Paul Schmitz

Paul Schmitz, CEO of Leading Inside Out, which advances strategies that develop authentic, inclusive, and collaborative leadership; engage community members as partners in solving community problems; and help diverse leaders and groups achieve greater impact together. Paul is also Senior Advisor to The Collective Impact Forum, a partnership of FSG and The Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions.

Paul is the author of Everyone Leads: Building Leadership from the Community Up (Jossey Bass, 2011). The book is based on lessons learned from 21 years leading Public Allies, an innovative leadership development program that helped more than 5,000 diverse young adults across the country turn their passions to make a difference into careers as leaders working for community and social change.

Paul is a faculty member of The Asset-Based Community Development Institute; a board member of Independent Sector, The United Way of Greater Milwaukee, The Corps Network, and the NYU Leadership Initiative. He is the former co-chair of Voices for National Service, which led advocacy for AmeriCorps and other national service programs. Paul co-chaired the 2008 Obama Presidential campaign’s Civic Engagement Policy Group, was a member of The Obama-Biden Transition Team, and was appointed by President Obama to The White House Council for Community Solutions.

An honors graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Paul received their Graduate of the Last Decade Alumni award. He was the first Innovation Fellow at The Beeck Center for Social Innovation and Impact at Georgetown University in 2014. He has also been recognized by The Rockefeller Foundation as a Next Generation Leadership Fellow, by the Nonprofit Times three separate years as one of the 50 most influential nonprofit leaders in America, and by Fast Company Magazine with their Social Capitalist Award for innovation. He lives in Milwaukee with his partner and five children.

Short Blurb
Paul Schmitz is CEO of Leading Inside Out, a nonprofit and philanthropic advisory firm, Senior Advisor to The Collective Impact Forum, and the first Innovator in Residence at Georgetown University’s Beeck Center for Social Innovation and Impact. Paul is the author of Everyone Leads: Building Leadership from the Community Up. Paul previously served as CEO of the national leadership development organization Public Allies, was a social innovation advisor to the White House, and has been named three separate years to The Nonprofit Times list of the 50 most influential nonprofit leaders in America.