

Dear W.C.,

I am a single mother, and I desperately need your help. I fell down the stairs at my sister's house, fractured my spine and suffered a concussion. After being hospitalized, I have been laid up at home for over a month. I am finally getting over the headaches and dizziness I was experiencing due to my head injury. I must wear a back brace for two more months and am not able to return to work until then. My children are teenagers, so they help around the house and prepare meals. My sister comes during her lunch break to check on me and help when needed. I have help with my physical needs, but no one is able to help with our financial needs, especially our rent. We have already used all my savings for food and gas for our car to get me to my medical visits over an hour away. If I pay our rent, we will have no money left for food or any other expenses this month. My sister is a working single mother and is not able to help financially. I have applied for assistance, but I am waiting for a reply. Meanwhile I am so stressed over our situation I cannot sleep or rest as becoming homeless is all I can think about. I have not told my children the situation we are in because I do not want to worry them. Please help us before I have to tell them due to an eviction notice.

Dear Readers,

I called the woman who wrote this letter asking for our assistance. We agreed to meet when her sister was there during her lunch break as it is very difficult for her to even get out of her chair on her own to open the door.

When I arrived, the sister was waiting for me by the door and escorted me inside. We got right to work since she was on a time limit due to being expected back at work in one hour.

We walked into the small living room, and I was introduced to the woman resting in a recliner. She had a tray with a sandwich and a drink. Both women asked if I would like anything to eat or drink as the sister brought lunch to her daily when the children were in school. I declined but encouraged the woman to eat her lunch while I looked over the budget she had written out and several overdue bills she had put out for my review.

After going over her budget and asking some questions I had a good grasp on her financial situation. Without any income her small savings had not gone far. She was now late with her rent and unable to pay her car payment. The funds she had in her savings had been used for food and other necessary expenses. I learned she had not received child support for three years as the children's father had moved out of state and been unable to track down.

The woman began to cry as she shared her constant fear over what this injury would do to their future and the risk of becoming homeless. She knew the consequences of falling into debt, paying additional late fees and interest on overdue payments she could not afford. The sister tried her best to comfort her but they both knew she would be paying for this fall far after she was physically healed.

I spoke with the woman about her injuries and when they believed she would be able to return to work. She would be returning to work in seven weeks but with a modified schedule and responsibilities. It would take time to heal properly.

We would help that healing process by providing three months' rent, utilities payments, and car payments. We also would provide gift cards for food, toiletries, gas and other daily necessities. Both women began to cry when they realized the difference this assistance would make. Thanks to your support, this assistance has kept this woman and her children from certain homelessness, hunger and suffering due to poverty that would have had a lasting effect on them for years.

When I checked in on her several months later, I found she is back at work and healed properly. She can support her family once more without the stress of poverty thanks to all of us working together.

Thank you for helping us provide poverty relief throughout our communities. Please donate at this time as all your donations will be matched by the Fall 2024 Helping Hand Up \$50,000 Matching Grant, doubling your donation. 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.

A Very Special Thank You: Kunes Country Auto Group, Paul Ziegler, Clarence W. and Marilyn Schawk Donor Fund, Catherine Schwenn, Mary Fitzgerald, Carolann Lippert, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Jim and Lynette Heimann, Paper Dolls, Dale and Gail Folkers, Thomas Morrissy, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Knights of Columbus Lake Geneva, Joan Baron, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vanderveld, Al and Dorothy Hermansen, Larry and Kelly Happ, Carol Brathol, Anthony Zwirgzdas, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schuberth, LuAnn Himebauch, Denise Hubbard, John and Rita Race, Bob and Millie McCormick, Nancy Ferguson, Stanley Roelker, James Dyer, Richard and Carol Kerkman, Richard and Dianne Dunham, William and Jean Isaacson, Bruce and Nancy Johnson, Robert and Patricia Davis, Timothy and Margaret Kumbier, Gregory Swanson, Diane Emerson, Kelly Tomaske, 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.

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., Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Betty, Ellie, Concetta and Cheryl.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org