

NEWSLTR

The Workplace Wellness Conference and Exhibition

May your days be merry, bright, and full of love!

Christmas Stories



Christmas stories to warm the heart

It's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and miss what this special time is all about: helping others through selfless acts of kindness. No matter how small or large your gift may be, Christmas is about filling hearts around us with peace and joy, and giving to those that may be less fortunate.

So, in the true spirit of Christmas and paying it forward, here's a few inspiring true stories that make us rethink our approach to the holiday season, and remind us how important it is to always be kind, above all else.

A Christmas Tree

A man just happened to have an extra Christmas tree that was used on his business's parade float, he did what any decent person would do: he

posted on Craigslist to give it away for free. For some, a tree is an annual necessity and integral part of the holidays, but for many it's an expense that needs to be saved for daily essentials. After posting the ad, his inbox was immediately flooded with touching stories of why various families deserved to have the tree.

With each e-mail he read, it became clear how significant a simple tree can be in contributing to the holiday aura. One email, which he shared read, "Having a real Christmas tree would be such a great blessing this year [because] usually we draw a Christmas tree on a large poster and hang it in the corner." Realizing that \$25 towards a tree was too much for some families to spare, he went out and bought 40 more to give away for free. He spent most of the next day going

over his list of emails, checking it twice, and not paying much attention to who's been naughty or nice – just deserving.

But the good holiday spirit in this story doesn't stop there — a person from across town read the Craigslist Ad and contacted him, not to get, but to give. She offered to donate ornaments and other trimming for the 40 trees he had picked up.

“Going out to gather up more trees after realizing the impact it would have on those in need is just so generous,” she said. “It tells a lot about his character, and makes you want to help.”

The Homeless Man With Terminal Cancer

A homeless man in Colorado used what little he had to give a selfless gift during a toy drive at a local Walmart. (The name is hidden), When the homeless man with terminal cancer walked to Walmart to get a cup of coffee, was instantly touched by the toy drive that was going on. He ended up buying a Barbie and a Hot Wheels set, but he couldn't stop thinking about a shiny new kid's bike he saw. The bike was marked \$59, but the tag underneath it said \$44.

It's not a lot of money for some, but for the cancer patient, it was nearly everything. Later that night, he still couldn't stop thinking about the bike and how happy it would make a kid in his shoes, come Christmas morning. He walked back to Walmart and asked about the bike, since the tag listed two different prices. Once a clerk

realized what he was doing, she told him that he could have the bike for \$44.

I got to thinking, this is probably going to be my last Christmas. I'm no one, so might as well make some little kid happy. It took my losing everything to realize that I'm happier now in my life than when I had when I had big money.

Christmas Eve

Sixteen year old Jordan Cox has a knack for extreme couponing, a talent he uses to help he and his struggling mom get by, according to the Telegraph. But this Christmas season, the savvy teen decided to also use his unique skill set to help struggling families in need. Jordan collected hundreds of coupons and purchased about \$935 worth of groceries for less than a penny. He then donated it all to Doorstep, a nonprofit that disperses food to disadvantaged families.

“I decided I wanted to help as many people as I can, and to also show that it's possible to shop very cheaply, if you know how,” Jordan said.

The Stranger

I was about 10 and my family was really struggling financially. It was a few days before Christmas and a stranger rang the doorbell and handed my dad a wrapped box. We all sat at the table and my parents opened it to find a envelope full of cash, as well as gift cards for myself and my three siblings. My parents asked all around to try to find out who did it but to this day we don't know. It's touching to know people

do things like this not for praise but out of the goodness of their hearts.

The Co-Worker

One year when I was younger, my parents were struggling financially. One of the ladies my mom works with asked my mom what my brother and I wanted for Christmas. My mom told her, and the lady bought exactly what we wanted and gave it to my parents to give to us Christmas morning. To this day my brother still says it was the best Christmas present ever, and it wasn't until a couple years ago that my mom told us it was her co-worker that bought us the toys to give us from Santa. We may not have had a Christmas that year if it wasn't for her generosity.

May your days be merry, bright, and full of love. Next time you're feeling stressed about the holidays, we hope you remember these stories, count your blessings, and try to pay it forward by giving to those that need it most right now. Merry Christmas to all!



The 2024 Workplace Wellness Conference and Exhibition

April 19 - 20, 2024

Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel & Conference Center

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Marietta, Ga. 30060

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