

Dear Readers,

If you recall last week's letter, I would like to bring the writer of that letter to your attention. The woman who wrote the letter was asking for help for her widowed sister and her three children. I paid her a visit to thank her for bringing the family to my attention. To my surprise I found a woman who was sharing when they needed help themselves. They were going week to week to make their monthly bills. They were sacrificing in order to help the sister in any way they could, struggling to find an extra dollar here or there. Where did the extra dollar here or there come from? It came from cutting back further.

Usually the husband would drop the wife off at her job, drive to his job and then pick her up on the way home. In order to save a few dollars to help the sister-in-law, he would park the car at his wife's place of employment and then walk three and a half miles to work, and three and a half miles back just to save gas. When they totaled it up for the month not only did it give them a few dollars to help the sister with, but it also gave them additional monies in order to help their own budget.

They did not tell me that the husband had a choice of taking a 20% pay reduction at work or losing his job. He still hasn't been able to find a better job, so he is continuing to work for 20% less.

Their two children also pitch in. They do odd jobs for the neighbors and contribute what they earn to help their family. How many kids today are finding odd jobs to help provide food or pay the rent? This is very commendable of the children. They were definitely doing their share to help the family stay on its feet. The boy was very proud of the lawns he was cutting and asked if I wanted to see the ones he had just finished that day. I took a walk with him and the mother a couple of blocks away and saw the wonderful job that this ten year old had done. I told him, "An adult could not do a better job. It looks professionally landscaped." In return I got a nice big smile of pride from this boy.

The daughter had accompanied us for this walk also, so she excitedly asked if I wanted to see what she was doing to help. She ran up to a house, knocked on the door, and an elderly woman answered. I was introduced and was told by the elderly widow how she could not continue to live alone without her 13 year old angel helping her. She was only able to pay the girl a few dollars to help but those few dollars were put to good use helping the young girl's family and her cousins.

While we walked back I asked these wonderful young people how long they had been helping. The daughter replied, “Ever since our uncle died. When we were praying for help and guidance for my aunt, it came to us and our prayers were answered that we could provide the help.” I have to say that after helping others for 30+ years, I continuously hear wondrous statements such as this. This time this statement came from a young girl. I looked around at all of them and saw in their eyes that they understood this is what loving our fellow creation is all about.

I want to thank everyone for Caring and Sharing as we did with this family. They were making ends meet, but barely. The 20% reduction in pay was a really hard hit for them. They were behind on their utilities; we helped them get caught up and prevented a disconnection. I gave them gas vouchers and presented the father with a bicycle that could fit in the trunk of the car. He was determined to maintain the gas savings with their unique car pooling plan. Thanks to a fellow reader we were able to offer this man a job that not only regained his 20% per hour loss but after three weeks of determination and hard work proved his worthiness of an additional \$2.50 an hour. Remember this family never asked for help for themselves, just assistance for their sister, nieces and nephew’s due to the death of the husband. They were suffering financially yet their pride did not allow them to ask for help for themselves. Together we found out these were good fellow Americans that needed a helping hand and now, once again, they stand proud on their own taking care of themselves.

Together we network help, hope and provide a shining light, especially now in this difficult economic time that is proving to be a hardship for many. I thank all of you for Caring and Sharing.

Health and Happiness, God Bless Everyone, WC

Please Help: Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 70, Pell Lake, WI 53157. 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.

Upcoming Fundraiser July 6th: The Delavan Downtown Business Assoc. will be having their Second Annual Fundraiser to benefit The Time Is Now to Help. They will be selling a hotdog lunch from 10a.m.-2p.m. Sunday, July 6, 2008 during downtown Delavan’s “The Car’s Time Forgot” car show. They also will be

selling raffle tickets with many wonderful prizes. The food stand will be located on the south side of the 200 block of Walworth Ave., next to Pet Pals in downtown Delavan. Thank you all who contribute, volunteer and participate in this wonderful event.

A Special Thank You to: Sandra Wolf, Eastview Elementary School, St. Joseph's Congregation, Michael Pody, Pam deRoy, Jim & Karen Goodrick, Shawn & Donna McLafferty, Tamara Yuknis, Judith Caputo, Joe & Katherine Channing, David & Mary Riesland, Kunes Country Ford & Kunes Country Chevrolet & Cadillac, Paul Ziegler, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Phyllis Weeden in memory of Ken Weeden, Jay Ieronimo, Alan Homan, Richard Mertes, Elizabeth Cox, Walter Zimmerman Jr, Michael Kuhl, Virginia Moser, Donald & Marie Voss, J.D. Development, Bill & Lois McEssy, 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 donation box in your business, please call (262)249-7000.

Desperately Needed Cars: Once again we have a desperate need for used cars. If anyone has a car they are thinking of trading in or an extra car you are not using, please think of those who are in desperate need of transportation to get them to and from work so they can provide the daily necessities for their families. Without reliable transportation it makes their situation even more desperate. Please Care & Share.

Pick 'N Save "We Care" Program: Please sign up for the "We Care" program at your local Pick 'N Save. A percentage of each purchase will go directly to The Time is Now to Help. All you have to do is designate The Time is Now, account number **832410**, on your Advantage Plus Savers Club Card application.

Goodsearch for The Time Is Now: Search the web with www.goodsearch.com and help to raise funds for The Time Is Now to Help. Just make www.goodsearch.com your homepage, pick The Time Is Now as your charity and the rest is simple. You can even shop some of your favorite online retailers. It is a fun and easy way to help 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.

Donate Stocks/ Mutual Funds, Let the Government Contribute: Consider donating shares of appreciated stocks and mutual funds to The Time Is Now to Help and receive twice the benefits from your gift. Please call 262-249-7000 if you would like more information.

Please visit: www.TimeIsNowToHelp.org

