

Dear WC,

There is a neighbor of mine, who lives several blocks away, who must be struggling. She has a teenage, handicap child. I am friends with their landlord. When I visited their landlord, the landlord confided in me that they were struggling again, and their rent was behind by two weeks. The landlord said they almost always pay on time, and you can tell they are having a hard time when they do not pay on time. In the past, the landlord has called the mother. The mother assures the landlord that she will get the rent in, and she apologizes that she is late. The mother asks that the landlord please not evict them, they are doing the best they can. The mother has been renting there for 3 years, and the landlord does not call anymore when they are late. The landlord feels terrible about it. The mother does eventually always get the rent in.

The landlord is presently considering selling, since he is just making ends meet. Would you be able to look in on them and see how they are doing?

Dear Readers,

I called the number provided, and the phone was disconnected. I went and visited on one of the few sunny days we have had. It was a special day, the Lord meant for it to be sunny. I knocked on the door; I was greeted by a lady of medium stature. I introduced myself. The lady did not know about The Time Is Now to Help. We obviously have more networking to do. Thank God her neighbor knew of the help we offer, together. After our introductions and initial conversation, I told her a concerned neighbor had written to us. This allowed me to start asking how she was doing financially, specifically rent, utilities, and household needs. The lady looked at me and paused. She was trying to sort her thoughts into words, and with her pride, was trying to figure out how to answer.

At that moment, I heard some clamoring around in the next room. As I began to look in the direction of the room, the mother said, "Oh that is my son." I asked if I could meet him. She paused and said, "One moment please." She went into the next room and was talking to her son. I could hear her, since it was such a small area, coaxing her son to come out and meet me. The mother came back and said, "Maybe some other time. He is very

shy.”

I later found out, the son is very much an introvert. I also learned the son was 19 years of age. I do not know if the boy had autism or handicapped. I do know he was very shy. The mother told me her son was very outgoing and lively as a little boy. Then, he became very shy, as time went on. He wasn't as communicative as he once had been.

As we visited more, I would occasionally see him walk by the doorway and glance in our direction. He never stopped. His curiosity was there, but his shyness did not allow him to come into the room where we were talking. The mother and I continued talking. I found out she was behind in her rent. In order to pay the rent, she had her phone turned off. She was doing a few other things to make ends meet.

I asked her where the son's father was. She told me they had separated and divorced about 10 years ago, when their son was 10. She gave no reasons, and I could see it was a very hurtful subject.

The mother did have a job. After reviewing her budget, I could see she had a continuous struggle, as we often find in households having a hard time. I complimented her on her very clean house. She said, “Thank my son. He cleans the house.”

I spoke loud enough for him to hear, saying his name first, to get his attention, “What a wonderful, good job you do cleaning.”

I heard a couple claps come from the other room. I looked at the mother and raised my eyes, with a smile. She smiled back and said, “He is thanking you for the compliment. Your words made him very happy.”

I said, “Is there anything else he does?” The mother told me to come with her. She said, “You know it's spring clean up for outside.” We went outside. She asked me what I saw. Since I appreciate nature and the gift of cleaning up after Mother Nature, I noticed the yard was very clean. All the sticks were picked up; there were no left-over leaves. The yard really stood out.

We went back inside. I said, mentioning his name first again, “The yard looks incredible. You did a fantastic job.” There was a pause. Then I heard 3 more claps. I

clapped back and stated some more compliments. I heard some more claps after mine. The mother said, "You two are getting along very nicely." I thanked her.

Then, I had an idea. I remembered when I was young and I was very shy myself. When I was trying to make money to help my mom, I found there were a couple businesses I could do, and I did not have to do a lot of intervention with people. These jobs included shoveling walks and driveways, cutting and cleaning up lawns in the spring and fall. Doing these jobs only entailed a few sentences of communication with the people. You do not have to be autistic to be shy; it is a natural trait for many people.

I know of a few elderly people who need yard work assistance, who would be willing to pay a few dollars. I asked the mother if she thought her son would be up for picking up a couple jobs. She said, "I don't know." I walked to the next room, addressed the son, complimented him on his work, and asked him if he would like a job doing his own business, since he was 19. He stood there curious, but did not say anything. I told him I knew a few people, and that he would not have to do a lot of talking. The mother said, "Well, I can do the introduction."

The son was shaking his head. He was still interested, glancing at me then to his mother. I told him he cleaned yards so wonderfully. He smiled. I told him he could clean the yards and get paid to do it. He looked at his mom, walked to the phone, lifted off the receiver, and put it to his ear. His mom said, "Yes, we can use the money to turn the phone on."

I had asked the mother if her son uses the phone much with his friends, and she said not really. She told me her son knew she was upset about the phone being off, since she was crying. This was his way of expressing his concern and his love for his mother. It was an amazing bond the Lord has given between a child and mother.

After a few weeks of working together, a handful of jobs were set up. The people knew the condition, and there was very little intervention. The people were appreciative of the exquisite work he had done. The people knew the money given to the boy was helping them out in their situation.

