

# **ABOUT JULIA**

Mom of 2

Author, speaker, trainer

Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Senegal 2000-2002)

Former Development and Marketing Director at small shops

Get my Digital Storytelling Workbook:

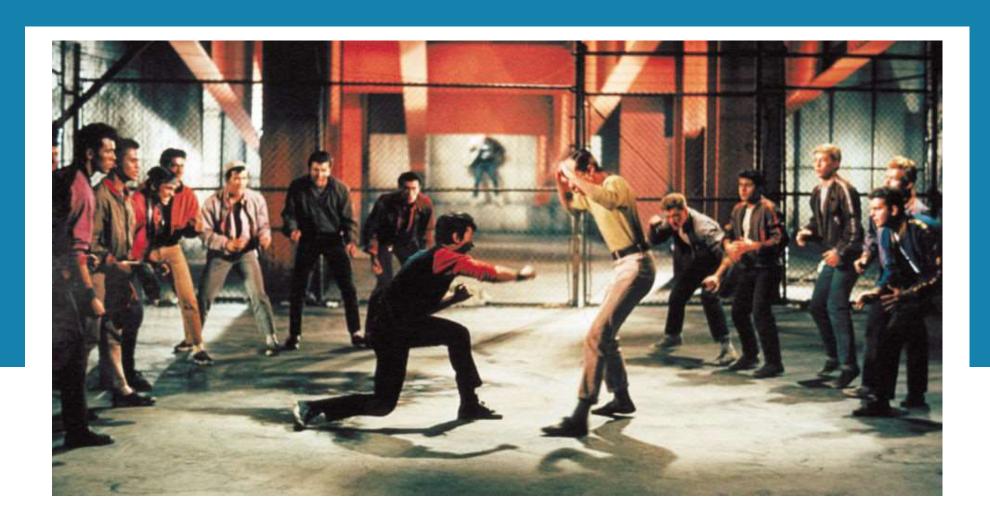
Text WORKBOOK to 33777

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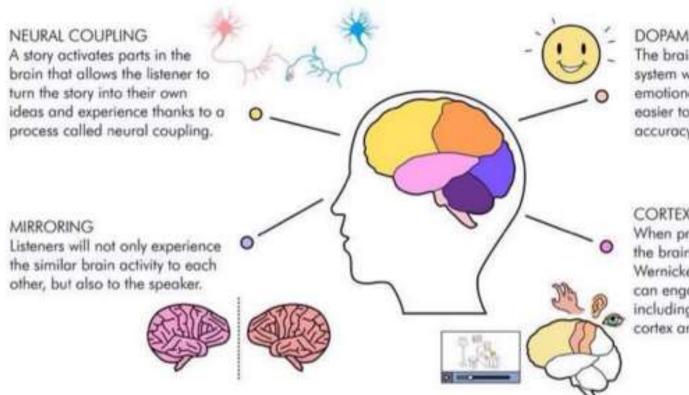
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# The stories we tell CREATE the world WELIVEIN.

