

Dear W.C.,

I am the manager at a low-income apartment complex for senior citizens and the disabled. We recently had to do some updates to the apartments that required all our residents to move out for several weeks. As you can imagine, this was very difficult and stressful for most of the residents. I personally helped many of them pack and move boxes. I also found that several of our residents are struggling worse than I had thought. Two of these residents stood out when I helped pack their few belongings. There was not much food in their refrigerators. I helped fold tattered old clothing and bedding. Their beds were not even worth moving as they were sagging and stained. I hid my tears for these two forgotten individuals as I know they have no family to check on them, unlike most other tenants who receive family visitors or have friends that check on them. I am a single mother who barely gets by myself, so I understand living on the edge of poverty, but their situations seem so much worse. I do not have the funds to help these people, but I know you have helped one of our residents in the past. I am hoping and praying The Time is Now to Help is once again able to help these two deserving people.

Dear Readers,

The name and address that was on the letter were familiar and once I did my research I knew why. I remembered visiting this apartment building about six years ago and the handicapped woman we had helped. I also remembered the building having needed some repairs then and how I had brought them to the attention of the management company at the time. When I spoke to the apartment manager that wrote this letter requesting our assistance for two of her tenants, I was relieved to hear they had finally addressed the repairs that were needed.

As we continued our conversation I learned more about the two tenants she felt needed our helping hand up. The first tenant was a 76-year-old woman that had extreme difficulties walking. She usually just got by on her social security, but the past two months have been even more difficult due to an emergency dental visit that she was struggling to make payments on. She also had not had any extra funds for clothing or other household needs for a very long time. The apartment manager told me her shoes were worn and broken. Her bed was so bad the elderly woman admitted she rarely slept in it, instead choosing to sleep in her old manual recliner. The apartment manager was emotional when she told me this chair was so worn that it would be the lesser of two evils.

The second tenant she was worried about was a disabled man. He was in his 60's and had been in a car accident over 40 years ago that had left him unable to walk or stand for long periods. He had never been able to afford anything beyond his most basic needs for many years, and that is what the apartment manager had witnessed firsthand when she helped him pack. First and foremost, he needed a bed. He had told the apartment manager several times he wished for a lift chair to help him to his feet.

The apartment manager knew these two were lucky to have a roof over their heads, but also knew they struggled day to day and that could be improved by any poverty relief we could

provide. This poverty relief would come in the form of new beds for both tenants. We also would provide new bedding for both beds. New lift chairs would be delivered for both tenants as well as they both struggled to get in and out of chairs. Gift cards were provided for new clothing and food for both tenants, with the apartment manager offering to take them shopping on her next day off. She also had found two volunteers at her church that offered to visit and to continue to help these tenants in the future.

Several weeks later the apartment manager called me back and joyfully shared the gratitude her tenants had felt. She was with the elderly woman when she called, and I listened as she cried tears of thanks for the improvements we had made in her life. Since she had new clothing for the first time in years, she was no longer embarrassed to attend church with the volunteer. The simple comfort of a bed or a chair, the blessing of a nutritious meal, having decent clothing, had made a profound difference in these two lives that were helped thanks to all of us coming together to remove the pains of poverty for our fellow creations.

Thank you and God Bless you. You help make all our good works possible!

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.

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