

Dear W.C.,

3/8/10

This has been a long winter for my family and I. Our family consists of me, my husband and two children. We lost our home to foreclosure last fall. We then moved in with my mother-in-law. She is a widow and lives on her own in a mobile home. We are a little crowded. Two young boys in a two bedroom trailer can be overwhelming but much better than homeless. We then noticed our mother-in-law having a hard time with her memory. We soon found out she would forget to take her medications and forget to pay her bills. It turns out she confessed to a realization months ago she could not afford to live. She said she felt terrible and was not going to burden us. Her social security does not cover her lot rent, mortgage payment, electric, food, gas, and medications. Now all of us are crammed under one roof that is about to be taken away from us again. We realize our mother-in-law cannot live independently anymore. We would love to have her live with us. We need to find a place we all could afford and not be so crowded in. How did life become so complicated?

Overwhelmed Mother

Dear Readers,

I arrived at the door of a very small trailer late one evening. I knocked on the door and it was quickly answered by one of the boys. He asked who I was and I explained I was W.C. and had received a letter from who I presumed was his mother. I was greeted by his mother. The grandmother seemed confused and they had to explain to her several times who I was and why I was there.

The trailer inside was very old. The children were sharing the small second bedroom and the parents were sleeping on the couch at night. We sat down to talk about how they had gotten to this point in their lives.

The husband explained he had worked for the same company for 12 years. He had earned a decent income and been able to support his family. His wife had worked part time at a local business that shut down soon after the recession hit. Then he lost his job eight months later. Like so many other fellow American's they were unable to pay their mortgage and then they had to file bankruptcy. They lost their home and cars.

With nowhere to turn except homelessness they moved in with his mother. They had a garage sale and sold off almost all their belongings just to have money for food. They drive the mother's old car that had not been driven in years. They realized soon after moving in that the mother needed much more help than she let on. She was forgetting to take her medications, leaving burners on the stove, not turning off lights at night, and not paying her bills. They know she can no longer live on her own. When they went over her finance's they

realized she could not afford to live in even the small trailer she had been in for years. When her husband died the loss of a social security check left her hopelessly spiraling into poverty.

One of our supporters graciously provided a job for the husband. We went over their budgets and it made good sense to have them find a place they could afford to live in together. They did not have money for a security deposit so we provided the funds to get them into a larger place. Since they only have the one older car they were taking turns using it. The car was not reliable; it had no working wipers or heat, a leaking transmission, rusty brakes, faulty battery requiring jumping to start, and much more. The Time Is Now to Help provided a good used car for work. The mother has found a job waitressing in the evenings so her husband can be home with the children and his mother. Their work schedule allows them to share one car. They are working hard to make an improvement.

After they moved in I had an opportunity to talk to the children. They told me how hard it was for all of them to be crowded in the little, old trailer. But they said they would do anything to help their grandmother. They love her so much. I felt myself tear up when the fourteen year old said, "My grandmother means more to me than any material thing." Together, we helped our fellow creations, removing the pains of poverty.

Please remember our Summertime Foundation \$10,000 Matching Grant. Only our Caring and Sharing hearts will see our fellow creations through these desperate hard times. For every dollar you give, another will be matched, doubling your gift of kindness. As always, every dollar will be used to help our fellow Americans who have fallen on hard times. Thank you and God Bless you.

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: Susan & Michael Borden, Summertime Foundation, Marshall and Abbe Bauer, Paper Dolls, Martin O'Brien, Carol Kopp, Ronald and Kathleen Barth, Shirley Baumeister, Robert Keller, Debra Guzman, Robert and Shirley Lipinski, John and Valerie Lincoln, Ralph Giorno, Dr. Mark & Cindy Brower & Family, Michael T Chier, Rueben & Lesley Blum, Stuart & Janet Cline, James and Janice Batten, Robert Rak, Thomas or Caryl Benson, Jon & Patricie Christensen, Richard & Sharon Behrens, Dennis & Jeanne Ludwig, Frank Huml Jr. & Ann Huml W.C. Family Resource Center/Food Pantry volunteers, 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.

We Desperately Need Cars: Please donate a used car to help our fellow American's get to work and other daily necessities.

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.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org