

This week we find ourselves full of gratitude for your Caring and Sharing that has brought us over half way to our goal of meeting the Barnabas \$50,000 Matching Grant. We are already using these funds “You” have donated to remove the pains of poverty for many senior citizens, working poor families, the handicapped and children in our communities. Our hope is to meet this matching grant challenge as soon as possible so we can help those that are living in desperate poverty and waiting for our assistance. When we meet the matching grant we will share with all of you where every penny was spent to provide poverty relief. Until then we would like to share with you how we have been helping our fellow American’s in desperate need these past few weeks.

Dear W.C.,

I recently lost my full-time job due to a heart condition. I am a single mother and do not receive any child support. My three year old daughter and I have already been evicted and are currently living with my mother in her small apartment. My grandmother also lives here so it is very crowded. It is not ideal but at least we are not homeless. I had surgery a few weeks ago to repair the heart defect and hope to go back to work in the next few months. My concern right now is I do not want to lose my car. I need my car for doctor’s appointments, for myself and my grandmother, and to drive to work when I finally am able to work again. My payments are two months behind and I am already receiving letters to repossess my car. I purchased this car two years ago when I was healthy and working full-time. I never expected a heart problem at my age.

This single mother was provided with four car payments to bring her up to date and into the future when she would hopefully be again employed. She is a good fellow American that fell upon hard times after an unexpected health emergency changed her whole life. We receive letters everyday from other fellow Americans going through the same difficulties and struggles. Thanks to all of “You” we are able to help these people not only secure their present situation but also secure their futures. If we were not there to save this woman’s only means of transportation she would have surely spiraled even further into poverty. She would not have a car to get to her future job or medical care. Her living conditions were cramped and not ideal but at least they were not homeless. When she secures a job, and I have verified her employment, we will be helping her with a security deposit and first month’s rent in the future.

Dear W.C.,

My daughter and I were in a bad car accident several months ago. My daughter is still in need of care due to her injuries. I am just starting to walk again after multiple injuries to my leg and foot. I have not been able to return to work yet. My husband works but it is not enough to cover all our expenses on top of the medical co-pays. We still have not been able to afford a replacement car. Mine was not fully insured and the driver that hit us had no insurance. We are behind in our rent. The landlord said he is going to evict us next month if we do not pay our overdue rent. Is this something The Time Is Now to Help could help us with?

This working poor family is an example of what our fellow creations struggle with every day in our communities. Most working poor families get by pay check to pay check until one unexpected emergency throws off their carefully planned budget. There are no extra funds to save for the future. Every penny is used to pay for housing, utilities, transportation and food.

All of us together provided the help this family needed to prevent homelessness. Their rent was brought up to date. A car repair was provided for their remaining car to ensure they had safe reliable transportation. This was all done thanks to all of "You" and the Barnabas \$50,000 Matching Grant.

Dear W.C.,

My husband and I are senior citizens. My husband has cancer and is in constant pain. The doctors tell us he does not have long. I think he is hanging on just because he is worried about me. We live in an old house that our landlord has refused to fix up. We have very high utility bills because the doors and windows are all old and cracked. Even with using very little a/c last summer and now keeping the heat at a very low temperature our utility bills are too high for us to pay. Our social security does not cover all these bills and medical expenses. Our dream is to move into an inexpensive apartment before my husband passes away. We are just so overwhelmed.

These senior citizens needed our helping hands and caring and sharing hearts to get them to their dream. So many of our senior citizens suffer due to poverty. No one knows the pains they endure. The home was indeed falling down around them. After calling the landlord and pointing out several violations on the property, he was ready to let them out of their lease and refund their security deposit. These funds would be a big help to them as I found many areas they needed our assistance. Once an affordable apartment was secured our volunteers got to work helping this senior couple move as efficiently as possible. Some of their old furniture and household necessities were given away. The remaining furniture, clothing, and household necessities were all moved into the small apartment. Food and even prepared meals were dropped off to help this senior couple through such a difficult time. When I stopped by to check on them after their move the senior gentleman gave me hug and tearfully thanked everyone for making their dream come true. This senior couples dream was fulfilled thanks to all of "You" and your generous donations to the Barnabas \$50,000 Matching Grant.

