

Dear W.C.,

I am 62 years old and for the past ten years I have cared for my mother as she suffered from dementia. I became her full-time paid caregiver and that is how I survived financially for the past five years after giving up my full-time job. I moved into her home, and she soon became an around-the-clock responsibility as she took to wandering at all hours of the day and night. I had to put locks up on all the doors and windows to keep her from wandering outside. I was the only one in my family that would take on this responsibility as no one else wanted to be bothered. I wanted her to stay where she was comfortable, and I was the only person she still remembered as my brother stopped visiting when she no longer remembered him. My beloved mother passed away six weeks ago, and I am filled with grief and fear over my future. I have been living in my mother's home and helped pay the bills and property taxes for years, so I do not have any savings. It turns out my brother had her change the will right before she was diagnosed with dementia, but she had already had noticeable mental decline for over a year by then. I know this would not have been her wish as she told me many times that she wanted me to live in her house when she was gone. My brother had the will changed to him and his wife getting the house and me getting her belongings. There is not anything of value in her belongings and I have nothing to help get me on my feet. My brother is selling the house and I have nowhere else to go. I just got another job as a caregiver for a friend's mother as she knew the loving care I provided my mother for years, but I will not be getting paid for two weeks yet. There is no way I can come up with the first month's rent and a security deposit by the deadline they have given me to move out. My heart is aching over the loss of my mother and the selfishness of my brother in making this time even more difficult.

Dear Readers,

The woman and I spoke for a long time about her mother and the years of loving care she provided. She did not begrudge the around-the-clock care, or the years of her life sacrificed to keep her mother happy, safe and healthy, but she did begrudge her brothers assumption he was owed anything from his mother when he never lifted a finger to help. She then broke down in tears of grief over the loss of her mother and the woman she called her only friend.

While the brothers will change was detestable, there was not anything she could do to change it now. The woman had contacted an attorney and the cost to fight it was more than she could afford and there was no guarantee the outcome would change.

As I have learned over the years, life is not always fair or just. Especially to our poverty-stricken fellow creations. Sometimes it is hard to see and experience the unjustness of what our poverty-stricken neighbors endure, but who would help these people when they cry out for assistance if we were not here?

We answered this woman's cry for help, and I was so grateful that your support made it possible for us to do our good works in our communities. Together we provided the first month's rent and a security deposit that was impossible for her to afford. Even with selling most of her mother's belongings, and what she could not sell she donated to others in need,

she did not have enough funds to pay her current financial obligations and afford a new rental.

We shared a long conversation about what she needed to move on and put together a budget to be sure she was successful. In addition to the first months rent and security deposit for the apartment she had managed to find, we also provided a car repair, gas and grocery gift cards. This was everything this selfless woman needed to move onto the next chapter of her life.

Thank you for making this assistance and all our poverty relief efforts possible. Thanks to your compassion and generosity, remarkable things are being accomplished for those suffering in poverty.

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.

A Very Special Thank You: Clarence W. and Marilyn Schawk Donor Fund, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Kunes Country Auto Group, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schuberth, Martin Group, John Stensland and family, Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program, Larry and Kelly Happ, William and Susan Mackey, Chris Adams, Marcie Hollman and Bob Nordhaus, Duane and June DeYoung, Michael and Kathe Beach, Rita's "My Salon", Jeffrey and Helen Harold, Sohrab and Deborah Irani, Beth Pizzo, Charles and Kathleen Heinz, George and Sandra Murphy, William and Jean Isaacson, Mary Fitzgerald, Church of Jesus Christ LDS, Alden United Methodist Church, Karin Collamore, Greg Johns, Dick and Trae Torhorst, Gregory Swanson, Kelly Tomaske, Maureen Gleason, Karin Slayton, Jeanne Allen, all of our anonymous donors and ALL of you who support The Time Is Now to Help donation boxes. Anyone who would like a Time Is Now donation box in your business, please call (262) 249-7000.

Memorials: Richard and Rota Kallstrom in memory of Edward Liptak.

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., Betty and Ellie.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org

