



LifeBridge Community Services Director of Advancement

An Executive Search by The Angeletti Group, LLC



The Opportunity

The Angeletti Group invites nominations and applications for the position of Director of Advancement (DOA) at LifeBridge Community Services (LifeBridge), a trauma-informed, community-centered nonprofit organization serving youth, adults, and families throughout Greater Bridgeport and Fairfield County, Connecticut.

This is a compelling opportunity for a strategic, relationship-driven advancement leader to join an organization at an exciting point in its history. For more than 175 years, LifeBridge has served as a trusted community resource. In recent years, the organization has strengthened its leadership team, expanded clinical services, increased community visibility, and positioned itself as a recognized leader in trauma-informed care, resilience-building, and integrated behavioral health services.

Building on this momentum, LifeBridge is making a significant investment in advancement to support its long-term vision. Reporting directly to the President & Chief Executive



Officer and serving as a member of the Senior Leadership Team, the Director of Advancement will lead LifeBridge’s integrated advancement efforts, providing strategic leadership across philanthropy, marketing, communications, and community engagement in support of the organization’s mission and long-term vision.

The successful candidate will play a central role in advancing philanthropic support, deepening community relationships, enhancing organizational visibility, and fostering a sustainable culture of philanthropy. LifeBridge seeks a collaborative, highly relational leader who enjoys building organizational capacity, inspiring others around a shared vision, and translating strategy into meaningful results. For an advancement professional energized by creating lasting impact while working alongside an engaged leadership team, this role offers both challenge and opportunity.



About LifeBridge Community Services

LifeBridge Community Services is a leading trauma-informed behavioral health and community services organization dedicated to supporting the mental health, resilience, and well-being of children, youth, adults, and families throughout Greater Bridgeport and surrounding communities. With a history spanning more than 175 years, an annual operating budget of approximately \$9 million, and a team of more than 100 employees, LifeBridge provides an integrated continuum of behavioral health, prevention, youth development, and community-based services designed to improve outcomes and strengthen communities.



Why LifeBridge?

We serve those with the fewest options.

LifeBridge fills a critical gap in mental health care for children and families who rely on Medicaid and often face limited access to providers in our region.

We bring care into the community.

Our clinicians work directly in schools, pediatric practices, and community settings, reducing barriers and meeting people where they are.

We specialize in trauma-informed care.

LifeBridge is a regional leader in trauma-informed care, helping individuals and communities heal from the effects of stress, adversity, and trauma.

We strengthen communities and systems, not just individuals.

We believe lasting change happens when entire communities are equipped to respond to adversity. Through training and capacity-building initiatives, we help others develop the skills that support healing and resilience.

The Director of Advancement

The Director of Advancement serves as LifeBridge's senior advancement leader, providing strategic leadership for the organization's philanthropy, marketing, communications, and community engagement efforts. As LifeBridge continues to build on its strong foundation and ambitious vision for the future, the Director will play a central role in expanding philanthropic support, elevating organizational visibility, deepening community partnerships, and fostering a culture of philanthropy that advances the organization's mission and long-term sustainability.

Building on LifeBridge's strong foundation and organizational momentum and working in close partnership with the President & CEO, the Director of Advancement will lead the continued growth of the organization's integrated advancement function. This role offers the opportunity to grow philanthropic partnerships, deepen donor and community engagement, enhance organizational visibility, and build the organizational capacity needed to support LifeBridge's long-term mission and sustainability.



Our Commitment

We are committed to addressing the complex mental health and wellness challenges youth, adults, and families face in the greater Bridgeport and Fairfield communities. To maximize our impact, we provide trauma-informed services and promote collaboration and shared learning. Our services, policies, and workplace culture are shaped through a trauma-informed lens, which ensures all are developed with the goal of helping our team and clients feel physically and psychologically safe.

The Director of Advancement will:

- Lead the implementation of LifeBridge's long-term advancement and revenue diversification strategy to advance the organization's long-term sustainability through strategic expansion of individual giving, major gifts, corporate partnerships, sponsorships, planned giving, and institutional funding.
- Advance LifeBridge's visibility, influence, and reputation as a trusted community partner and recognized leader in trauma-informed care, behavioral health, resilience-building, and community wellness through strategic community engagement initiatives, including the Annual Symposium and other signature organizational initiatives.
- Build and lead a high-performing advancement function that fosters collaboration, accountability, innovation, continuous improvement, and a sustainable culture of philanthropy across the organization.

Key Responsibilities

Advancement Strategy & Leadership

- Develop and implement an integrated advancement strategy that aligns fundraising, marketing, communications, and community engagement efforts with organizational priorities.
- Serve as a member of the Senior Leadership Team and strategic advisor to the President & CEO on organizational strategy, philanthropic growth, brand positioning, donor engagement, and public visibility.
- Lead and execute LifeBridge's annual fundraising strategy across individual giving, major gifts, corporate partnerships, sponsorships, planned giving, foundation funding, and other private philanthropic revenue streams, with multi-year goals and performance indicators.
- Foster a culture of philanthropy throughout the organization.

