

Dear W.C.,

6/29/09

My husband lost his job several months ago. The company he had been working for, for over ten years, went out of business due to the economy. I drive a school bus so I am only working another part time job for the summer. I cannot find any other work. Jobs are so hard to find now. We have two preteen children. My main concern is paying the rent. My part time job will not pay the rent much less put food on the table. We are applying for assistance but have found there is a long waiting list or they are simply turning you away everywhere. Our utilities are now behind. I suffer from asthma but am no longer able to go to the doctor since we lost our health insurance. Cobra was offered to us but is so expensive we could not pay it. We do not want to lose our apartment. My husband is applying for jobs but is not having any luck. He has an interview later this week and we are hoping and praying he is hired. If he gets this job we will just need enough help to keep our utilities from being disconnected and our rent. If you can't help us at this time we understand. You must be overwhelmed with requests for assistance. We are praying for this economy to get better for everyone.

Hopeful Family

Dear Readers,

There are so many people looking for work now. Unemployment levels are skyrocketing. People in all walks of life and at all skill levels are feeling the stress from this economy. Our working poor are especially feeling the stress. It seems all social services are overwhelmed as well.

This family was no exception. The husband wants to work and is making a real effort to find a job. At first he wanted to stay within his trade but no one would pay him anything near what his skill level was worth. Now he just wants to keep the lights on and a roof over their heads. He and his wife went to the food pantry for the first time together. They had never been there as recipients before. They had actually been regular donors to the food drives at work and their children's schools in the past. They had always been willing to help anyone who needed assistance. They liked to participate in fundraising walks as a family. They always donated their children's outgrown clothing to our local organizations that collect clothes. Now they were on the receiving end and see firsthand how important these programs are to those in need. Going to the food pantry was very hard for them. The experience was better than they thought it would be thanks to the caring volunteers.

The Time Is Now to Help paid their rent and back utilities. They were happy to report the job interview for the husband went well. He will begin his new job next week. It is much less

than he was earning before but will help them to get through at this time. Paying their rent and utilities bought them some time until they could get on their feet again.

The relief of not becoming homeless renewed their entire well being. When the rent money was given to them they all broke down in tears. We talked about the hard times we are all facing and how good American's need to stick together and help one another.

We had several wonderful conversations about faith and the power of prayer. Even with all their struggles the wife/mother remained hopeful and positive for the future. We prayed together for the state of our country and the world. I encourage everyone to pray for the many suffering through poverty, hunger, and sickness. Our world and our country is suffering. It is up to every one of us to do what we can to Care and Share and ease that suffering.

Health & Happiness, God Bless, W.C.

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: Peck and Weis, Paper Dolls, Dennis & Christine Haak, Michael & Sue Borden, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Martin O'Brien, Gerald & Marilyn Wilkin, John Corcoran, Michael Glass, Bonita Breit & Heather Waters, Drescher Family Charitable Foundation, W.C. Family Resource Center/Food Pantry volunteers, 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.

Food Pantry info: If you would like to volunteer at the W.C. Food Pantry/ Family Resource Center please call Frank Guske, Jr. at (312) 656-6178. Frank is coordinating all volunteer efforts. Please volunteer for a two hour shift Wednesdays or Saturdays, between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Desperately Needed Cars: If anyone has a car they are thinking of trading in, or have an extra car you are not using, please think of sharing it with one of the many in desperate need of transportation.

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