



Fetzer Institute: Advancing love and forgiveness as powerful forces that can transform our inner and outer lives

The Fetzer Institute is a private operating foundation based in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Established by broadcast pioneer John E. Fetzer (1901-1991) the Institute uses its philanthropic resources to create programs that foster awareness of the power that love, forgiveness, and compassion can have in our world.

People across the globe, from all cultures and traditions, practice love and forgiveness—values central to the fabric of humanity—in daily life. Yet, there are few institutions working to investigate, activate, and celebrate the power of love and forgiveness as a practical force for good in today’s world. This is the work of the Fetzer Institute. We are interested in fostering awareness of the diverse ways people truly experience and understand love and forgiveness and how they embody those thoughts, emotions and spiritualities with their actions in daily life.

In collaboration with our international partners, we seek to grow an even greater awareness of love and forgiveness in action in individual and community life.

- **Efforts:** We conduct research and create programs that foster awareness of the power that love and forgiveness can have in our lives and in our world.
- **Approach:** We are a learning organization; our approach is exploratory, rigorous, and interactive. We inquire, convene, and encourage authentic engagement and deep contemplation, both personally and collectively.
- **Structure:** Advisory councils, comprised of international experts in their fields, are essential to our investigating and understanding the motivations and preconditions necessary for love and forgiveness.
- **Impact:** Our work elevates the transformative power of love and forgiveness in private and public life. Positive change can occur when we connect our inner and outer lives to embody love and forgiveness.

Practices:

- Inquiry, scientific rigor, collaboration, and engagement.
- Valuing diversity and inclusion we convene a global community.
- Open-minded, forward-thinking, innovative and supportive.
- We honor many wisdom and religious traditions, but Fetzer is not a faith-based organization.

Principles:

- Love is a most powerful force in the world.
- Love and forgiveness can be centering forces in every life, every day.
- In the face of conflict and injustice, forgiveness is an essential expression of love.
- Individual awareness of love and forgiveness can make a transformative impact on the world.

Heritage:

- John Fetzer, radio and television broadcast pioneer and longtime owner of the Detroit Tigers, was a life-long seeker who believed the world’s most critical issues must be addressed at their roots, by understanding our spiritual and psychological lives. His legacy continues today through the efforts of the Institute.