# HOW STORYTELLING AFFECTS THE BRAIN

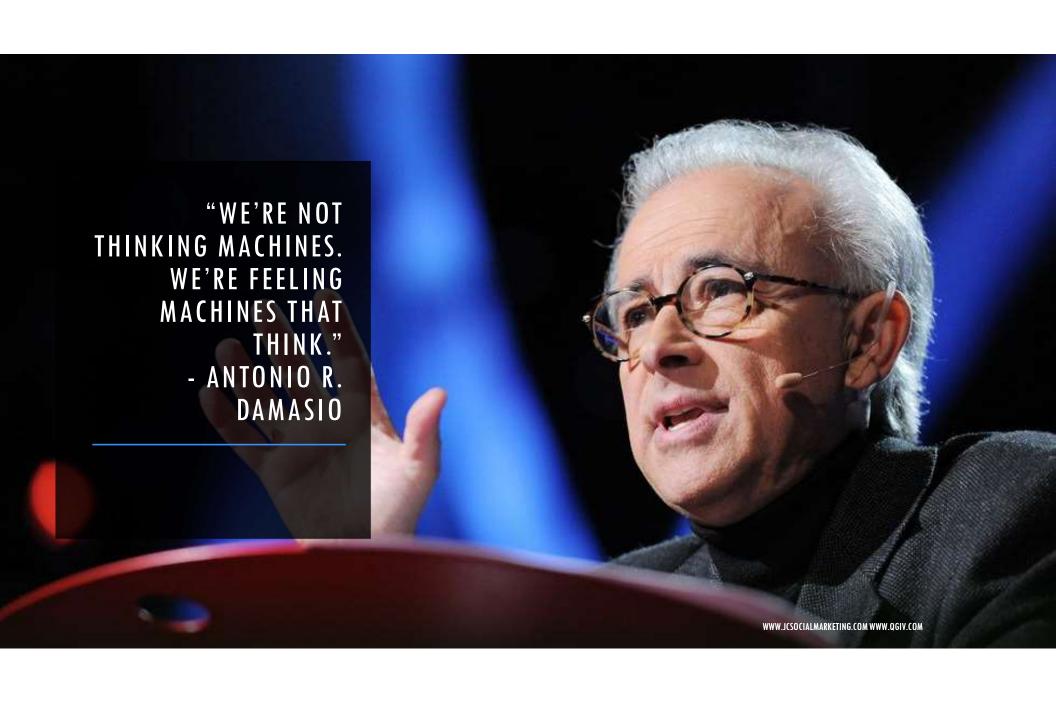


## DOPAMINE

The brain releases dopamine into the system when it experiences an emotionally charged event, making it easier to remember and with greater accuracy.

### CORTEX ACTIVITY

When processing facts, two areas of the brain are activated (Broca's and Wernicke's area). A well-told story can engage many additional areas, including the motor cortex, sensory cortex and frontal cortex.



# YOUNGER GENERATIONS LIKE STORIES.



Marketing agency Headstream, in their Brand Storytelling Report, found that 79% of its respondents preferred brands that told stories.



People from the ages of 18 to 34 were particularly interested in stories.



Millennials and Gen Z are less interested in sales pitches and more responsive to brands they can identify with on a personal level.

# STORIES TIE TO EMOTIONS.

According to Headstream, the most impactful types of stories are "humorous, dramatic, or heartwarming."

We like it when a story makes us feel something.

When brands deliver high-quality stories that affect our emotional state, we're more inclined to listen (and absorb the information).

# STORIES TRANSLATE TO REVENUE.



When people enjoy and identify with a brand story, they are:



55% more likely to consider a future purchase;



44% more likely to tell the story to others;



15% more likely to make a purchase then and there!



STOP THINKING OF STORYTELLING AS A MEGAPHONE TO PROMOTE YOUR AGENDA.



THINK OF IT AS A GIFT FOR YOUR SUPPORTERS.



# TYPE INTO THE CHAT!

Name a brand/business/nonprofit storytelling campaign that resonated with you.





# 3-PART DIGITAL STORYTELLING FRAMEWORK









**SHARE** 

# KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE.

Who are you trying to reach?

What do they value?

Why are they or would they be interested in your work — what's in it for them?

What are their motivations?





# MY BROTHER IS LOSING HIS STATUS AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO. I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT LOSING HIM.

- MARIAM

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# ETHICAL STORYTELLING CONCERNS

We must advocate against storyteller exploitation demonstrated through being exoticized, tokenized, and or otherized.

Storytelling concerns from the storyteller perspective:

Re-traumatization

Confidentiality and safety

Implicit pressure

Fear of reality not matching the narrative

Lack of control over their story

# TIPS TO HELP COLLECT AND CRAFT STORIES ETHICALLY



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# GREAT STORYTELLING INSPIRES AN ACTION.

Donate

Volunteer

Sign this petition

Call your legislator

Sign up now

Share this news

# 6 STORY IDEAS TO EXPLORE AND COLLECT



# **CREATION STORIES**

What was the need?

What is the need now?

How have things changed – how have things stayed the same?



