

Entering the BYU Institute of Government Service in 1978 (now Marriott School's MPA program), I thought, "Can I do this?" Rigorous and challenging graduate coursework awaited - courses that would eventually qualify me for public sector jobs.

It helped to focus on each course and semester, "step by step" and "line upon line". I began to relax and learn. My mind shifted from "Can I do this?" to "I can do this".

The 1977 internship experience with LDS Personal Welfare Services (6th floor of the new Church Office Building) was followed by a thesis-equivalent internship report. The report was daunting, but I did it! Graduation was April 21, 1978.

For 36 years, the State of Utah employed me in successively responsible positions with "I can do this" still in my head. I knew that I could write and manage millions of dollars in federal grants for the Energy Office and Division of Housing and Community Development.

Retired, I am serving a second Church Humanitarian Center mission. I help refugees from across the world with temporal needs. I still know, "I can do this". Refugees are heard to say, "When will that old missionary be here?"