



Glynn

PROTECTION

thank you

Healthy

Assured

BUSINESS

Rewards

Life Easier

NATIONAL

Millions

\$251,000

\$6,000

Millions

Income

STANDARD

THAT'S

MAGN



MY VISION...PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

The vision board I am presenting is my personal expression depicting why I chose to enter the field of massage therapy. It is a rendering of my life in a very similar styling of Salvador Dali, a famous artist who depicted the loss of time in many of his surrealist paintings by showing a clock melting. My vision board represents three stages of my life.

First Stage

My past is represented by the left side. Like the seed from the maple tree, I have been carried on the wings of change. I have jumped from state to state and from job to job. The word "job" is proper because aside from a veterinary assistant position, which I held for 13 years, all of my other "jobs" have just provided me a paycheck.

The grey buildings on the far left-hand side mark the years of working in a factory. In factory work, you soon find out that no matter what your position is, you are simply a gear in the mechanism of production. This means some new improved model can be installed removing the need for you. With today's "lean manufacturing," many people are losing their jobs to computers, younger workers with a college degree, and outsourcing. This makes the factory life unstable.

One day you may go in thinking it is just another day only to find out that your job has been moved to a plant in Mexico. Within months you can go from having a nice home, new car, and a hefty savings account to barely making your house payment, no money in the bank, and a car without a heater. Now, you may be thinking that a good worker always finds another job. Right? True enough in some cases, but the older you get, the harder it gets to find a suitable position based on the income needed. In addition, older workers often find that there are physical demands required that they simply cannot do. Competition between younger workers with a degree and older workers with experience seem to be a "tooth and nail" fight. Some companies prefer the worldly knowledge while others prefer a blank canvas to build upon.

For me, factory life seems very temporary, and my time is running out. This is depicted by the large clock in the center of my vision board.

I have attempted to do those jobs where you stand around pretending not to see what needs to be done because no one in your immediate chain of command cares if the work is done or not. I have also been on the job where you do all the work, and your superior takes all of the credit for work you have done. This is depicted by the rather large fire hydrant that everybody pees on. Neither of these jobs seems satisfying.

Second Stage

The second stage refers to where I am now, once more in the "tornado-like" winds of change. Now my focus is centered on finding comfort and peace with my own performance as well as with finding success as a practicing licensed massage therapist.

The client on the table (center to the lower right-hand corner) is my most important focus. If the client goes away feeling happy, healthy, protected, and assured, the likelihood of return visits will be good. In addition, those satisfied customers will recommend me to others.

The lower right-hand corner reflects a bad experience, one where the client leaves with the creepy feeling of uncertainty. A bad experience that has left her on pins and needles is one that will probably keep her from returning.

If my place of practice is disorganized or dirty, she might also be disinclined to return. This is represented by the rat's hole. The hammer and mouth represent the spread of information from mouth to mouth. If the word is bad, you can really get hammered by a client's word of mouth. Obviously the drain represents just that. How quickly it can all go down the drain with just one really bad experience.

Third Stage

The upper right-hand corner is Daymar College which represents higher education, a new career and a better way of living. The gardener, lily pond, fancy car, and proverbial money tree all simply make the statement of wanting the "good" life, one focused more about living instead of "just surviving."

In closing, I want to stress again that there have been many changes in my life, and I envision this to be the biggest yet. I really hope it will be the best one as well.

Cynthia Starnes, Daymar College-Owensboro, January 2008