

Dear W.C.,

I have been struggling for quite a while and when I finally spoke with someone at my church last week they suggested I write a letter to The Time is Now to Help. So, I find myself writing this letter asking for help with my utility bill and this months rent. My elderly mother lives with me and she suffers from dementia. I have had to give up more and more hours at my job as her needs become greater and I can no longer leave her alone. I have applied for assistance as her caregiver so I can remain home full-time now but have not gotten a reply yet. This past month was especially difficult as I needed a root canal and other dental work done after trying to ignore the pain for several months. My mother also needed to have a filling repaired that would only have gotten worse if I did not have it fixed. This has put us even further behind in our financial obligations. I would be forever grateful if you would be able to help us out of this mess.

Dear Readers,

Often, I find people ask for the bare minimum of what they require to successfully lift themselves out of poverty, either out of embarrassment or not wanting to appear too needy. That does not work in our fellow creations' favor as poverty continues to grow and spread as each month they fall further and further behind.

Once I met this caring daughter and her mother, and reviewed their budget, I found what this caregiver was requesting was the bare minimum of what they needed. If we provided only the currently owed rent and utility bill, I saw there were other bills that would continue to be unpaid. The large dentist's bill had been placed on a credit plan and that payment each month would make all the following months' expenses impossible to pay.

The caring woman and her mother sat patiently with me while we went through all areas of her budget. She had omitted some things out of embarrassment, the required toiletries and personal care items and her car payment. When I asked the woman about these additional items not on her budget, she admitted she had left them out intentionally. I asked the woman how she expected me to save them from poverty and get them back on the track with a balanced budget if she does not share all the details with me? I assured her I have looked over thousands of budgets over the years and knew what should be included for the obvious needs I saw before me.

The caring daughter wiped her tears away but not quick enough before her mother looked at her with concern and asked, "Why are you crying?" She quickly put a smile on her face and reassured her mother she was fine. She whispered to me how her mother became very upset when she saw her sad. It could take her hours to recover from it. I nodded my head that I understood, and she did her best to keep her emotions in check as she shared the full details of what they needed to survive the next few months.

The Time is Now to Help would be providing their current rent and an additional month, their current utilities, two car payments, gift cards for food, gas and toiletries as all were an expense they could barely afford. We would pay their dental bills to prevent that monthly payment from continuing to ruin their monthly budget. When I asked if there was anything else we could do for them, the caring daughter again tried to hide the tears in her eyes. She turned her head as I saw tears of gratitude and relief fall. I again nodded my head and did my best to hide my own tears of gratitude for the poverty relief we were able to provide thanks to your support.

Several weeks later the caring daughter left me a voice mail sharing she had finally been approved for assistance. I could hear her crying as she thanked us for all we had done for her mother and herself. This time I did not have to hide my own tears.

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, Linda West, 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, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vanderveld, Al and Dorothy Hermansen, Larry and Kelly Happ, Carol Brathol, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schuberth, Leslie Marcello, Aileen Hodges, Rita’s “My Salon”, Kathleen Gallagher, Christine Larsen, Dennis and Carol Gilhooley, Doris Wiechmann, Beth Pizzo, Duane and June DeYoung, Carol Hinnens, Charles and Rebecca Miller, Michael and Kathe Beach, 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 Lindy Urbach in memory of Delores Evans.

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, Cheryl, Kirubel M., and Wanda L.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org