Dear W.C.,

Could you check on a friend of mine? She lives with her mother and is handicapped. She is a paraplegic and in a wheelchair. She is in need of a handicap accessible van. Her present vehicle broke down several weeks ago, stranding both her mother and she on the side of the highway. Her mother cannot lift her into a car so she needs a handicap accessible van. My friend has not been able to get anywhere since her van broke down. She was very active before, even volunteering as a mentor for children with disabilities and visiting seniors at nursing homes. I know she and her mother live very frugally and do not have the money for another vehicle.

Transportation assistance continues to be the second most requested area of assistance for The Time Is Now to Help, right behind shelter/rent assistance. In our often rural communities there is limited access to public transportation. Jobs and medical care rely on reliable transportation. Even being a mentor and volunteer relies on good transportation. If our goal is to truly remove the pains of poverty we must be able to help our fellow creations obtain self reliance. They must be able to care for themselves once our assistance is provided and our volunteers have moved on to their next person in need. When we visited this handicap woman and her mother we found a few other areas they were in need of our assistance. Thanks to their friend being observant our visit was a success. We found them in need of household necessities and utility assistance in addition to the much needed handicap accessible van we provided. They had fallen behind due to expensive repairs they had done to the previous vehicle that was neither safe nor reliable. Thanks to all of "You" this mother and daughter could now safely get to all their medical care, shopping and even back to volunteering. As the daughter said, "I understand why you love doing what you do. If I can use my disability to motivate people to not give up, to live a life full of possibilities even when you have obstacles, then I am following my calling in life. The Time is Now to Help has allowed me to do this once again."

We do have a love, a calling for helping our fellow creations in need. We know this is all possible thanks to "You" and the Barnabas \$50,000 Matching Grant. We can't wait to share with you the many stories of poverty relief this matching grant will provide. These nine fellow American's shared in this week's column are just a few of the over fifty people already helped thanks to this matching grant. When the Barnabas Matching Grant is complete there will be over one hundred of our fellow creations provided shelter, utilities, food, transportation, toiletries, household necessities, handicap assistance and so much more. We look forward to the day we can tell you and the Barnabas donors that we have successfully matched their \$50,000 challenge and this is where every dollar of your donation was used to provide poverty relief right here in our communities.

Please donate to our Barnabas \$50,000 Matching Grant. Your funds are desperately needed to provide the poverty stricken senior citizens, the handicapped, working poor families, children and veterans in our communities with shelter assistance, utility assistance, transportation assistance, food, toiletries and the many other daily necessities. Every dollar of your donation will be matched by the Barnabas \$50,000 Matching Grant doubling your donation and the poverty relief you provide. 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:** Barnabas Matching Grant, Fox Charities, Kunes Country Auto Group, Gregg Kunes, Bess Spiva Timmons Foundation, The Harold & Bernice DeWeerd Family Foundation, Martin Business, The Dan & Donna Casey Family Charitable Fund, James & Lynne Newman Foundation, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Thomas Getzen, Donald & Emily Henderson, John & Marian McClellan, The Sowers House, Estate Art & Collectibles, Walter & Donna Anderson, Marvin & Audrey Hersko, Randall & Margaret Smith, Joanne Zeasman, George & Laretta Clettenberg, Elkhorn Chemical & Packaging, Marshal & Susan Ketchpaw, Harvey & Nancy Beaster, Barbara Kufalk, Carolyn May Essel, David & Penny Froh, Alan & Irene Rednar, 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.

**Honoraries:** Laina Papenfus in honor of Kurt & Dixie Fielgel's Wedding Anniversary. Ed & Sharon Christensen in honor of Uncle Bernie's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Robert & Mary Ann Zelenski in honor of John Koenen's birthday.

**Memorials:** Arlene Clausen in memory of her beloved brother Ray Buchanan and her forever friend Jean Ellen Hennix. Robert & Mary Ann Zelenski in memory of Bill Martin & Mary Aspinall.

**Prayer Chain:** Please pray for healing for the following people: Mike, Caroline, Susan, Jennifer, 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 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Sundays. 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).

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