



Jonathan Lever has spent more than 25 years bringing people, institutions, and resources together to turn ambitious ideas into meaningful change. His career has taken him across philanthropy, public health, nonprofit leadership and law, united by a conviction that some of society's greatest possibilities emerge when people challenge conventional thinking, bridge differences and work together to translate shared aspirations into collective action. He brings this experience and perspective to his role as President and CEO of Madison Community Foundation.

Most recently, Jonathan served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Fetzer Institute, a private foundation dedicated to helping build the spiritual foundation for a loving world. During his eight-year tenure, he helped lead a fundamental transformation of the Institute – reshaping its strategy, redesigning its organizational structure, diversifying its leadership and staff across multiple dimensions of diversity, and guiding its evolution from an operating foundation to a grantmaking institution focused on catalyzing a global spiritual movement, where he helped direct nearly \$100 million in grants.

Previously, Jonathan held senior executive roles at YMCA of the USA, where he helped pioneer a new approach to chronic disease prevention by connecting the trusted reach of community-based organizations with the resources and infrastructure of the healthcare system. Working across sectors, he helped bring evidence-based prevention programs to hundreds of YMCAs nationwide and establish groundbreaking reimbursement arrangements with private insurers, Medicare and Medicaid. His work earned national recognition and helped secure more than \$180 million in philanthropic investments.

Earlier, Jonathan was the founding CEO of the Nonprofit Center of Northeast Florida, where he built a regional organization dedicated to strengthening nonprofit leadership, fostering collaboration and helping civic institutions work more effectively together. He also practiced law, advising individuals, foundations and nonprofit organizations on philanthropy and charitable giving.

Jonathan's collaborative approach to leadership, coupled with an enduring curiosity about how meaningful change happens, draws him to the distinctive promise of community foundations: their ability to connect generosity, relationships and a deep understanding of place to help communities shape their own futures. Having spent nearly two decades living and working in the Midwest, Jonathan is excited to put down roots in Madison. He looks forward to listening to and learning from the people and communities that make the region distinctive, building on the Foundation's remarkable legacy, and exploring together how philanthropy can help Greater Madison flourish.

Jonathan holds a law degree from Northeastern University, a master's degree in education from Harvard University, and a bachelor's degree in religion from the College of William and Mary. He was also a Jane Addams Fellow at Indiana University's Lilly School of Philanthropy.