

## CARING AND SHARING AMERICANS

Dear W.C.,

2/09/09

It is very hard for me to ask for help. At one time both my husband and I had wonderful jobs, provided for our family, and also gave back. We donated and did more than our share of tithing to help others who were struggling. My husband's company drastically downsized and he lost his job. My job lasted almost a year longer than his, and then my company completely shut down.

We had to sell our house, and we now rent an apartment. We both wonder how this could have happened to us. It seems that in the blink of an eye we lost our house, our cars, and now we find ourselves struggling to pay the rent.

What has happened to our country? I know there are many others suffering more than we are, and it is hard for me to ask for help. I still give back by volunteering – I will always do that as long as I have strength. If you have an opportunity, please check in on us.

Another Struggling American

Dear Readers:

I did a spontaneous visit and I met, once again, another wonderful family struggling in poverty. Both these intelligent, highly skilled people saw no other choice but to take jobs way below their capabilities, one receiving \$8.55 an hour, the other less than that. At one time one of their incomes was three to four times their combined income now. The woman asked the question that is being asked all across our country, "What has happened?"

I think everyone knows what happened. This family is one of many facing a continuous budget problem trying to make ends meet. They are living in fear over any one of them being unable to work due to health reasons, or becoming homeless because neither one of them have health insurance now. They both earn a combined income that just barely makes it from week to week but, at the same time is too much income to receive any assistance from governmental agencies. We understand that many are struggling while working full time jobs. Many choose between rent, utilities, transportation, or food, but not all four in the same month. Shouldn't we all be able to afford the basic necessities of life?

After reviewing their work situation and their budget we helped with rental assistance and some repairs on both their very old cars, repairs that they were not able to afford. Even though they had some food we were happy to help them fill their refrigerator with healthy foods for their children. These children understood their family had fallen on hard times.

As I left, the mother and father stepped out into the hallway closing the door behind them. They did not want their children to see them cry. The mother told her children to “Please stay inside; we need to talk to WC alone for a minute.” Her voice faltered as she said, “Thank you so much. You have relieved so much of the fear.” I told her that it is thanks to all of our fellow Americans who are sharing and caring to help us get through these hard times. Without their support I cannot do what God wants all of us to do, take care of one another.

The husband, a very intelligent man, tearfully said, “I cannot tell you how much this means to us.” I reached out and hugged both of him. We stood their hugging each other and the wife again asked, “What happened to us?” Not that it would be any consolation, but they are not alone and it’s happening to masses all over our country. We stood there in the hall for what seemed to be a very long time. They were filled with such gratitude for all of you and The Time Is Now to Help. I told them they need to be strong for their children and each other. We all need to be strong during these hard economic times. We need to pull together until these hard times pass. The Time Is Now to Help will continue to be there to help ease the pain of poverty.

My dear friends, we need to continue to do the great works that we are doing for so many.

*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.

**A Special Thank You to:** Michael & Sue Borden, the Drescher Family Charitable Foundation, William & Lois McEssy Foundation, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Corcoran Landscaping & Construction, Paper Dolls, RP Nutrients, Ron & Kerrie Vyskocil, Dennis & Christine Haak, Florence Merkin, Rick & Juanita Coleman, Linda Burkart, 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

**Needed Cars:** Once again we have a 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.

**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, 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](http://www.timeisnowtohelp.org)