

spreading joy, inspiration and optimism to millions...



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**Nearly 300 children gather to write notes of appreciation to Police Officers and Staff**  
**The Junior Joy Team partners with Hough Elementary School to spread joy to the Vancouver Police Department**

(Vancouver, WA) Close to 300 elementary school children will come together on Wednesday, April 11th to spread a little joy to a group of people who spend every day keeping our community safe. The Junior Joy Team is partnering with Hough Elementary School to give personalized notes of appreciation to everyone working for the Vancouver Police Department.

"When 10 kids come together to intentionally spread joy to a group of people, it's something really special," said founder and chief joy officer of The Joy Team, Michele McKeag Larsen. "When 300 kids gather to do that it's the start of a positive shift in thought and action that will ripple out farther than we can possibly know or imagine."

Hough will hold a special assembly on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm for its 290 students prior to the kids writing a personalized note of appreciation to a member of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD). The four Junior Joy Team members that attend Hough will speak at the assembly, as well as School Resource Officer Tina Smith of the Vancouver Police Department. The personalized notes will be caringly stuffed by The Junior Joy Team into Happy Packets and within a couple of weeks every person employed at VPD will receive their very own.

"We are so proud to be able to give back to the wonderful people in our community who give so much to our students, by partnering with The Joy Team," said Eva Unger, Principal of Hough Elementary School.

The Vancouver Police Department is the second group to receive Happy Packets from The Junior Joy Team. The VPD, along with several other organizations vital to the health and vitality of our community, was selected by the kids during a January meeting over a meal of macaroni and cheese.

The Junior Joy Team spread joy to all 260 employees of City Hall in February and created a video about the power of positive words in March.

**About The Joy Team**

Founded in February 2010, The Joy Team is a non-profit corporation based in Vancouver, Washington, with the mission of spreading joy, optimism and inspiration to millions. We carry out this mission by helping people shift into a positive frame of mind through the incredible power of positive words. In 2010 we put up 28 billboards, effectively putting 25.9 million seeds of joy out into the world. In 2011 we involved over 300 people in spreading positive messages in 3 countries and 22 U.S. states on August 23rd using sidewalk chalk. In 2012 we started The Junior Joy Team for children ages 5-12 to discover the warmth of spreading joy and building community. Learn more at [thejoyteam.org](http://thejoyteam.org), like us on Facebook.com/TheJoyTeam or follow us on Twitter @TheJoyTeam.