

Dear W.C.,

I am a senior citizen who recently invited a homeless woman with two young children to move into my basement. They had been living in her car that is having engine trouble. She is helping me out by paying a portion of the utilities and helping me around the house. I felt so bad for those two little ones living in a car in the cold. The mother has been through a lot of difficulties in her life, and I think living with me will help her get back on track. She made a poor choice in her now ex-husband as he is in prison and will be for a long time. From what she has told me he was not a good man and had abused her and the children harshly. She is really trying hard to turn her life around and has just found a full-time job. The reason I am writing this letter is she could really use some help with car repairs, and they also need beds. They have been sleeping on my old couch and a blow-up mattress, but I know that is not restful. She has offered to fix up the basement by painting the walls and adding some rugs to warm it up. She has already helped me clean out my boxes of old things I had accumulating downstairs, and she is handy in fixing all the things I could not do myself. I am very happy to have them live here with me as I was so lonely before and have no family to help. I know they are happy to live here too as she has offered to pay a reasonable rent if I let her stay. Could you please help this deserving mother and children?

Dear Readers,

I know of many families moving in together recently. For the elderly it can help them stay independent in their homes longer as younger family members take on the chores that have become too difficult. For young families it can be helpful to save on housing costs and have an extra adult around to help with childcare, cooking and sharing time with the children. This was one of the few times I saw an elderly woman take in a young homeless family that were complete strangers.

When I called the elderly woman who had written the letter I found her home alone as the mother was at work and the children in school. I was glad we could have a conversation alone first so I could clarify some details and be sure she was the one requesting this assistance on her own. After a long conversation I was convinced, this was a good arrangement for both women and the two children. It would be life changing for all of them.

The elderly woman shared with me the loneliness she had felt living in the small house she had shared with her husband for 40 years before he passed away five years ago. They had never been able to have children and all their families had either moved away or were gone now. She learned about the homeless woman on Facebook and even though she was by nature a cautious person, she contacted her and when she finally saw how they were living she invited them to her home. The woman admitted it was the most impetuous thing she had

ever done, but she could not in good conscience let a mother with two small children continue to live in a cold car.

Right from their first meeting the elderly woman said she felt like she had a bond with the mother and children. She said, “God brought them to me when I needed them most and they needed me as well.”

We talked about what would be necessary to make her home hospitable. In addition to the beds, we would provide gift cards for a home improvement store so they could paint and do some needed projects. A door was needed for the bathroom, rugs to cover the cold tile floors, blankets, beds, and a few other things. The elderly woman told me all the projects the mother had already done for her only using what she found in the house. She also had been doing quite a lot of cleaning, junk removal and yard work.

We were almost done with our call when I heard a commotion on the other end. The elderly woman said, “They are home now. Want to talk to them?” I heard children laughing and the elderly woman sounded like she was happily being greeted with hugs and kisses. The mother took the phone and we spoke for a few minutes. When I told her we would be helping to fix her unreliable car and providing beds for all of them, she burst into tears. We spoke briefly about some of the things she had gone through, but I did not need any more detail as I had heard enough from the elderly woman earlier. I was happy in knowing she was trying hard to overcome that adversity and from what the elderly woman had told me, she was a good person that needed our helping hand and her guidance.

Now, several months later, this elderly woman, mother and children continue to live together, even happier than before thanks to the changes we helped make in their lives. Thank “You” and God Bless “You” for making this and all our poverty relief efforts a success.

Health & Happiness, Love & GOD Bless Everyone, Sal

Please Help: There are many coming to us in desperation. Our good fellow creations need our compassion. Together we make a big difference. Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 1, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. The Time Is Now to Help is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing how 100% of your donation was used for providing poverty relief.

Please visit our website to read more of our past and current columns and/or to make a donation: www.timeisnowtohelp.org Please go to the home page, follow the yellow highlighted link that says WC Letters to see current and past columns.

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Memorials: Sohrab and Deborah Irani in memory of beloved Richard Kiekenbush.

Prayer Chain: The power of prayer and positive thoughts comes from the true healer, our Lord answering our prayers. Please pray for healing for the following people: Brian, Mike, Sylvia, Megan, Kayla, Maria C., Judy, Scott, Annie, Marilyn, Brandon, Helen, Dennis, Mary, Joseph, Jordan, Jean, Tom L., Dr. Peter, Matthew, Pam E., Jenene B., John S., Patricia H., Ron K., Marian K., Judy, Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Ellie and Cornelia.

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