

**“[COMPANY] helped me connect my passion with my position.”**

My career’s been anything but conventional. I’ve gone from touring with a punk band to volunteering for sustainability nonprofits to joining [COMPANY] as a paralegal. When I first started at the latter, I wasn’t entirely sure I’d be able to make the same kind of impact on the world. But after watching my role develop, that couldn’t be further from the truth.

When I learned about the [COMPANY EVENT], I decided to try channeling my passion for the environment into a project about reducing waste in the ocean. To my surprise, 30 people joined my team, helping me turn a simple idea into a genuine proof of concept. Buoyed by our success, a coworker and I were inspired to start a sustainability community of our own at [COMPANY]. And even though our group’s efforts felt like drops in the ocean at first, we started making waves before long.

We soon caught the attention of Connected Communities, who reached out with an opportunity to lead our sustainability initiative on a global scale. From there, our membership grew from a few people to over 5,000. And thanks to the platform this work offered, I was able to accept a position on the Connected Communities team itself a year and a half ago—formally merging my advocacy with my day job.

Like I mentioned, I was originally conflicted about working at a big tech company. But after embarking on this sustainability journey, seeing how it’s transformed my own role, and witnessing the impact we’ve had, my perspective has totally changed. For now, I’m confident that this is where I can make the biggest difference.

If you told me five years ago that I’d be leading a global sustainability charge at one of the biggest corporations in the world, I would have laughed it off. I don’t have any formal training—just a knack for program management and a whole lot of passion. But [COMPANY] has created a culture where that kind of pipe dream can come true. It’s full of opportunities to grow into new roles and put your purpose into practice. To me, that sort of development is essential.

—[NAME], *Community Program Manager*, [LOCATION]