

Perhaps you have seen a woman patiently holding her sign, "Jesus Cares," as you pass by in your car. "Some people think I'm crazy," she says.



CAROLINA HIDALGO | Times

Perched on a stool beneath Tampa's Lee Roy Selmon Expressway on Tuesday, Diane Williams waves at motorists. "I like to be a blessing to other people," she said, holding up a sheet of cardboard that reads "Jesus Cares."

Driven by her daily devotion

BY SHELLEY ROSSETTER | *Times Staff Writer*

TAMPA — The message is simple. ¶ JESUS CARES written in black letters on a white cardboard sign. ¶ Diane Williams believes there is power behind those words. ¶ "Everyone wants to know that someone cares about them," she said. "What if someone was planning to end their life, saw this sign, and changed their mind?" ¶ Williams would never know, though. She doesn't meet most of the lives she touches. They just drive by. But she keeps going because she said

this is what God called her to do. ¶ For the past three years, Williams, who lives in Riverview, has spent three days a week at several Tampa and Brandon locations, perched on the sidewalk holding her homemade sign. ¶ Some drivers honk their horns and wave. Others ignore her, purposefully keeping their eyes on the road. A few respond with an obscenity or hand gesture — she prays for those the most. ¶ She doesn't ask for money. That's not why she's there. ¶ She only wants to give.

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