

Celebrating Women's History Month with a few of Oregon's remarkable policing leaders

A. Who inspired you, and why?

It's hard to really point towards one person who inspired me as it seems like I find inspiration from many different people and actions. I find myself watching and absorbing how people respond to events and people. I feel like I am inspired the most by acts of kindness and humanity and people who show up in a way that feels real.

B. What advice would you give to the next generation of female leaders?

Find someone you trust and meet with them regularly to bounce ideas and thoughts around. Doing this can help give you confidence and helps keep you grounded. You will make mistakes, own them, forgive yourself for it, and use the lessons learned to help others avoid making the same mistakes. You can't please everyone, or control their reactions to your decisions, but you can control your reactions to them.

C. What is one of the most rewarding and/or challenging aspects of your job?

The answer to both questions is the same - PEOPLE! We are so complex and interesting. I love working with people and yet we can be the most challenging as well. Life would be boring without us.

Chief Shanon Anderson

Oregon State University Police Department
OACP Member since January 2021