

How Our Billboards Make A Difference



Hi Michele! I hope you are doing well this holiday season! I just wanted to share with you something my partner, Heather, told me recently. She's the sole caregiver for her mother, who is paranoid schizophrenic with early onset dementia. It's a tremendous task that takes a daily tole on Heather's own mental health. But she recently shared with me that every time she visits her mom, she drives past one of your billboards on 122nd--it says "you make a difference." She told me that seeing that billboard has helped her get through the past couple of months, which have been especially difficult for her and her mom--a daily affirmation that she really is making a difference in her mother's life. Thank you so much!! 😊



May 22nd, 8:38am

In the Fall of 2014 there was a Joy Team billboard on Sandy Blvd (in Portland, OR) near 16th, facing east. When I first saw it, I wondered what you were selling. I figured there would be subsequent billboards to clarify.

On October 1, 2014, I received devastating news. By Friday, October 3rd, I was toying with thoughts of suicide. By Sunday, October 5th, I had decided the method, and was working out the timing. The following morning, while returning home from taking my son to high school, I again saw your billboard and although I still wondered what you were selling, this time I also thought, "Wouldn't it be nice if that billboard was a message for me?"

Morning after morning, I read that billboard. Morning after morning, I wished that the message was for me. I finally decided that it WAS for me, whether you knew it or not. I had come to think of that billboard as my friend. The one friend who knew what I was going through.

One morning, the message was gone -- replaced by an ad like any other ad. I felt like a good friend had just moved away.


Your simple message had helped me through the toughest time. I was going to make it.

Thank you.

May 22nd, 12:29pm

The Joy Team

I looked back in our records and found your message: You make a difference. I'll attach a photo for you. ❤️ ❤️ ❤️



May 22nd, 12:32pm

YES!!!! That's the one that changed my life!!

May 22nd, 12:43pm

Sounds silly, to say that a billboard saved my life, but I have to tell you, it was the only encouraging word I was receiving at the time. One kind thought, day after day truly does make a difference.

Alexis Screen with Micheal Screen
October 5 at 7:27pm · Edited · 🌐

I got my sign! When my Dad got sick he kept telling me to "be strong". When I said I wasn't sure I could be and that I wasn't ready for him to not be here, he said "you're stronger than you know and I'll always be with you". Driving to Portland today my GPS took me a roundabout way I've never been, right past this billboard when I was feeling lost (both literally and figuratively). I love and miss you everyday Daddy!



Share

Amy Whitehorse, Sara Marvin, Consuelo Portillo and 194 others like this.

View 18 more comments

Rae-Marie Biaggne Awesomel
Yesterday at 1:04pm

Zelene Flores Deacuerdo.
See Translation
Yesterday at 5:12pm

Kati Newcomb I am so happy The Joy Team could remind you of such an important sentiment from your dad! I've had the pleasure to work with the kids who work on this lovely team and they are some of my favorite people! ❤️ ❤️

Kristine Van Raden
June 15 at 9:19am · 🌐

A few days before my mom passed away, my daughter brought 3 year old Eloise to the hospital for a visit. El climbed up on the bed with my mom, no fear, just love and adoration. When she left the room, she was as excited as a kid who was just told they were going to Disneyland..."Yaya. You know where GG (my mom) is going to go when she leaves here? She is going to be a star in the sky!!!! Every night we can go outside and see her. Forever and ever..."

Little did she know that she had just given me one of the greatest gifts I could ever receive...Driving home from the hospital that day, there was a team of people putting up this billboard:



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Jill Lynn Brown Anything is Possible is on SE Foster and between Holgate and 72nd. I'll get a photo and exact location for you tomorrow when I take Kylee to her physical therapy appointment. It is at the best spot. A few blocks from an intensive pediatric therapy place that works with children with CP, Traumatic Brain Injury and other neuro related reasons. It always makes me smile every time and remind me Anything is Possible! Anything!
Unlike · Reply · 1 · December 11, 2014 at 7:39pm · Edited



S K Sizemore says:
July 13, 2015 at 11:42 am
Joy Team:

Thanks for the billboard in Champaign, IL.
It changed the direction of what I dwell on and emphasize in my thoughts!
I'm trying to add in every act and thought and then spill it over to help others.
Best Wishes Always, S K



Debra Gavlak
I am so Happy, this billboard is my favorite, too and is first up on my feed! Truly, I am blessed. I saw this billboard for the first time the other day and my heart was touched beyond deep. Filled with gratitude!
37 minutes ago · Edited · Unlike · 1 · Reply



Kristi says:
November 8, 2015 at 9:24 am

These billboards are terrific. Every time I see them they really do make me smile.