"I feel proud of the work I have done for my sisters from Syria and I want to stand with Malala and continue that fight. There are still so many girls out of school. There is still so much we need to do to help." - Muzoon

Will you join Muzoon and Malala to continue the fight for girls everywhere? --> http://bit.ly/1NAVfFx



## From Syria to Today

Muzoon, a 17-year-old Syrian refugee, describes her excitement to reunite with Malala today in England, where her family has been resettled, and why the two will fight even harder for girls everywhere.

BLOG.MALALA.ORG

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# Adam's Story

It began with a question. A small boy begging in the streets of India. "What do you want most in the world?"

"A pencil," he replied.

# I reached into my backpack, handed him my pencil, and watched as a wave of possibility washed over him.

A smile erupted and his eyes brightened. I then saw the profound power and promise brought through something as small as giving a pencil to just one child. Over the next five years, I backpacked through more than 50 countries, handing out thousands of pens and pencils across six continents. These pencils, these small pieces of potential, led to powerful conversations with local parents and children across countless cultures and languages. From years of listening to their words, it became clear that there was a need for an international nonprofit that was led on-the-ground by a staff of locals from within each country, required village participation in each school, and deeply supported, trained and tracked each student to ensure their

# **VALUES & ETHICS STORIES**

What are the values and ethics behind your organization?

We know that donors give to charities based on shared values. In what ways can you convey your unique values and beliefs to supporters?



Denver Rescue Mission added 2 new photos. February 19 · 🚱

Most of John's life has been spent in and out of jail and when he ended up homeless, the only place he knew to go was Denver Rescue Mission.

Read more about John's journey in our new Next Step program and how he was able to utilize the services he so desperately needed: http://bit.ly/DRMFebNewsletter



Comment

Share

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### 8 likes

mira\_coalition One more #MyImmigrantMom tribute, from Samuel, Suubi, Solomon and Sims for their mom Cilia Wambuzi:

Thank you Maa for the sacrifices you have made for us, for the many days and nights you have worked for us, for the unconditional love you have shown us, for the never ending support you have given us, for the countless prayers you have prayed for us and for the thousands of other things that you









# **IMPACT STORY**

A story of a life changed; trajectory altered.

Focused on the benefits of the work, not the features.

Not as much about WHAT they went through, but how they FELT.

Address knowledge gaps about the population and the program.











### 11 likes

rosies\_place All her life, Muqeedah struggled with mental health issues. We met her when she was sleeping in her car in Rosie's Place parking lot. That was the start of a new life. To see a video of Muqeedah's story, click on our bio. #HHweek





"There's so much that's not 'normal' about raising a kid with a disability. [Goodwill's LifeWorks] is something with a focus and routine he can do every day." gwnne.org/2TgAx95 #goodwill #disability #caregivers



11:13 AM - 26 Feb 2019



# **INSIDER STORY**

Who works with and for your organization?

Why do they do it?

What have they learned?

What has been their best experience?

What has been the hardest?

Behind-the-scenes insight

Humanize the brand





## Swords to Plowshares ② @vetshelpingvets · 17h

Leon Winston arrived at Swords to Plowshares — a Bay Area **nonprofit** that serves homeless veterans — as a client, fresh out of rehab and in need of housing. Now, he is our COO and housing director. Read more about his story in this @usfca alumni feature. bit.ly/2PamKfE



Q 1

17 11

8

♡ 21





twloha We're continuing our Q&A blog series with #TWLOHAinterns past and present. Here's current intern @lauraalewiss answering today's question: "What is the most difficult aspect of the internship?" This answer and more at twloha.com/blog. (Link in profile)

thelastcfus

taylorstaygold It's one of my dreams to able to be an intern for TWLOHA one day.

meeeowgan @iamhalsey thought this was so fr

poppunkking182 Very Well Put

poppunkking182 ·Rise Above Suicide · You Can Do It Because You Matter.

kelmichelleh @suz\_nne this looks like you...

suz\_nne @kelmichelleh I see it!!







