

Dear W.C.,

I am presently homeless after spending the past two years living with and caring for a family friend as she became increasingly debilitated due to dementia. Her family hired me as a live-in caregiver to monitor her safety, assist with bathing, prepare meals, and manage housekeeping and laundry. For the first 18 months, things went smoothly. However, as her condition progressed, she became more agitated and difficult to manage. Unfortunately, she quickly became very ill, and her family moved her into hospice care and she passed away. The family asked me to move out immediately without giving me time to get my affairs in order.

After months of keeping their mother safe, clean, and well cared for, I suddenly found myself with nowhere to go. I was not always compensated fairly for my time, and there were many times I personally covered the cost of groceries and essential items because her family failed to provide them. I could not let this woman I had grown to love suffer.

I am currently staying in a motel, which is costing more than a monthly apartment would, and the cost prevents me from coming up with the upfront deposit required to secure stable housing. I am scheduled to begin a new job next week, which I am hopeful about, but I am also facing the possibility of losing my car due to missed payments. Without transportation, maintaining employment will be extremely difficult.

I was warned that caring for a family friend could be risky, but I chose to help because I felt compassion for her situation. Her family did not want to care for her, and they needed someone they could trust. I never imagined that my willingness to help would leave me in such a vulnerable position at this stage of my life. I am doing everything I can to move forward, but I urgently need assistance to regain stability.

Dear Readers,

As we continue to see a rise in homelessness among people of all ages, it is important to recognize that the causes vary widely. Some face job loss, others serious illnesses, and many experience circumstances entirely beyond their control. Increasingly, we are seeing hardworking, employed individuals who simply cannot overcome the barrier of high upfront security deposits and multiple months' rent required to secure a rental.

This woman's story is sadly one we encounter often. Someone who seems to have done everything right yet still finds herself without stable housing. This is where The Time is Now to Help has stepped in repeatedly this year. We have helped transition these

homeless senior citizens, families with children, and single mothers from temporary situations into safe, stable apartments.

After a thorough conversation, we worked together to create a plan for her immediate and long-term stability. First, we paid her overdue car payments along with an additional payment to prevent the looming repossession of her much-needed vehicle. Reliable transportation will allow her to begin and maintain her new job. We also covered an additional week at the motel to ensure she would not be forced to sleep in her car, and we provided gift cards for food and gas to help ease the strain on her limited resources.

The following week, an apartment was secured. We were able to provide the necessary security deposit along with the first two months' rent, removing the final barrier to stable housing. When she learned she would soon have a place of her own, she broke down in tears of relief and gratitude. For the first time in a long while, she could envision a future with stability and peace.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support, which make stories like this possible. Because of your donations, we can step in during moments of crisis and help restore hope and stability for those in need. Every day, your kindness allows us to ease the burdens of poverty within our communities, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

Please help to continue our mission of poverty relief by donating to the Spring Family Legacy \$50,000 Matching Grant. We are so blessed to have the amazing support of our matching grant providers and all of "You" who make our charity work 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](http://www.timeisnowtohelp.org) Please go to the home page, follow the yellow highlighted link that says WC Letters to see current and past columns.**

**A Very Special Thank You:** Family Legacy Donors, Family Foundation, Kunes Family Foundation, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, Albert and Ellen Burnell, Lee and Barbara Zuzanek, Timothy and Brenda Wegge, Morgan Stanley GIFT, Jeff Martin, The Chuck and Barb Taylor Charitable Fund, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Anthony Zwirgzdas, Ellen Fox, Dick and Trae Torhorst, Gregory Swanson, Milind Bhatnagar, Kelly Tomaske, Denise Sifuentes, Karin

Slayton, William Davit, Carolyn Doorn, David Greenawalt, Robert and Patricia Davis, Michael and Kathe Beach, all of our anonymous donors and ALL of you who support The Time Is Now to Help. Anyone who would like a Time Is Now donation box in your business, please call (262) 249-7000.

**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: Trae, 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, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Betty, Ellie, Concetta, Cheryl, Kirubel M., Wanda L., Joan, Bruce, and Andy.

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