## 3. PLACE



## 4. CONNECT



**Kandace Montgomery**  
2014 BCLI Graduate

*"We need to be running our own folks for seats by building power that pursues true democracy... We need to be developing leaders to be bold at those decision-making tables and to never leave their community behind. This is how we tell our own story. This is a story that tells everybody they can belong, and this is how we build our movement."*

# 2019-2020 IMPORTANT DATES

Visit our site at [www.nexuscp.org](http://www.nexuscp.org) to keep updated on locations and sign up for our mailings

May 6, 2019 Nominations Packet released  
June 14, 2019 BCLI Nominations Packet due

### Info Sessions

Thurs May 16, 2019 5:30-7pm North Regional Library  
Thurs May 30, 2019 5:30-7pm Brookdale Library  
Tues June 4, 2019 5:30-7pm Rondo Library

### Thursday Night Issue Series

November 7, 2019 5:30-8 pm Location TBD  
December 6, 2019 5:30-8 pm Location TBD  
January 9, 2020 5:30-8 pm Location TBD  
February 6, 2020 5:30-8 pm Location TBD  
March 5, 2020 5:30-8 pm Location TBD

October 2019 - March 2020 Program Training

**Terri Thao**  
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### Nexus Community Partners

2314 University Avenue, Suite 18  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55114  
[www.nexuscp.org](http://www.nexuscp.org)

*Nexus Community Partners builds more engaged and powerful communities of color by supporting community building initiatives that expand community assets and foster social and human capital.*



## Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute



# BCLI

*Moving* **BEYOND A SEAT**

*at the table* **TO A VOTE**

*in the decision-making process*

# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## What is the BCLI?

A 7-month leadership program that supports, trains and helps place people of color and other underrepresented community members on publicly appointed boards and commissions that influence and impact equity in **these five issue areas**: *economic development, health, housing, transit and workforce development.*

### Target Geographies

Brooklyn Center	Brooklyn Park
Roseville	Woodbury
Minneapolis	Saint Paul
Hennepin County	Ramsey County
Metropolitan Council	State of Minnesota

## Why the BCLI?

Boards and commissions are often key decision-making bodies on important equity issues. The BCLI supports people of color and underrepresented communities to be a part of that process **from the inside, advocating for their communities and a broader equity agenda.**

## BCLI Curriculum

The BCLI is a facilitated learning community of fellows who meet face-to-face and complete online assignments together, including readings, discussions and webinars, from October through April for a total commitment of approximately 100 hours. Our program includes three core curriculum components:

- Knowledge Foundations. Fellows learn about the five core issue areas through hands-on, applied activities such as writing resolutions and designing a multi-modal road.
- Technical Skills. Fellows develop technical skills required by commissioners such as Robert's Rules of Order and messaging and media.
- Political Skills. Fellows fine-tune their political skills through interactive trainings that cover topics such as negotiation and persuasion and leadership styles.



## HOW TO APPLY OR NOMINATE A CANDIDATE

### Who Participates in the BCLI?

Community members who are representative of, and accountable to, communities of color and other underrepresented communities in the Twin Cities.

Ideal nominees **must**:

- Be personally focused on advancing equity for people of color and underrepresented communities
- Be 18 years of age
- Meet the residency requirements of the board or commission you are interested in sitting on (*i.e. live, work, own business, etc.*)
- Attend all monthly trainings and events & serve on a board or commission after completion of the BCLI

*All fellows are given a small stipend for participation in the program.*

### Nomination Process and Steps

- 1) Locate a Nominator or Nominee. All BCLI fellows must be nominated by either BCLI alumni or by community organizations with which the candidate has been affiliated. *If you are not affiliated with an organization but would like to apply, please contact BCLI staff.*
- 2) Identify Target Seat. Discuss with your nominator which seat you would like to target based on interest and experience.
- 3) Complete & Submit the Nomination Packet. Visit [www.nexuscp.org](http://www.nexuscp.org) or the full Nomination Packet.

## COMMUNITY BUILDING

### Thursday Night Issue Series

As part of the BCLI, Nexus hosts five Issue Series on current topics related to our five issue areas. These are collaborative, cross-sector events designed to build shared knowledge on broader equity issues. Events are open to the public.



E-invitations for upcoming Issue Series are sent three weeks prior to each event. Visit [www.nexuscp.org](http://www.nexuscp.org) to join our listserv for event announcements.

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*This program has been adapted from the Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute originally created by Urban Habitat in Oakland, California.*