1,597 likes www.jcsocialmarketing.com/www.ggiv.com

OCTOBER 23, 2014

# **DONOR STORY**

Powerful form of social capital.

Why did they give?

Why do they continue to give?

What does this mean to them?

### Susan Shobe

I grew up in Tucson and southeast Arizona; my kids are now 3rd generation at their public school here. My heart beams to hear my kids exclaim, "Look at the vegetation!!" after a desert rain, or "The hawks have left the nest!!", or "Dad, you need to put more sugar water out for the hummingbirds." We are a part of this desert and this community, and it is a part of us.

I've been a long-time supporter of the Coalition because I've been inspired by the work they've accomplished in protecting our vanishing wild desert areas. They truly are a coalition—building relationships and working with others to find common ground while holding true to the mission of protecting habitats that will sustain the full range of our native species to the greatest extent possible. Their work reminds us again and again what is best about Pima County, and that the hard work and dedication to saving it really can pay off.



"We are a part of this desert and this community, and it is a part of us."

When my husband and I had our 2nd child, we decided to become monthly donors—we find it easier to budget in a small amount each month rather than to part with a large sum at once, and it provides more certainty that we are able to meet our heart's desire to contribute when finances are tight. We actually contribute more now, because it's all in small increments. We are happy to have this option that allows us to continue to support the Coalition's great work, and we encourage all families or others on a small or fluctuating budget to consider this option.

See all Donor Spotlights »



Danny Palmer

## **DONOR SPOTLIGHT**

"I support Bag&Baggage because - after about 3 years away from the art form - they reminded me of everything I cherish about theatre: their commitment to the community, their demand of the quality and craft of their work, their instance on entertaining us while expanding us. I have a small test after seeing a piece of art: how much my friends and I talk about after viewing it. And there is not a single Bag&Baggage production I've seen where we haven't talked about it for hours."





Follow

1,467 likes

1w

twloha There are just two days left in our #into17 campaign, and we're just under \$10,000 away from our goal of raising \$100,000 by 2017. With your help, we can bring hope #into17, and help more people who are struggling to find their way. (Link in Profile)

rissxann So wish I could help. I pray you will reach the goal soon 🔬 🔯 💍

dmk.creativeyouth 💙

\_vxla\_ @liane\_\_\_z

Add a comment...

000

# COMMUNITY STORY

Influential and well-respected community members.

Community partners.

Legislators, politicians, media personalities.

...

As an emergency room physician, Dr. Claudia Beals has firsthand knowledge of the intersection between homelessness and the health care system.

Dr. Beals, who joined The Night Ministry's Board of Directors this year, trained in emergency medicine in the South Bronx, where she encountered individuals experiencing homelessness who came into the hospital, often for a safe place to sleep.

"During my residency, we would actually set up an area in the front hall of the hospital for the homeless with food and blankets," Dr. Beals said. "Security would wake them up early in the morning to leave before the hospital administration came in. We offered clothes and packed breakfast and lunch for them to take when they left."

After finishing medical school in Chicago in 2003, Dr. Beals first trained in internal medicine but decided it wasn't the best fit for her. She then trained in ER medicine at New York's Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, which is similar to Cook County's John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital in Chicago.

"What draws me to emergency medicine is the fast pace and the variety of patients," she said, "and the ever-changing environment of the emergency department."

Dr. Beals, who practices at a number of emergency rooms in Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, was recruited for The Night Ministry's Board because of her medical background and passion for service.

"I'm a physician," she said, "and most of us have a calling to help others."

Dr. Beals believes her medical knowledge and experience can help advance the agency's Health Outreach programs. "I would like to give my perspective to help Street Medicine and possibly find additional medical volunteers for the Health Outreach Bus," she said.



# Volunteer Spotlight

**Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area** 



**Texas Bluebonnets** 



Following

bgchouston, holliwood12, mrs.kriegel 29w and gogogretch like this

bgcaustin For the past year and a half, the Texas Bluebonnets have volunteered with our Webb M.S. Club. These friendly and helpful gals teach Top Chef, and are always willing to assist Club events. The kids loved their company at last year's Fall Festival and Club Carnival during BGC Week this March. Thank you, Texas Bluebonnets, for your investment in #Greatfutures!



