

Our mission at the Kathryn Weit Foundation is to empower the Intellectual/Developmental **Disability Community through** advocacy and policy.

We are a publicly funded 501(c)(3) non-profit, whose volunteer board manages the functions of the Foundation and oversees the success of our yearly Fellowship program.

Fellowship Program

This paid educational twelve-month educational Fellowship will focus on networking, mentorship, and legislative advocacy for the Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Community within the state of Oregon.

Each year a theme will be chosen and customized project developed based on

The Fellowship is open to those with I/DD or family members.



Who was Kathryn?

Kathryn Weit was a mother, an advocate, a mentor, and a matriarch of a movement.

Starting her career as a reading teacher, Kathryn's life flipped upside down when her son Colin was diagnosed with severe Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in 1981.

After attempting to navigate a broken system to access essential services for her son, Kathryn changed careers. She believed that what was unacceptable for her son was unacceptable for any

Kathryn spent her life working to encourage people to tell their stories. She knew this was a movement of many and that, although powerful, her story was just one. She fought tirelessly for equality, justice, and inclusion for all Oregonians with I/DD. Ensuring the voices of those with I/DD and their families were always at the table. Kathryn's dedication changed Oregon forever.

We believe that ...

- Representation and inclusion are intertwined.
- Communities should be as diverse as the personalities within them.
- Voices of families and self advocates are essential.
- Self determination matters.
- Every child & adult has a right to flourish within community.
- Everyone should have the tools to succeed.
- There is great power in talking with someone about who they are & who they hope to be.

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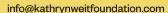
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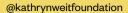
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