



OPPORTUNITY COLLABORATION

convene / connect / create

Biography

Jonathan C. Lewis
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Jonathan C. Lewis is the founder and chief executive officer of the Opportunity Collaboration – a strategic business retreat and networking summit for 300 senior level anti-poverty leaders. Occurring annually on World Poverty Day, its purpose is to leverage resources, combine forces, share innovations and operate more effectively.

Jonathan is also the founder and board chair of MicroCredit Enterprises, an innovative social venture which leverages private capital to make tiny business loans to deeply impoverished people, mostly women, in developing countries. A rarity in the non-profit world, MicroCredit Enterprises is operationally sustainable without donations or grants.

Jonathan is a Lecturer at the Blum Center for Developing Economies, University of California, Berkeley. He blogs weekly at the Huffington Post and the Skoll Foundation's Social Edge and is a frequent public speaker on economic development issues, social entrepreneurship and social change. Jonathan is a recipient of the Social Venture Network Innovation Award.

In his eclectic entrepreneurial career, Jonathan has served as the founder/CEO of a global business knowledge company, CEO of the California Association of Health Maintenance Organizations, Chief Budget Advisor to the President of the California State Senate, founder/CEO of an urban real estate investment company and founder/owner of a contemporary art gallery.

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Biographical Data

Social Entrepreneur

Founder/Chief Executive Officer, Opportunity Collaboration. 2009 to present.

The Opportunity Collaboration is a learning, teaching and networking summit of 300 senior anti-poverty leaders -- a diverse community of social investors/social ventures, entrepreneurial nonprofit leaders and foundation trustees/executives. In conjunction with World Poverty Day, an impartial, non-aligned forum annually uses the power of connection and community to combat poverty. The enterprise is financially sustainable without foundation or corporation underwriting.

Founder/Chief Executive Officer (ret)/Chair (current), MicroCredit Enterprises. 2004 to 2009.

MicroCredit Enterprises is an innovative, not-for-profit venture which leverages private capital to make tiny business loans to deeply impoverished people, mostly women, in developing countries. Founded by Jonathan in 2005, MicroCredit Enterprises issued its first overseas microfinance institution loan in January, 2006. Today, the organization has \$52 million in guarantees backing \$25 million in overseas lending capacity. It is operationally sustainable without donations or grants.

Member, Board of Directors, Everyone Counts, Inc. 2009 to present.

Everyone Counts is a for-profit social enterprise expanding access to voters via Internet-based voting. In the best tradition of the civil rights movement, Everyone Counts provides secure election voting and ensures universal access, especially for expatriates, people with disabilities, military personnel and others who face hurdles to voting.

Founder/Chair, Board of Directors, Copia. 2009 to present.

Copia, a new for-profit social venture under development, is a consumer goods catalog order and delivery service for the peri-urban and rural poor of the developing world. By making accessible a wide range of consumer goods from band-aids and bed nets to nails and solar lights, Copia's mission is to improve the quality of life of the Base of the Pyramid ("BoP"). Much as the Sears catalog revolutionized life in the pioneer days of the United States and Amazon revolutionized life in the internet age, Copia will apply many of the same marketing and distribution concepts to the BoP market.

Chair, Board of Directors, 1:1 Fund, Corporation for Enterprise Development. 2010 to present.

The 1:1 Fund, a new nonprofit social venture under development, is a web-enabled "match savings marketplace" to obtain and sustain donations to incentivize an equal sum of saver deposit goals by low-income students and individuals headed to college. In the next five years, the business plan calls for 1:1 Fund to grow to a \$50 million enterprise.

Founder/Chief Executive Officer, Academy for International Health Studies, Inc. 1993 to 2002.

A business knowledge company addressing the role of American healthcare companies in the global health economy. CEO-level trade/study missions and an International Summit on the Private Health Sector. Sold company in 2002.

Founder/Chief Executive Officer, J.Lewis Associates, Inc. 1980 to 1985.

California governmental affairs and public policy firm. Clients included major American corporate coalitions, the Recording Industry Association of America, Genentech, California public broadcasting association and public interest organizations. Sold company in 1985.

Related Background

- Lecturer, Blum Center for Developing Economies, University of California, Berkeley, 2010 to present.
- Member, Board of Directors, Feed The Hunger Foundation. 2010 to present.
- Treasurer, Board of Directors, Firelight Foundation. 2010 to present.
- Member, Board of Directors, Silicon Valley Microfinance Network. 2009 to 2010.
- Member, Advisory Board, Peery Foundation. 2009 to present.
- Member, Advisory Board, Global Center for Social Entrepreneurship, University of the Pacific. 2008 to present.
- Member, Steering Committee, Global Philanthropy Forum. 2007 to present.
- *Recipient, Social Venture Network Innovation Award. 2008.*
- *Honoree, World Affairs Council Awards Dinner. 2008.*
- Alum, Aspen CEO/Trustees Seminar, Aspen Institute. 2008.
- Founder/Convener, Alliance for Fair Microfinance. 2007.
- Alum, Summer Institute, Global Philanthropy Forum. 2007.
- Member, Advisory Board, Feel Good. 2009 to 2010.
- Member, Advisory Board, SVT Consulting. 2006 to 2010.
- Member, Advisory Board, Sevak Solutions. 2006 to 2010.
- Member, Advisory Board, International Center for Corporate Accountability, 2006 to 2009.
- Founder/Managing Chair, Ambassadors Council, Freedom from Hunger. 2002 to 2006.
- Member, Board of Directors, East Meets West Foundation. 2004 to 2006.
- Member, Board of Directors, Alere Medical. 2002 to 2003.
- Member, Advisory Board, Global Microcredit Campaign. 2006.
- Founder/Entrepreneur, real estate development company and contemporary art gallery.

Public Policy Executive (pre-1993)

Chief Budget Advisor, President of the California State Senate. Responsible for policy and political development of the state's then \$50 billion budget. "Senate President pro Tempore hired Jonathan Lewis...as his personal facilitator on the state budget. Lewis was given the job of overseeing the half-dozen or major political deals that had to be completed before the 1981-82 state budget could be completed." (Sacramento Union, July 6, 1981).

Cabinet Member, Superintendent of Public Instruction (state constitutional officer).

Chief of Staff, California State Senator. Legislative policy work in tax and budgetary policy, mental health, environmental protection, farm-worker health issues and educational reform.

Chief Executive Officer, California Association of Health Maintenance Organizations. Chief executive officer for statewide, 35-member managed healthcare trade association.

Chief of Staff for three blue-ribbon, state government commissions in the fields of health, education and tax policy.

Articles and Speeches

Please, see www.IonPoverty.com.

Personal Background

Jonathan is a graduate, with honors, of the University of California, Davis, with a B.S. in Applied Behavioral Sciences. Married (40 years) with one son who is studying law. His 160-pound English mastiff is named Cleopatra Daisy Fiona Lewis. He is on a quest is to find the world's best hot dog eatery.