

Dear W.C.,

3/2/09

I am a single mom with young children. My marriage failed after my husband lost his job and could not find another. He turned to alcohol and became abusive. I decided it was best for my children and myself to try to move on. It has been very difficult but I finally got a job and reliable childcare. We are all living in a very small apartment but can survive these hardships for now. The main reason I am writing is my car broke down. I had to use all my rent money to repair it. The mechanic said it needs more work to keep it running but I do not have the money. It has over 150,000 miles on it and is not worth putting more money into. I really need a safe car to drive to work every day and transport my children. If I am late one more day at my job due to car troubles I feel they are going to let me go. I do not want to lose the job I worked so hard to get. In this economy I am lucky to even have a job. Please help.

A Hard Working Mom

Dear Hard Working Mom,

This is the same account I am hearing from an overwhelming amount of people. You are not alone in your need for a reliable source of transportation. You are not alone in the need to raise your family in a safe environment on your own. You are not alone in your struggle to pay the rent, utilities, gas, food, etc. That does not make your struggle any easier to bear. The Time Is Now to Help will do it's best to ease your burden and get you on your way to self-sufficiency again.

Dear Readers,

When I contacted this mother she broke into tears of gratitude. She was beside herself with worry over how she was going to provide shelter, food, clothing, heat, and transportation for her family. It is hard to do this when you have a life partner much less on your own. I could feel the weight of responsibilities she carried on her shoulders.

Upon my visit I met a woman whose tear streaked face clearly showed her desperation. She lived daily with the fear of becoming homeless with her children. She did her best to hide this fear from her children but you could see the bewildered look in their eyes. My heart went out to these young children knowing how much they had already lived through in their lives already. Job loss, alcoholism, physical and psychological abuse, divorce, and now facing homelessness. They all were filled with sadness. I reassured the mother that The Time Is Now to Help and it's many supporters would assist them.

After we talked for some time she confessed the real state of her finances and they were worse than she revealed in her letter. They were several months behind in rent and on the verge of eviction. Their utilities were behind. They did not have cable tv or internet, much less a computer to use. They were living on the bare minimum of food. The mother only had two decent outfits for her work wardrobe which required hand washing in her sink every night in order to have clean clothing. What put her so far behind were her car repairs. She needed her car for work and could not afford a better one. She had to keep putting money into her old car to keep it running.

Due to her unreliable old car she had missed a lot of work. I called her employer and he said she was a great employee but could not deal with her car problems any longer. I assured him we would provide her with a much better, reliable car immediately. After we spoke he said he would hold her job for her.

We brought their rent and utilities up to date. We provided her with some gift certificates for food and clothing. Her children were in desperate need of shoes and she needed clothing for work. We then presented her with a much better car that was donated to us. It is a very clean, well maintained car that should give her several years of reliable service. Now that she does not have the constant car repairs to deal with she can keep up with her expenses and provide everything necessary for her family. She is so thankful and feels life is finally turning around for her family.

She called after several days of driving her car to work and tearfully expressed her thankfulness again. This gift of a reliable car was the greatest gift she had ever received. We at The Time Is Now to Help are so grateful to our car donors. We see so many lives turned around by having safe, reliable transportation. We have more requests for cars than we can fill.

My last visit was a perfect example of what our Caring and Sharing can accomplish. When I came to the door I could hear the children talking happily. They all answered the door filled with excitement. I saw a mother that was calm and intent on her children. It is amazing the change in people when the pains of poverty are removed.

I again want to thank all of you for Caring and Sharing as we continue to do our part of helping our fellow creations.

You have until the end of March to have your donation matched by the Drescher Family Charitable Foundation. Every dollar you donate will generously be matched doubling your contribution to those in need. Together with everyone's Caring and Sharing we have touched lives of many people living in poverty and provided them with the tools necessary to become self-reliant once more.

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.

Thank You to the following Food Pantry Remodelers: Drescher Family Charitable Foundation, Jean and Kent Kruzan of Kruzan Construction, Ron Amann of R.J. Amann Builders, Drywall Plus, Advantage Alarm, Stephan Electric, Kelly Electric, Kuhl Painting, Kustom Kitchen Designs, Wisconsin Cabinets, Sherwin Williams Paint Company, Stock Building Supply, Audry Boss building inspector, Town of Geneva, Lakeland Lawn and Trash, Kahle Wholesale Flooring, The Floor Store, ABC Audio-Video, Lowe's, Komfort Heating and Cooling, Peck and Weis, Smith Mechanical Contractors, Hearthside, O'Leary Plumbing, United Services, Exclusive Millwork, SLD Services, D&D Flooring, Frank Guske, Jr., Dan Gildameister, The Boy Scouts. If you would like to volunteer at the W.C. Food Pantry please call Frank Guske, Jr. at (312) 656-6178. He is coordinating all volunteer efforts and making sure our food pantry is staffed properly. You may also contact the food pantry in the near future at (262)348-0600.

A Special Thank You to: Michael & Sue Borden, the Drescher Family Charitable Foundation, The Rhoades Foundation, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Paper Dolls, Tom & Joyce Roche, Gary & Hazel Schopp, First Banking Center, Albert & Ellen Burnell, Harry & Phyllis Tiggemann, Margarie Egger, Cynthia Mullen, Gerald & Marilyn Wilkin, James & Janice Batten, Donna & Shawn McLafferty, Bonita Breit, Dennis & Ruth Grimm, Aurora Health Care Employee Partnership Campaign Contributors, Plymouth Tube, Warren & Donna Kohnke, Dean Hoefert, Susan Koenen Russella, Martin O'Brien, William & Jean Isaacson, Mary Rima & the Getzen Company office staff, 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: Jack & Barbara Rowe in memory of V. Knickelbine.

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 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