

PMI Educational Foundation

Reflecting on Project Management for Social Good

What comes to mind when considering today's top industries that embrace project management as essential to their business operations? Manufacturing? Construction? Information technology? Professional services? What about nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) on the forefront of improving lives and communities around the world? What about youth? Do you think introducing youth to project management will help better prepare them for future success, both in work and in life? This is where the PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF)—the philanthropic arm of PMI—steps in, because the foundation leverages *project management for social good*[®].

PMIEF strives to inspire and empower people to realize their potential and transform their lives and their communities through the use of project management knowledge. For the staff and volunteers engaged with PMIEF, there is a shared belief that project management helps nonprofits/NGOs become more efficient and effective in their daily work and in delivering their missions. And youth who learn project management are more organized and better communicators, collaborators and problem solvers—all important 21st-century skills.

PMIEF is bringing project management to nonprofits and youth who otherwise would not have the opportunity to learn it. This year alone, more than 200,000 youth were introduced to project management—some of whom had dozens of hours of training.



PMIEF's grant to the Space Foundation for "Out of This World Project Management!" required students to apply project management knowledge to search for life on Mars.

Here are some other ways PMIEF leveraged project management for social good:

- Providing grants totaling US\$1,397,660 to other nonprofit organizations to help nonprofit staff and youth learn project management;
- Offering a range of no-cost tools and educational resources in a multitude of languages for use with youth and nonprofit organizations;
- Providing pro bono (volunteer) trainings by PMI Registered Education Providers to nonprofit/NGO staff, teachers and emerging project management practitioners valued at almost US\$200,000; and
- Providing student scholarships and professional awards.

"The skills our staff is learning through hands-on project management training are helping our team deliver on key projects smarter and more efficiently, and no doubt having a positive impact on our larger movement."

—Mary Davis, Special Olympics CEO, former PMIEF grant recipient

How Can You Be a Part of This Amazing Work?

Promoting change in the world through the use of project management knowledge is no small task, and it takes an enormous amount of resources to make it happen. The only way this incredible work can happen is through the generous charitable support of corporations, foundations and individuals like you.

To learn more, visit pmief.org. Consider signing up for the monthly newsletter, *PM for Social Good*. Volunteer with your local chapter's social good program or bring PMIEF's no-cost resources to your favorite nonprofit/NGO and help them learn project management.

And, most significantly, please consider making a minimum donation to PMIEF of US\$25 or any other amount that you find meaningful. Your donation can be made securely online through the PMI store or via pmief.org/giving/donate.

PMIEF looks forward to sharing a happy and bright new year with you, filled with an abundance of *project management for social good*®!

We couldn't do all we do without the loyal support of project managers around the globe. Sadly, one of those who served PMIEF for over a decade has recently passed away. Be sure to read how his dedication to giving back made a difference in lives and communities around the world.

John R. Patton

(15 September 1944 – 4 October 2018)

John Patton's 74 years "in residence" on planet Earth has left behind a better world for his having been here. His life and continuing legacy have positively impacted the PMI and PMI Educational Foundation (PMIEF) communities, as well as the many lives that have been improved by his project management outreach.

In 1983, Mr. Patton founded Cadence Management Corporation, a project management training and consulting firm working with organizations across 47 countries. Though he served as president and CEO until 2016 and as Chairman of the Board until his 2018 retirement, Mr. Patton carved out precious time for himself and his staff to undertake volunteer training activities for PMIEF. In fact, from 2008

to 2018, he and his Cadence team provided more than US\$500,000 of pro bono training to teachers and nonprofit organizations on behalf of PMIEF.

Mr. Patton directly gave some of the training, and was especially gratified when helping nonprofits working in disaster management and humanitarian aid. He commented on how much they needed the training he was able to provide, and took pride in watching trainees come to the realization that project management principles could help them do their work more effectively. Mr. Patton's willingness to share knowledge and opportunity has become part of his legacy. Following Mr. Patton's retirement, Cadence has continued its

PMIEF collaboration under new company leadership.

Always eager to go the extra mile, Mr. Patton did not limit his support to volunteer hours. He also became a PMIEF Leadership Society donor for many years, giving not only his time but his treasure. Additionally, he served on the PMIEF board for more than



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And Dr. Chen also attended the potential council member roundtable to share and learn experience from companies at home and abroad, in the hope of being the council member of PMI China.

It was a great honor for PMI China to witness the project management achievements of Neusoft. PMI China is proud of setting a benchmark in project management for outstanding companies like Neusoft. PMI China, as a direct overseas branch of PMI, is committed to helping more companies strengthen their awareness of project management to realize their strategies.



Neusoft project awards ceremony.

John Patton *Continued from page 15*

three years and was the chair of the board for one year.

Earlier in his life, Mr. Patton received a bachelor's degree in romance languages from the University of Oregon. While on a college-era mission trip to work in an underserved Colombian orphanage, he met Esneda Correa, who would later become his wife of 52 years. After college, the newlyweds moved to Barcelona, Spain where Mr. Patton earned a

degree in Hispanic studies, followed by an MBA from Portland State University upon their return to the United States.

Mr. Patton died while working on his final project, the design and construction of a new home. His frequent social media pictorial posts outlined major milestones and roadblocks alike, revealing the consummate project manager in action. In a fitting tribute to Mr. Patton, his

family requests that "memorial contributions be made to PMIEF (<https://pmief.org/giving/donate>), which brings project management knowledge to youth worldwide."

Mr. Patton will be sorely missed by the entire PMI community, which remains in his debt for his generosity of expertise, time and spirit. His was a life well-lived.