

## **CNN Helps The Time Is Now to Help**

Together we have been recognized for our work of easing the pains of poverty for our fellow creations. We/The Time Is Now to Help have been chosen as one of the top 10 CNN Heroes for 2011. This honor comes with a \$50,000 donation to The Time Is Now to Help from CNN. One of the ten finalists will be chosen on December 11, 2011 in Los Angeles and airing live on CNN. The number one voted charity will receive \$250,000, Wow! We could help a lot of people. I will be there to represent the many struggling poverty stricken in our great United States of America. Now we need all our supporters to show their faith in our organization by voting for Sal/The Time Is Now to Help on [www.cnn.com/heroes](http://www.cnn.com/heroes) every day until December 7th. You can vote ten times a day. Thank you CNN for such an honor and opportunity. There are many individuals and organizations doing good works all over the world. I am both honored and humbled to be chosen as a CNN Hero finalist. I certainly do not help my fellow creation for the recognition or publicity. It comes from my heart and my deep belief in God. Our fellow creations who are surviving in this recession are the true heroes, not me.

God Bless Everyone,

Sal/WC

Dear W.C.,

I am writing to see if you could help my Mom. She is trying so hard to take care of me and my little brother. She was in a car accident last year and has a lot of problems since then. She had surgery on her back and I still hear her cry in pain at night. She had a job before the accident but has not been able to work since then. The person that hit her did not have their license or insurance. There are times when we have very little food in the house. The car we bought after the accident is not running. I do not have a father because he left when I was small and I have not seen him since then. Can you please help my mother? I love her so much and hate to see her struggling so hard.

A Loving Daughter

Dear Readers,

I went to the return address on the envelope. It was in a rundown apartment building. I went to the apartment number listed and knocked on the door. I heard someone shout, "I'll get it Mom." And the door was answered by a girl looking to be about thirteen years old. I introduced myself, showed my identification, and asked if her mother was at home. In her excitement she shouted, "Mom, he's here. W.C. is here." I then saw the mother walking slowly to the door with a three footed cane. She was not very old, yet she moved like someone much older than her years. I could see the pain and stiffness on her face. She held out her hand and introduced herself. She apologized for her appearance and I could tell she was embarrassed. I put her at ease and reassured her I paid unexpected visits to people's homes all the time. I also showed her my I.D. and she invited me inside.

I took a good look around, as I always do, and noticed, even though I was unexpected, the apartment was very neat and clean. The mother seemed to know what I was thinking and said her daughter was a big help. I complimented the daughter on her helpfulness. The mother took her daughter's hand in her own. With tears in her eyes, she said she did not know how she would have survived what she had been through for the last year without her loving, caring daughter. The daughter kissed the mother on the cheek. I could see they loved each other very much.

I asked where the younger brother was and they told me he was at a friend's house. She said due to the lack of space in their small apartment there was not enough room for boys to play and she was nervous about them playing outside because some of the older boys in the apartments were using drugs. She said she worried about her children living in such a bad environment. Many of her neighbors drank and used drugs. She said they heard arguing and fights all the time. They never went outside at night. I asked how long they had lived there and she said they had moved there a few months after her accident. She said it was all they could afford after she had to give up her job and then the medical bills had started to pile up. When I asked where they had lived before she said they had rented a nice small house for years. The landlord was very nice and since she had a good job paying the rent was never a problem. Then her landlord had passed away and the landlord's son took over. He raised her rent just before her accident. When she could not pay the rent she had to find someplace else to move to quickly. She knows it was a poor choice but they had nowhere else to go.

I asked if I could take a look around the kitchen. She told me to go ahead. Again I noticed the dishes were done and everything was very clean. The refrigerator was nearly empty and there was hardly any food in the cabinets. I asked if they went to the food pantry but they said they did not have a car to get there. Their car had been broken down for over a month and they had no way to get around. I immediately called one of our volunteers to get a supply of food big enough to fill both the refrigerator and cabinets, while I continued my visit. I asked to see the car to determine if it was in good enough shape to consider repairing. It would have to be towed in for service but it was determined it was worth fixing.