Add a comment...

000









#### 43 likes

pinestreetinn Jessie recently moved into his own apartment but had no furniture. Our friends @mybobs donated all the furniture for his new place. "I can't believe I have this great apartment and this beautiful new furniture! I am so, so happy and grateful!" #newhome #newfurniture #gratitude #generosity

# "SO, TELL US YOUR STORY..."



What is your favorite memory?

How has our organization made you feel?

How did you feel when you first discovered us?

What is one reason that you continue to support us?

What impact have you witnessed in the community because of our work?

# WHERE ELSE TO FIND STORIES?

Review all print materials and collateral.

This includes annual reports, grants, event programs, press releases, brochures, etc.

Re-examine past and present events.



Happy #GivingTuesday! Julia Scherer-Hoock from our Development Team writes about her experience seeing PEM's inspiring mission in action in today's blog post.

If PEM has enriched your life or the lives of your loved ones, consider contributing to our vibrant programming at the link below! http://pem.org/support/annual\_fund\_giving\_tuesday



#GivingTuesday | Connected | Peabody Essex Museum

connected.pem.org



# 5 ESSENTIAL BUILDING BLOCKS OF STORIES THAT CAPTIVATE AND PERSUADE











#### Dear Julia

Sometimes one of our young people says something that stops me in my tracks. That happened last week, when Josh, our program director told me of his conversation with Michael. They were at the doctor's office because Michael wasn't feeling well. While waiting their turn, Michael turned to Josh and asked,

#### "If I died, who would come to my funeral?"

Michael wasn't joking. Not even close. His heartfelt question accurately reflected his situation. He and Josh knew the answer was grim.

## No child should ever have to wonder about the answer to that question.

The young men and women who come into Plummer's programs often have been bouncing around the foster care system for years. During that time, they have lost touch with siblings and extended family. Sometimes they don't even know if they have family. And because they've been moved from place to place so frequently, they haven't developed ongoing, supportive relationships.

The result can be one of almost total isolation.

#### That time I almost died in Honduras

October 16, 2018 | Mary Speta, Development Director



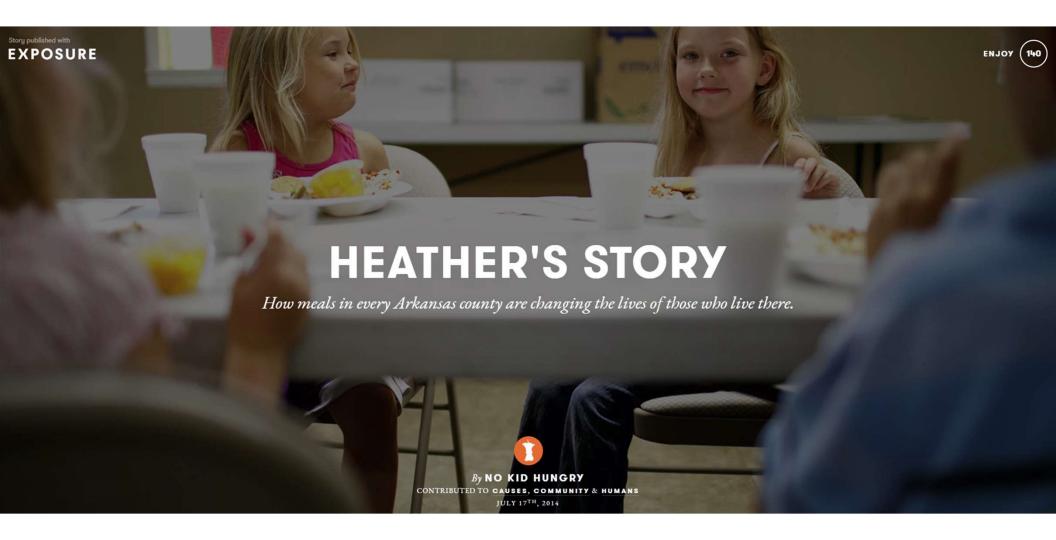
"We have to go. Now." I don't remember who said it, but it made the reality of the situation hit like a rocket. From where I was lying, I could only see the ceiling and a few heads bobbing around the room. It began to dawn on me that this was worse than just a bad case of the flu.