Fundraising & Philanthropic Growth

- Personally cultivate, solicit, steward, and manage a portfolio of major donors, sponsors, and high-capacity prospects through disciplined moves management practices.



- Develop and enhance donor acquisition, cultivation, stewardship, and pipeline management strategies that expand philanthropic support and deepen donor engagement.
- Lead institutional funding strategy for private foundation and corporate funding opportunities and coordinate proposal development in partnership with program, finance, and leadership teams.
- Monitor fundraising performance and institutional funding outcomes and adjust strategies to achieve revenue goals.

Marketing, Communications & Brand Leadership

- Provide strategic oversight for marketing, communications, public relations, digital engagement, and brand management activities.
- Ensure consistent messaging, organizational storytelling, and brand standards across all communication channels.
- Support the President & CEO and leadership team with strategic messaging, media engagement, and thought leadership while ensuring that marketing and communications efforts increase community awareness, engagement, and philanthropic support.



Community Engagement & External Relations

- Develop and cultivate relationships that support fundraising, philanthropy, sponsorships, organizational visibility, and advancement objectives.
- Provide strategic oversight of community outreach and engagement activities that strengthen organizational visibility, increase public awareness, deepen donor engagement, and support philanthropic growth.
- Serve as a visible ambassador for LifeBridge within the philanthropic, corporate, and broader community.

Annual Symposium & Special Events

- Provide executive leadership for LifeBridge's Annual Symposium and other strategic

fundraising and community engagement initiatives, including sponsorship development, donor cultivation, event planning committee leadership, keynote and program development, VIP engagement, and coordination of internal and external event resources.

Team Leadership & Board Engagement

- Provide leadership and supervision to advancement staff while promoting alignment across fundraising, communications, marketing, and community engagement functions.
- Partner with Board leadership and the Development Committee to strengthen philanthropy, stewardship, ambassadorship, and advancement activities.
- Foster cross-functional collaboration and shared ownership of fundraising and donor engagement efforts across the organization.



The Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate will be an accomplished advancement leader who combines strategic vision with a passion for relationship-based fundraising. This individual will bring a demonstrated ability to cultivate philanthropic partnerships, inspire confidence among donors and volunteers, and translate strategy into meaningful results. Equally comfortable operating at both the strategic and operational levels, the successful candidate will thrive in a collaborative, mission-driven environment and be energized by the opportunity to strengthen philanthropy, expand community engagement, and help shape the next chapter of growth at LifeBridge.

Required Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree or an equivalent combination of education and professional experience.
- Seven or more years of progressively responsible leadership experience in advancement, fundraising, development, or related nonprofit leadership roles, including experience overseeing or collaborating across marketing, communications, and community engagement functions.
- Demonstrated success developing and implementing advancement strategies that drive philanthropic growth, enhance donor engagement, and secure philanthropic revenue through multiple funding streams, including individual, major, corporate, foundation, and institutional giving.
- Demonstrated ability to cultivate, solicit, steward, and deepen relationships with donors, funders, sponsors, volunteers, community partners, and other key stakeholders.

- Experience partnering effectively with executive leadership, governing boards, and volunteers while leading complex initiatives and achieving measurable organizational outcomes.
- Exceptional communication, relationship-building, organizational, and leadership skills, with the ability to balance strategic leadership and operational execution.
- Experience supervising, coaching, and developing staff while fostering a collaborative, accountable, and high-performing team culture.
- Experience utilizing donor databases, CRM systems, fundraising analytics, and performance metrics to support strategy, decision-making, and organizational effectiveness.

Preferred Qualifications

- Master's degree or advanced professional credential.
- Knowledge of philanthropy, donor networks, and community engagement within Southwest Connecticut or comparable philanthropic markets.
- Familiarity with Community-Centric Fundraising principles and ethical storytelling practices.
- Experience leading an integrated advancement function that includes fundraising, marketing, communications, and community engagement.
- Experience managing foundation and corporate grant portfolios, including proposal development, stewardship, and cross-functional coordination.
- Experience within behavioral health, healthcare, youth services, human services, or another community-based nonprofit organization.



Application Procedure

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. To be considered, candidates should submit a statement of interest and resume to The Angeletti Group at search@theangelettigroup.com.

Nominations and confidential inquiries can be made to:

Suzanne Albin
The Angeletti Group
(973) 540-1400
search@theangelettigroup.com

Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience and will range from \$105,000 - \$145,000.

The successful candidate will be offered medical, dental, and vision insurance; HSA; life and disability insurance; retirement plan, and generous PTO.

LifeBridge is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state or local laws.