

Dear W.C.,

My husband has been unemployed for three months and I have just recently been able to return to work after a long recovery from shoulder surgery. My husband was let go when the business he worked for shut down. He is in his 60's so it has been hard for him to find a job when there are so many younger people looking for work. We also are raising our teenage granddaughter ever since our daughter had proven herself to be an unfit mother seven years ago. We felt it was our duty as grandparents to shield her from her mother's alcoholism. We could really use some help with car repairs. Currently our car is unreliable and unsafe to drive. The tires and brakes are terrible, and I know it needs other repairs. We are behind in our rent and the rest of this month's bills. I never thought we would be in this position at our age and needing to ask for help. I am very grateful for an organization like The Time is Now to Help. I do not know where else I could go for help.

Dear Readers,

We are often the last place people turn to for help, after exhausting all other resources. With this family our assistance could not have come at a more needed time. I found them without transportation for work and health care. They also were on the verge of eviction. We would help them get their lives back on track.

I first needed to speak to both the wife and her husband about their current employment status. They would need to be able to support themselves going forward, after we provided our initial helping hand up. We ended up speaking for over an hour reviewing all options for their future. Their situation was unique as they had full custody and responsibility for their granddaughter, while not receiving any support from their daughter as they currently did not know where she was. This was not a rare occurrence as the woman stated her daughter had began drinking after her husband had left her with a young child. She did not make excuses for her daughter's behavior; she only stated the facts.

We reviewed all their financial obligations and current budget. They had an estimate to repair their car and after going over it thoroughly I determined the car did seem worthwhile repairing. These repairs would be completed by one of our trusted auto repair shops at a reduced cost compared to the estimate they had received.

Their budget was strained after both the husband and wife being off work for an extended period. I could see all their funds had gone towards food and utilities. They had made a partial payment on their rent after being threatened with eviction, but did not have all the funds needed to pay the remaining month and a half overdue rent. We would provide that for them, along with gift cards for food and gas. Their granddaughter was in desperate need of shoes and a coat, so we included gift cards for clothing for her.

To ensure their future success we discussed job opportunities for the husband. The wife was currently employed and would soon receive her first paycheck since her recent return after her shoulder surgery. The husband shared with me two job opportunities he had been offered. I was familiar with one of the employers and encouraged him to pursue their fair offer. If needed I could put in a good word, but I was impressed when he was able to secure the job on his own.

Thanks to our recent help this family is now back on track and no longer living in the fear and uncertainty of poverty. They are up to date on their expenses and continuing to provide a loving, safe and secure environment for their granddaughter.

This week we were blessed to meet the Family Foundation 2025 \$40,000 Matching Grant. Thank you to the Family Foundation and all of "You" who donated to help us make this matching grant a success. We will soon complete the distribution of this grant and share with you where every penny was spent for poverty relief in our communities. Thank you!

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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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: Bill, 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., Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Betty, Ellie, Concetta, Cheryl, Kirubel M., Wanda L., Joan, Bruce and Andy.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org