

Dear W.C.,

At my last medical appointment, I was provided with your contact information. I have fallen on hard times and could use some help. I am a 61-year-old grandma who is raising my 5-year-old granddaughter all on my own. Six months ago, my husband of 30 years passed away unexpectedly due to pneumonia. He had caught a bad upper respiratory infection, and I had told him to go to the doctor, but he had just started a new job and did not want to take any time off. We also did not have any health insurance coverage yet so he thought we could not afford a trip to the emergency room. I should have insisted he go but he was a headstrong man and there was nothing I could do to persuade him. We did not have any savings as it had all been used to gain custody of our granddaughter after our son and daughter-in-law had proven themselves to be unfit parents. My husband had turned in his life insurance policy to cover all the expense of getting custody of our granddaughter. My husband was my best friend and losing him was a tragedy I am struggling to recover from. The only thing that keeps me going is my beautiful granddaughter. Through all this she has been the shining light in my life. I finally feel able to return to work after I lost my job when my husband passed away. Unfortunately, I have an upcoming spinal surgery that requires 12 weeks of recovery time. I will not be able to return to work until I am fully recovered but we will be evicted before that happens. I am already two months behind in rent and utilities. When I heard I had to go through this surgery I burst into tears in my doctor's office. I shared my financial situation with the nurse, and she encouraged me to contact The Time is Now to Help. I don't know where else to turn.

Dear Readers,

It was an emotional conversation that I shared with this grandmother. She had been through a lot over the past few years, but the loss of her husband had been the most devastating. It had been unexpected and many things leading up to it had not made the recovery any easier for her.

When we spoke, we got right to work as there was a lot of information to cover. The grandmother began with the most painful part of the conversation, the situation that led up to the death of her beloved husband. Once we got through that, and the tears and emotions that I knew she would share, the rest of our conversation was easier.

We then talked about her granddaughter and the events that led to them obtaining custody several years ago. The woman was a good and protective grandmother that had not been able to tolerate the abuse and neglect she had witnessed. I knew her granddaughter would be safe with her as long as they could get through her upcoming surgery and financial hardship that threatened to cause further pains of poverty.

By the time we got to reviewing her budget, I already felt I had a good grasp of their situation. The grandmother sounded ready to get back on her feet and return to work once she recovered from her necessary surgery. Her grief was still fresh but her desire to protect

her granddaughter from suffering due to eviction and poverty was strong enough to give her the motivation she needed.

We would help this grandmother's journey by providing four months rent, paying her overdue utility bill and providing credit for future use, and providing gas and food gift cards.

When I shared how our charity would be helping her and the granddaughter, the woman again began to cry. This time it was tears of relief, not grief. Our network of referrals, donors, grant providers, supporters, volunteers, all of us together made this assistance and all our poverty relief possible.

Thank you and God Bless 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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Memorials: The following donations were made in memory of Donald Urich: Holly Campbell and Kristin Trunkett.

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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