Everything hurt – the kind of hurt that makes a broken arm seem like a paper cut. Within 36 hours I went from having a blackout to complete paralysis. No one knew what had happened. I couldn't move anything, but the level of pain was beyond anything I knew existed. All I wanted was to be held and told that everything was going to be okay, but the pain prevented any human contact from lasting more than a few minutes.

## Meet Elena.



Elena is a single mother of two young boys. When her car broke down, she struggled to come up with the money for repairs so that she could get to work each day. With her savings spent to fix the car, she had trouble putting food on the table and turned to JF&CS for help.



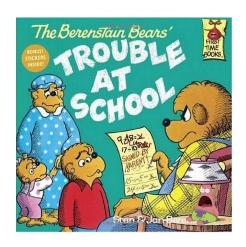
## Imagine if you were homeless.

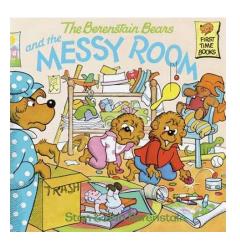


#### Imagine if you were homeless.

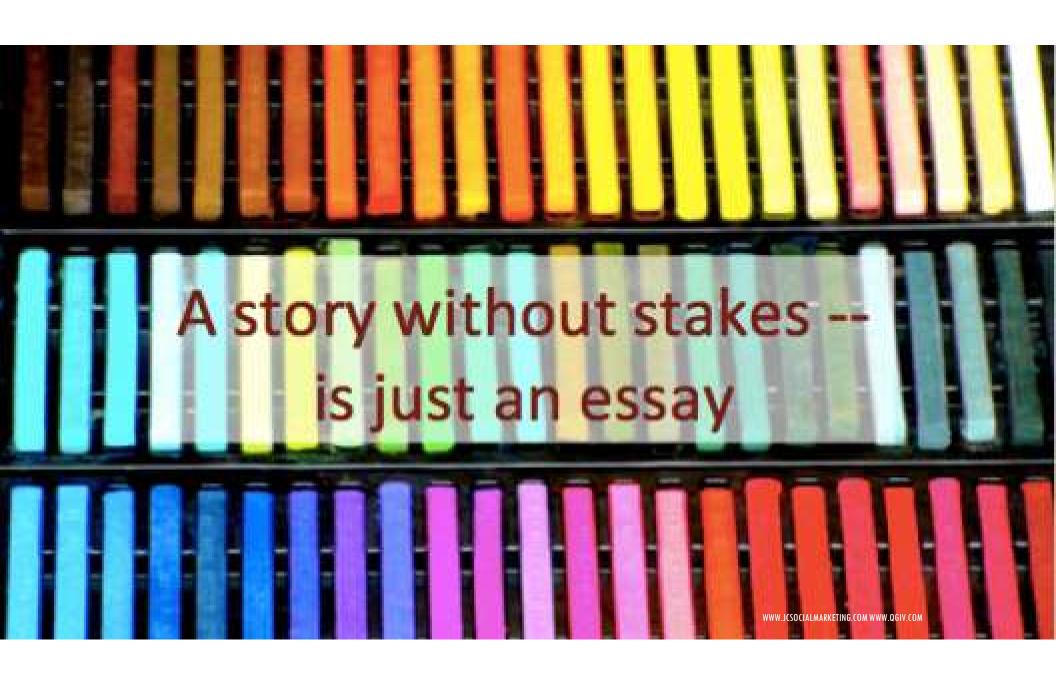
There I found myself, 47-years-old, sitting on a sidewalk begging for change in New York City. The air was cold and the longer I sat there, the more the chill cut to the bone. I had no idea where my next meal would come from. The sea of humanity swept around me as I blended into the background with my cardboard sign. No longer human, I was part of the familiar landscape of this renowned city. They say that if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere. I found myself amongst those who blended into the background, like part of the concrete, because they definitely weren't making it and there was no light at the end of the tunnel either. How did I find myself here?