I visited another time. The boy now came into the room, but sat off to the side. He listened. I gave him the compliments from the people where he had done the work. He smiled, although he did not look at me, he clapped, and was very happy. The mother stated she felt her son had found himself. She said, “He looks forward to going to work. He insists on paying for his room and board. We are working on their budget as a real team.”

The mother went into the other room and grabbed a piece of paper. She showed me, and pointed to the extra money they had for the month. The son clapped continuously for about 30 seconds. The mother started to cry happy tears. She walked over by her son and hugged him. He stopped clapping and hugged his mother back. I could see that tears were forming in his eyes. I could not help myself either, my eyes swelled too. The son’s tears expressed that he was happy for what he had found in his life. It was very special.

I am happy to share with you that the son was able to apply his purpose to the one person who has stood by his side, his loving mother.

We have, once again, touched the hearts of our fellow creations and we have helped put together pieces of the puzzle of life [[for this son]]. It is amazing, once we get passed the hurdles in our lives, how much goodness comes out of it. The last time I talked to the mother, over the phone, she was so happy to have her son open up into a whole new chapter in his life, as a young man. The elderly who received yard assistance are so grateful. Occasionally some of them share a lemonade, fresh cookies, or even a sandwich together. The son was becoming his own person. I think this was the best all around [[‘treatment’ /a life awakening experience, a boy could receive.]]

The mother said, “I don’t want to call it therapy, but I can say that this has helped him more than anything, giving him a new chapter in his life. He now has his own vocation, and he is so proud. And I am so proud of him. We both thank you and everyone from Time Is Now for being there and for helping us.”

I want to thank all of you for your Caring and Sharing, for making it possible to continue on, for making our communities a wonderful place to live in our Great United States of America.

Health and Happiness, God Bless, WC

Events: Flea Market, Antiques, Fishing Equipment Sale – Saturday, April 28th at Hogan's Goat, 2028 North Shore Drive, in Delavan. A portion of the proceeds is to benefit *The Time Is Now*. Other items include: Fishing items, golf items, hunting & sporting items, bar items, tools, books, clothes, etc. Hot dogs, brats, chips, coffee, and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

A Special Thank You To: [[double bubbles] Marie and Arthur Dumdey, Tom & Leslie Kane, Donald & Nancy Roberts, Eileen Grzenia, Paula Eichorst, Linda Friedman and Snug Harbor, Aurora Health Care Employee Partnership Campaign contributors, ALL of you who support *The Time Is Now to Help* donation boxes, and the businesses that allow our donation boxes. Anyone who would like a *Time Is Now to Help* donation box in your business, please call 262-249-7000.

Please Help by Caring and Sharing. Send your donation to: *The Time Is Now to Help*, PO Box 70, Pell Lake, WI 53157. Every penny of your donation will go to the needy for daily necessities of life including: food, clothing, utilities, toiletries, shelter assistance, and household necessities.

Please make checks payable to: *The Time Is Now to Help*. *The Time Is Now to Help* is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization licensed in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing exactly what every penny of your donation provided for the poverty stricken.

Endowments/Helping Others through Your Will: For those of you who wish to leave an endowment for the poverty stricken, we would greatly accept any gifts. Please think of those in desperate need, good people, living in fear of poverty and consider helping them through your will.

Desperately Needed Cars: If anyone has a car they can donate, knowing you will be helping people get back on their feet, out of their desperate need for transportation to work, etc., please call 262-249-7000. We have many in desperate need of reliable transportation, so they can regain their independence, retain their jobs, provide food and

necessities for their families, and ease their pain and suffering. Thank You and God Bless You.

Please visit the following businesses:

The Candy Bar of Walworth, True Value of Elkhorn, Cobblestone Peddler of Delavan, Pretzel's-Consignment with a Twist, Scene II, Hogan's Goat, Snug Harbor, Skip's Ala Mode, Lake Geneva Country Meats, Claws, The Bark Market, Lake Geneva Pie Company, Lake Geneva Antique Mall, Lakeside Deli, Lake Geneva Chevy, Millie's Restaurant, Pick N Save of Lake Geneva, Pick N Save of Delavan, Lake Geneva Animal Hospital, Bulletin II, M & I Bank, The Cove, Braden Dental Office, Market Street Pizza, Regional News, Verlo Mattress, Escential Bath & Body, Dunn Lumber, Rita's Salon, First Banking Center of Lake Geneva, (2 locations), First Banking Center of Pell Lake, First Banking Center of Lyons, Clean Machine, Lake Geneva Massage, Lake Geneva Lanes, Delavan Lanes, Flag Source North, Signature Signs, Geneva Paint Store, Comfort Suites of Lake Geneva, J Mark Graphics, Memories of the Heart, Nancy's Petites, Red Rooster, Pesche's, Cornerstone Store, Artopia, Lake Geneva Area Realty,

Please visit: HYPERLINK "<http://www.TimeNowToHelp.org>"

May we be an Example of Goodness by the Life We Live.

Unity of Spirit - Communities of Friends