

Dear W.C.,

7/13/09

I am a grown woman and mother living with my parents. I have two beautiful children. I recently went through a painful separation. My husband and I lost our home to foreclosure when he lost his job and we couldn't make the mortgage payments anymore. The stress took its toll on our relationship so I moved back home with my aging parents. We thought it would be better for the children if they didn't see us arguing all the time. Now that we are apart I realize how much we all miss him and love him. Just because he lost his job didn't make him a bad husband or father. The kids are sad without him here with us. We would like to reconcile but have nowhere to move our family to. My parent's home is actually a small mobile home and we are all sleeping on their living room floor and couch. There is not enough space for my husband to move in here also. My parents are very stressed with all of us underfoot all the time. They love us but there is just not enough room in their trailer home.

What we are asking The Time Is Now to Help for is some assistance with first month rent and security deposit. We also need a car. We have one car and it has many mechanical problems. This economy has really brought us to our knees. I am begging for help to save our family.

Pleading Mother

Dear Readers,

Here is another casualty of the economic recession. Losing a job and home can be devastating to a marriage. The stress can make a normally loving and caring relationship into one full of disappointment and conflict. Lucky for this couple they realized how important their marriage was to their family before it was too late. They set aside their arguments over finances and foreclosure and focused on their love for each other and their children.

The grandparents were very elderly but could not see their daughter and grandchildren living on the street. Even though they were struggling to get by on a small fixed income, in an extremely crowded mobile home, they tried their best. They made sure their grandchildren had enough to eat even if they had to eat less themselves. The mother said she would purposely tell everyone she was not hungry and take a very small portion. She felt very guilty about putting her parents in that position at this stage in their life.

She also did not have a car to go to job interviews. She left the car with her husband since he was out everyday looking for work. She has been helping her parents with chores around their place and realizes they cannot live on their own for long. Her dream is to find a house big enough for all of them to rent together. Her parents can help keep an eye on her children

while she and her husband are at work, and the children are old enough to help the grandparents with chores that are getting difficult for them to do.

After much searching, her husband was able to find a job. It did not pay nearly as much as he had been earning previously but it enabled them to pay rent. Her parents agreed to sell their mobile home and move in with them if they could find a place not too big, but big enough for all six of them. They admitted their days of living on their own were limited. They also gave their older car to their daughter in exchange for driving them to doctors appointments and other necessary trips. There were a few minor repairs needed that The Time Is Now to Help had done. We also had the husband's car repaired.

They found a very reasonable rental that they could all afford together. We helped them with the security deposit but they were able to make their first month's rent. The mobile home sold in a reasonable amount of time after the daughter scrubbed every surface until it glowed. She did some touch ups on the paint and even did some home repairs herself. She got a job working for a cleaning service full time and has been kept very busy with that. She said she does not mind the hard work, she is just happy to be able to help support her family. The added income has eased some of the stress from her marriage and having her parents living with them has actually been a blessing. She said her mother still enjoys cooking and is turning her grandchildren into good cooks as well. After a hard day of work she comes home to a clean house, a home cooked meal, and happy children. Her children have become much better about helping and doing chores. They always say, "Grandma needs our help." I was happy we were able to help such a hard working, dedicated family. Thanks to all of your Caring and Sharing we helped two families become one during this difficult recession. Just when they both needed help most, we were there to offer a helping hand.

Please take advantage of Richard Driehaus' Matching Grant. There are many fellow creations desperately in need of our help to ease their pain and suffering of poverty. Every dollar you donate will be matched by Richard, doubling your donation. At this time we have almost 300 requests for help. Please Help.

Thank you for Caring and Sharing.

Health & Happiness, God Bless Everyone, 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: Pfizer Foundation, Krott Surveying, Peterson Drywall,

Flitcroft Septic Systems, Delavan Service League, Susan Russella, Virginia Lazzaroni, Michael Glass, Shirley Gifford Abell, David & Shirley Heigl, Tom & Joyce Roche, Steve & Betty Thornton, Dennis & Christine Haak, Bryan & Sharon Dixon, Michol Ann Ford, Donald & Edwina Shelton, Martin O'Brien, Drescher Family Charitable Foundation, W.C. Family Resource Center/Food Pantry volunteers, Michael & Sue Borden, Dick & Jean Honeyager, 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.

Memorials: Richard & Elizabeth Czaja in memory of Robert Moore & Margaret McKinnell.

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