What do you want people to do?

What do they need to believe and feel in order to do it?

How can storytelling make them believe and feel that way?

# **INSPIRE**

Join us.

Join the movement.

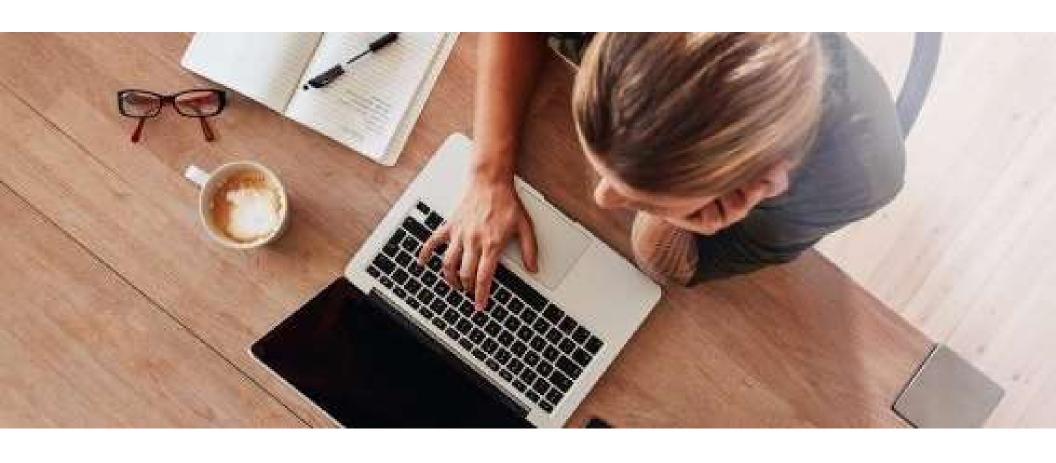
Help children like Kate.

We can do this.

Let's work to stop this.

Let's solve this together.





# HOW TO SHARE THE STORIES FAR AND WIDE

# YOUR STORIES ARE THE GOLD.



"Think of the story itself as gold.



You mine the gold, you capture the story.



Then you bring it back to your office and you need to pound that gold into difference shapes and sizes, depending on whom you're talking to, or also where you're telling it."



~Andy Goodman



#### **MEET CAROLE**

"Back on My Feet helped me with discipline, responsibility, and confidence. Running with the team helps me feel so much better about myself and led to a full-time job at Accenture!" -- Carole



#### **MEET JAMES**

"I really enjoy my job; every aspect of it. It's a lot of hard work and I work long days but I wouldn't want it any other way. And I appreciate Back on My Feet's helping me find employment and helping me reach so many goals that I never thought were possible!"- James



#### **MEET SAMUEL**

"It's about running, but it's bigger than running, because the program helps you get your life back together." – Samuel

Back on My Feet combats homelessness through the power of running, community support and essential employment and housing resources.

# YOUR WEBSITE



#### "Moving in to this place means freedom."

Don, a Boston native, returned home after 32 years to deal with health issues. After hitting rock bottom and experiencing homelessness, Don settled in one of Pine Street's permanent supportive housing locations.



#### "It made me feel so good to move in."

Our Outreach team met Christine on the streets, and talked to her at length about coming in to shelter. They told her about a house in JP where she could live if she worked to get sober. Finally, she said yes.

## **EMAIL**



### **WEEKLY NEWS**

#### Featured patient story



Sweet 16 at St. Jude

Patient Anna wasn't able to celebrate her 16th birthday at home. Instead, a group of friends from her hometown made the journey to St. Jude, making her birthday a sweet success. Read her story.



#### My name is Sharon and I am one of the counsellors at WAVAW.

I work directly with the women who have had all aspects of their lives disrupted by the horrific act of rape and sexual assault.

