

Dear W.C.,

I've heard many good things about your organization from my clients. I am a home health care nurse. I see many people every day struggling due to poverty and poor health. One of my patients has been weighing heavily on my conscience these past few weeks. She is a disabled single mother. She has two children. Her husband died three years ago from complications during surgery. She is a paraplegic due to a car accident five years ago. She lives in a very rundown home passed down to her by her now deceased Aunt. It needs some updates to make it safe for her and the children. They do not have air-conditioning and their appliances do not always work. Her teenage son does all the driving and the vehicle he is using has me worried that it will not make it through the summer. I hate to think what would happen if he broke down on the side of the road. They do not always have food in the house and I was told by the woman that her son does all the shopping. Could you check in on her to see if there is anything The Time Is Now to Help can do to make her life a little easier? She always declines any help I offer and even with all the problems she has endured in her life she tries to keep a positive attitude. Thank you for considering assistance for this very deserving woman and children.

Dear Readers,

I called the nurse that had written this letter. I could hear her dedication to her clients. She was very worried about this woman and her children.

I waited until evening to visit the home as the nurse had told me the son would be helpful with my visit but he worked during the day in the summer. I arrived at the address provided and noted the nurse had made a proper assessment of the home. I saw all the windows were open and a box fan was in one of the windows. I also saw an old window air-conditioner protruding from one of the windows but it was not running. The car that had the nurse so worried sat in the driveway. I could see why she was worried as it had bald tires and had definitely seen better days.

I knocked on the door and it was answered quickly by who I assumed was the teenage son the nurse had told me about. I introduced myself and was glad the nurse had let them know she had contacted us in their behalf. The young man shook my hand and asked me to come inside and meet his mother. I could feel the oppressive heat in the home. I wondered how they slept or were able to do anything in the heat. The son led me to the back of the house and knocked on a door. He told me the only other air-conditioner was in his mother's room. He explained, "We cannot afford to run both the air-conditioners and the one in the living room is broke anyway. I told mom to stay in her room and keep the air on today. It is just too hot for her."

I heard a woman's voice say, "Come in." The son opened the door and said, "Look who's here Mom. You said you prayed about this ever since the nurse told you about this organization and it looks like your prayers are being answered." The mother said to the son, "That is why I always tell you to keep the faith and trust in the Lord." The woman smiled up at me from her wheelchair. She reached her hand out and I thought she was going to shake

my hand but instead she held on. I could feel the energy coming from her hand and truly felt I was led there by the grace of God. Here was a woman that by all means should not have a smile on her face, yet her faith seemed to put one there. I looked around the small room fitted for her disabilities, with a loud window air-conditioner barely keeping the room cool and the evidence of the poverty she was living in, yet she seemed happier than many people I know. The son brought in another folding chair for me to sit on and we sat down to talk to the mother.

I apologized to the mother for having to ask her some questions that would probably bring up some painful memories. The mother said, "You can ask me anything. I know you need to know some of my background before you can help us. I understand. I have lived a more tragic life than most people my age. My faith has been tested."

The mother filled me in on some of the details from her youth, her parent's death in a fire and then being raised by her Aunt. Her love for and marriage at a young age to her husband that had died three years prior due to a blood clot following surgery. She shared the painful memories of her car accident and adjusting to life in a wheelchair. She told me about her lingering health problems that required a nurse to visit weekly. She shared the most intimate and painful memories of her life yet always had something positive to say after each event. She was thankful for the time she had with all her departed family members. She felt blessed to have her two children to love and help care for her. This woman amazed me with her glass half full attitude. Half in jest I told her I may need her to volunteer in the future with people that were depressed. She said she would love to have the opportunity to share her love for Jesus with those that do not know him.

After getting her background I asked about what she felt they needed assistance with to make their lives a little easier. The woman said, "I am not one to ask for things. I have lived without before and can continue to do so. I worry about my boys though. Our car is dangerous and I do not like my children even riding in it. My wheelchair does not fit. If there was one thing I would ask for it would be a safe car that my wheelchair would fit in." I knew there had to be much more they needed just from the short walk through the house. I asked the son to show me around the house so I could take notes on what was needed. I looked into a nearly empty refrigerator. The son showed me the range that did not work. He had been doing all their cooking in a microwave or on an old dilapidated grill. I noted some repairs that could be completed in the house, including a newer more efficient window air-conditioner for both the mother's bedroom and the living room. After my brief house tour the son showed me the car outside. It was just as bad as I had assessed from my first view. I asked the boy where his younger brother was as I had not seen him all day. The son answered, "He mows grass for some of our elderly neighbors. He does not charge them anything but they give him a few dollars or some homemade food. He's a good kid and is always helping Mom too."

