



You'd Like and Admire Retiree

Patty Colvin

By Bill MacKenzie

Patty Colvin took advantage of an Intel Encore Fellowship to make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged youth. Read about her experience with Heart of Oregon Corps.

Patty Colvin retired after working at Intel in a variety of roles. For the last 8-10 years she worked in the America Sales and Marketing Group (ASMO) and called on enterprise and state and local governments in the SW and NE territories. She influenced customers to buy Intel, and to deploy the newest and greatest processors.

After retiring from Intel's Oregon site in 2014, Patty Colvin wanted to do something meaningful, so she began volunteering at [Heart of Oregon Corps](#) (HOC). The Central Oregon non-profit provides job skills training and alternative education to create pathways out of poverty for young people ages 16-24.

Colvin believes the work she did at HOC as an [Encore Fellow](#), from Oct. 2014 to Oct. 2015, changed her life and the lives of the 253 youths with whom she worked.



"I witnessed youth joining the program on day one shaking their heads and basically saying without words 'I am not signing up for this'," Colvin said.

"Meeting them again a few months later, I encountered courteous young adults, dedicated to the program, working in a team and having pride in their accomplishments for the first time in their short lives."

With 14 years of Intel experience building and managing teams behind her, plus a history of working with superlative Intel managers, Colvin started out with a deep reservoir of skills and garnered wide respect at HOC. That enabled her to jump right in, focusing on building leadership capacity in the non-profit and strengthening communications and efficiency across programs and among the dedicated, loving staff.

Enjoying the trust of the non-profit's team, she assumed responsibility for a variety of initiatives, including developing an Alumni Group, chairing a capital campaign, mentoring AmeriCorps program youth and overseeing community business sponsorship and outreach.



Patty Colvin, 2nd from the left, with AmeriCorps youth, at a Habitat for Humanity project.

While at HOC, Colvin enjoyed such things as being out in the wilderness for fire reduction work, building houses with Habitat for Humanity, and helping the young people pass math tests and learn how to give presentations.

Colvin is immensely proud of her work at HOC and sure of its impact. “Most importantly, we are investing in our next generation to become contributing community members,” she said.

HOC is also thrilled to have had Colvin as an Encore Fellow. “Your presence here has been more valuable than I could ever have anticipated on both a personal and professional level for me and everyone here,” Carly Shadron, HOC’s Development Coordinator, told Colvin. “You have been a mentor and a role model to me as a strong, successful and fearless woman.”

Laura Handy, HOC’s executive director, is fulsome in her praise of Colvin as well. “Patty’s contributions helped our grassroots non-profit reach a new level of effectiveness in serving local disadvantaged young people,” Handy said.

If you are interested in helping HOC, the non-profit is looking for youth mentors and businesspeople who can talk to the youth about what they look for in hiring. Volunteers expose youth to potential career paths and expectations when employed. And, of course, HOC welcomes contributions. To learn more, contact Colvin at 51picolvin@gmail.com or visit www.heartoforegon.org.