Mark Hanset
44 mins · iOS · Edited ·

I'm Digging Life.
Like a dog after a bone.
(Note billboard) Thanks to:
www.mttaborvetcare.com
#thejoyteam



♥ pdxavsquad, sierranyokka, jonatascaccavo96, the.joy.team

blythedolores You, @michele_spreads_joy and @the.joy.team make a BIG difference! You are the reason Portland rocks. I get to see this sign every single day! #joy #thankyou #portland #divisionstreet #happy #yourock #thinkhappyrally

How Our Billboards Make A Difference



Kymm Nelsen ▸ The Joy Team
April 18 · 🌐

The other day, my 6-yr old grandson and I drove past the "You are loved." sign on Sandy Blvd. He just learned to read recently. I pointed to the sign and he read it aloud. Then, he says, "Grammy, that signs say I am loved. Why does it say that?" I told him that people want him and everyone to know they are loved. "Isn't that cool?" "Uh huh," he says. Then, he sat quietly and I could tell he was really thinking about that. That Seed of Light will take root and serve him for a lifetime. Thank you for all you're doing to spread the joy!

Unlike · Comment · Share · 🍊 17 🗨️ 4 ➦ 1

WCIA 3 News
5 hrs · Edited · 🌐

Instant Connection Poll:
Can a billboard put you in a better mood?
New billboards are popping up in Champaign-Urbana reminding people to smile or be kind.
Does that work for you?
Click here to participate in our poll: PollEv.com/wcianews065
We'll reveal the answers tonight during our hour-long WCIA 3 News at 6:00.

Like · Comment · Share

🍊 95 people like this. Most Relevant ▾

➦ 1 share

Write a comment...

- Dale Karrick** Wyld Stallyns rule!
Like · Reply · 🍊 8 · 5 hrs
- Jason Karr** And... PARTY ON, DUUUUUUUDES!!!!
Like · Reply · 🍊 2 · 5 hrs
- Robert Tolbert** Yes if i saw ine that said obama resigns.
Like · Reply · 🍊 1 · 4 hrs
- LJ Carner** Use THINK: Is it thoughtful, helpful, inspiring, necessary and kind.
Like · Reply · 4 hrs
- Karole Spraker** Yes, I would enjoy seeing these billboards!
Unlike · Reply · 🍊 1 · 3 hrs
- Greg Frichtl** Can't hurt
Unlike · Reply · 🍊 1 · 5 hrs
- Rebekah Montgerard** Made me smile!!!!
Unlike · Reply · 🍊 1 · 5 hrs
- Kerry Isaac-Rossow** I love these!
Unlike · Reply · 🍊 1 · 5 hrs
- Sue Bentley Daugherty** I love seeing these little reminders of our common humanity while I'm out being very busy and focused on my own stuff - I know they have improved my mood a time or two.
Unlike · Reply · 🍊 1 · 5 hrs · Edited

The Joy Team
November 13 at 11:51am · 🌐

Happy #WorldKindnessDay
Remember to extend your kindness to yourself as much as you do to others.
#SharingSmiles with Heather Strang - Spiritual Teacher & Author

1,476 people reached Boost Post

15 shares

Graham Mueller I saw this one just the other day. I immediately cut myself some slack.
Unlike · Reply · Message · 🍊 1 · November 13 at 11:59am

The Joy Team Perfect ❤️
Like · Reply · November 13 at 1:05pm

Denise Dockendorff ▸ The Joy Team
April 3 · 🌐

I drove past a billboard in Albuquerque, NM and it made me so happy!! 😊

Unlike · Comment · Share · 🍊 1 🗨️ 1

The Joy Team was mentioned in a post ▾

Kortni Alston shared The Joy Team's photo.
April 3 · 🌐

Happy Friday! More brilliant work by The Joy Team! They rock! Over the weekend, if you are looking for ways to increase your levels of happiness -- think gratitude. Scholars have discovered that it makes your immune system stronger and lowers blood pressure. Additionally, it will also increase positive emotions, joy and optimism. Now, that just made me #smileBIG. What or who are you grateful for? 😊