The son and I went back in to go over the list of assistance we would be providing. The mother tried to tell me she did not need the air-conditioner fixed or working appliances. When I insisted and told her it would be for the boys too she finally gave in. I told her my plan to replace the car with a used small SUV that would transport all of them safely and fit

her wheelchair. That was the first time I saw tears in her eyes. When I told her the repairs that would be done on her home and the utilities that would be brought up to date I saw her discreetly try to wipe the tears away before anyone saw them. When I handed her a tissue she smiled and said, "You're going to do all of that for us? God must have heard my prayers because I have never met anyone as generous as you." I then told her about all of "You" and your generosity that make our mission to remove the pains of poverty even possible. No longer hiding her tears the woman said, "Well, you and all your supporters are heaven sent for me and my boys."

One month later the woman now can move her wheelchair freely between the air-conditioned rooms in her small home. A SUV has been found that will safely transport them to all their destinations, including a summer job for the oldest son, grocery shopping and medical visits for the mother. Their utilities are up to date and paid some into the future with a promise from the woman that she will keep the air-conditioning on when needed. A refrigerator and range picked up in the bruised and reduced section now helps with their food insecurity along with gift cards for food to help them get back on their feet. Now that they no longer have to pay for car towing and repairs they can manage their budget going forward. Thanks to all of "You" we have changed this family from living in the throes of poverty to a positive outcome that matches the faith of this special woman.

My Dear Friends, together we continue to remove the pain and suffering of poverty for our good fellow creations that need and deserve our help. I cannot do this alone. It takes all of us together. Thank you, thank you for your support in helping our fellow Americans in desperate need. God Bless "You" for your compassion and Caring and Sharing for God's creations.

Health & Happiness, God Bless Everyone, W.C./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 licensed in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing how your donation provided assistance for the poverty stricken.

**A Very Special Thank You:** Fox Charities, Paul Ziegler, Clarence & Marilyn Schawk Family Foundation, Martin Business, Thelma Meyer, Margarie Egger, Elkcast Aluminum, Rosetta Dimiceli, Rita's Wells Street Salon, Patricia Jankowski, John & Marian McClellan, Michael & Kathe Beach, Sid & Patty Johnson, Albert & Ellen Burnell, Joseph & Karen Cerniglia, Steve & Betty Thornton, Robert & Patricia Davis, Jeanne Allen, Ernest & Dorothy Winters, Jack Mallory, Judy Dishneau, John & Rita Race, Jacob & Janice Friesema, Carolyn May Essel, Shari & James Loback, Church of Jesus Christ LDS, Marvin & Audrey Hersko, Josephine Carpentero, James Kirschlager, Randall & Margaret Smith, Michael & Sally Anne Chier, William Antti, Robert & Kathleen Hanson, William & Lynn Koukal, our anonymous donors and 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.

**Memorials:** Jody Cook in memory of her husband Craig and in honor of their 33rd Wedding Anniversary. Doris Roan in memory of her friends Doris Hanny, Laurie Holtan & Robert Jones.

**Honoraries:** Mike & Natalie Reno in honor of Mike Reno's 26<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Les & Pauline Malsch in honor of Al & Jerri Hinton.

**Prayer Chain:** Please pray for healing for the following people: Mike, Caroline, Susan, Clarence, Ryan, Jayden, Santana, Alex, Lily, Kaitlyn, Kynesha, Brandi's Grandma, Marilyn, Sal, Corinne.

**Inspiration Ministries Resale Shop:** Please donate your gently used household items and furniture to the Inspiration Ministries Resale Shop. For local pick up of major items or collection appointments please call (262) 275-2264. Inspiration Ministries Resale Shop is located at N2270 State Rd. 67, Walworth, WI 53184. New hours: Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Please visit often knowing your support will provide life changing assistance for the fellow creations in their care. Inspiration Ministries is home for up to 80 residents that live with multiple physical and mental challenges. I thank all of you for helping. For more information visit

[www.inspirationministries.org](http://www.inspirationministries.org).

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