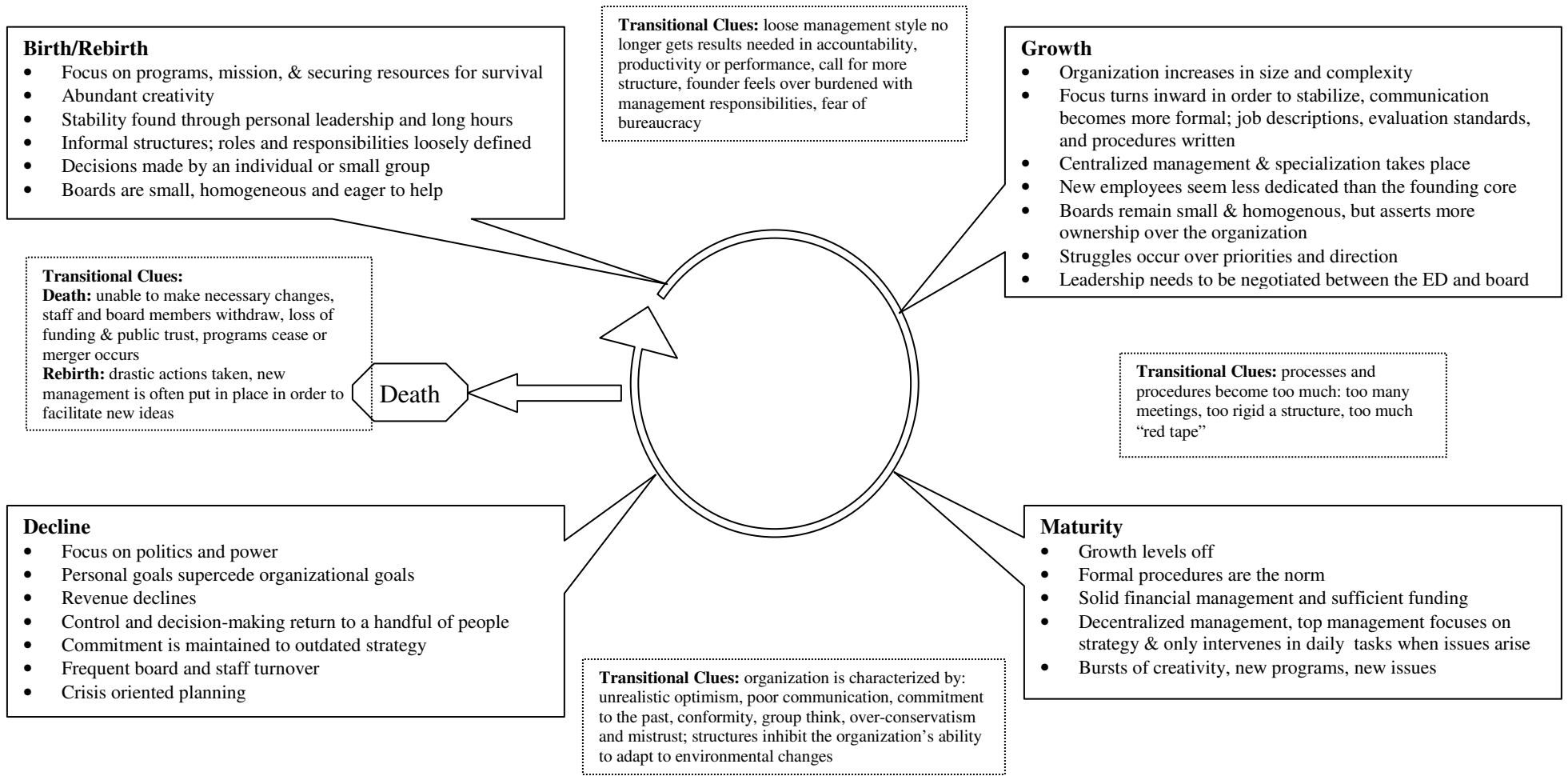


Life Cycle of an Organization

Organizations progress through life cycles just as humans do. Each stage requires a different management approach.



Key Points

- The life cycle consists of relatively calm periods book-ended by crisis, fracturing, or misalignment
- Not all nonprofits move through all stages: a group could be in one phase for the length of its life or can skip stages
- Solutions in one stage can become problems at another stage
- Identifying the stage can help organizations to understand tensions, confusion, barriers in communication or management issues