We went back inside the apartment to talk about how we could improve her budget and their housing situation. We went over what assistance she was receiving, and what she had applied for. For some reason she had been declined assistance that would have been very helpful. They determined she was not disabled enough. I challenge those that made this determination to walk a mile in her shoes. I could see how she struggled to walk, sit, and just go about her everyday life. The tears her daughter heard every night were real. The mother showed me some of her medical records that proved she had pins in her back and very serious injuries. How was she supposed to work long hours sitting, standing, or lifting? She had been a hard working woman prior to her accident and being reduced to asking for assistance was very hard on this proud single mother. She said the children's father had left when her son was just a baby. He had left without any forwarding information and never contacted her again. Needless to say she did not receive any child support.

I had a rental in mind I knew would be much better for this family. I called the landlord and she agreed to rent to her at the same rent she was paying for the rundown apartment, and it was in a nice safe neighborhood. The mother and daughter were both overjoyed with this news. She said the constant worry over where they were living was a huge stress in her life. I assured her she would not have to be stressed over this any longer. We also brought their utilities up to date and made sure their refrigerator and cupboards were well stocked. We helped them move into their new rental as soon as possible. She contacted Health and Human Services and finally received the necessary financial aid. God Bless the hard workers at Health and Human Services.

The next time I visited them they were in their new rental. When I drove up I noticed several boys playing ball in the yard. The mother was sitting in a chair on the front porch watching. She was very happy to see me and thanked us over and over for all The Time Is Now to Help had done for her family. She said all this while holding my hand with tears in her eyes. She said, "I prayed for help for my children. God knew I worried about them all the time. He guided my daughter to ask you for help. I am so grateful for all The Time Is Now to Help has done for us." I told her we have the help of many wonderful fellow creation's that help The Time Is Now to Help do our good works. Thank you and God Bless all of you for your caring and sharing. Once again together, we have eased the pain and suffering of our fellow creations.

Please do not forget about our new matching grant opportunity, the Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust \$30,000 Matching Grant. Let's make this matching grant as successful as the last! We still have many fellow American's suffering in this recession. Thank you for caring and sharing.

*Health and Happiness, God Bless Everyone, WC/Sal*

**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.

**A Very Special Thank You:** August Blessings Donors, Clarence & Marilyn Schawk, Mark & Natalie Reno, Martin Business Group, John Stensland & family, Paper Dolls, John & Kristi Hugunin, Albert & Geraldine Hinton, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Jim & Lynne Newman, Martin O'Brien, Frank Huml, Jr., Walter & Marie Smithy, Jr., Jacob & Janice Friesema, Victoria Wertz, Glen & Ellen Wiedenhoeft, Landon Petrie, Jr., Michael Stonitsch, Ribbies, Nathan Denning, Kathryn Clark, Katherine Zdura, Catherine James, Lisa Roddy, Andrea Maestretti, Lisa Keys, Christina Ferraiolo, Molly Reisner, Molly Quinn, Elizabeth Norcom, Derek Larson, Michael Long, Tamara Berman, Susan Holohan, Georgeann Walled, Michelle Hagen, Lynne Baker, Jeffrey Yochum, Carole Brooks, Eileen Varnson, Priscilla Thornton, Charles Crouse, Donna Miller, Rick Onisko, Kellie Otubushin,

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**Memorials:** The following donations were given in memory of Donna Harma: Duane Harma, Michael & Susan Hill.

**We Desperately Need Cars:** Please donate a used car to help our fellow American's get to work and other daily necessities.

**Goodsearch for The Time Is Now:** Search the web with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and help to raise funds for The Time Is Now to Help. Just make [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) your homepage and pick The Time Is Now to Help as your charity.

Please visit: [www.timeisnowtohelp.org](http://www.timeisnowtohelp.org)