Many women coming to WAVAW for the first time are initially curious or nervous about counselling. I often describe our space for women who may be apprehensive, as being very much like a living room. Our counselling rooms are purposely cozy and furnished with oversized chairs. In our support group space, the set-up of the five couches in a circle surrounding a coffee table brings us to a felt sense of home, which for some women may be their first safe experience. It is in this space that we provide women with 45 support group sessions and 584 one-to-one counselling sessions each year. Our space is well-used, and needless to say, well-worn.

As a counsellor at WAVAW I work to make the strength and resilience

of women visible to themselves and the world, and I want this bravery to be illuminated not only in the content of the counselling sessions but also in the physical space that holds the women during their sessions. We are already recognized for our excellent

"I felt safe and supported by my fellow group mates and group leader. I gained more strength with each discussion. Felt part of something and connected with other women"

WAVAW Support Group Client

services by the community including our clients, but we need your help with our physical space.











Website

Donate

#### What your Gift Can Do?

\$30 can provide 1 hour of Direct Service for a Survivor of Sexual Violence

\$100 can provide 4 hours of Crisis Line Support

\$250 can accompany 4 survivors of sexual assault to the hospital

\$500 can provide support group counselling for 8 Survivors of Sexual Assault



SOCIAL MEDIA

Short and sweet

Poignant

Eye-catching visuals

Specific call-to-action



feedingamerica "When Hurricane Maria was approaching, we went and stayed with my grandfather farther inland. The hurricane brought water all the way inland, and our houses flooded. Mud and water reached up to the top of the door frame and washed everything away.

My house is completely destroyed. I'm just trying to put our life back together." - Deborah. To support families like Deborah's, visit the link in our profile.

cillasflowers kickzstartnonprofit ♥ ♥ ♥

quickwitsocial ♥ ♥









317 likes

AUGUST 23

I am in to like or semenant







# STORYTELLING TIP

Ask the following:

What is the problem being presented?

What is the urgency?

What are some frequently asked questions about this problem?

What are some persistent myths or stereotypes that need to be addressed?

Addressing commons misconceptions about the people you serve is a great way to figure out a trajectory for the story!



14 years ago, Nicole was rushed to Boston Children's to treat a bacterial infection in her bloodstream that led to septic shock. Fast-forward to today, and she's a healthy, happy teenager who just attended her Junior Prom. "I'm convinced if we went anywhere else that night Nicole may not be with us today," says her dad. "So now, as we get ready to celebrate her 17th birthday, I just wanted to reach out to Dr. Fleisher and his team and say

Is there a Boston Children's doctor you'd like to thank? Let him or her know with a comment!



Like · Comment · Share

51

2,453 people like this.

Top Comments



#### Part Two: Meet Violet's team of doctors

Drs. Meara, Proctor and Weinstock had treated many children with complex craniofacial anomalies before they met Violet. Violet benefitted from her doctors' collective expertise and their access to cutting-edge technology at Boston Children's. Her team used 3D-printed skull models to prepare for her surgery long before ever meeting her face to face.



#### Part One: The journey begins

Violet's parents, Alicia and Matt, learned that their unborn daughter had a rare and dangerous facial birth defect when Alicia was just 16 weeks pregnant. What compelled this Oregon couple to undertake a cross-country trip to Boston to seek treatment for their daughter?

# STORYTELLING TIP — TELL IT IN PARTS!

# STORYTELLING TOOLS

Canva – <a href="https://about.canva.com/en in/canva-for-nonprofits/">https://about.canva.com/en in/canva-for-nonprofits/</a>

WordSwag mobile app - <a href="http://wordswag.co/">http://wordswag.co/</a>

Adobe Spark — <a href="https://spark.adobe.com/edu/">https://spark.adobe.com/edu/</a>

Animoto (video) –

https://animoto.com/business/non-profit/

Typito (video) - <a href="https://typito.com/nonprofit">https://typito.com/nonprofit</a>



# DIGITAL STORYTELLING CONNECTS THE DOTS FOR YOUR SUPPORTERS.





# QUESTIONS?

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