

5/4/09

Thank you to everyone that came to the W.C. Family Resource Center/Food Pantry Open House. It was wonderful to feel all the support from so many friends. Your words of encouragement and praise for the food pantry were much appreciated. We were very happy with everyone's positive response. There was a lot of hard work put in by many volunteers to get the pantry facility ready for its debut. Thank you to all our volunteers, supporters, and friends. Please see Section A, pages 2 and 3.

Opening day at the food pantry was very busy. There were many hungry individuals and families in need of our assistance. The following letter was written before the food pantry was opened. This lovely senior woman will be one of the many we help in the coming years.

Dear W.C.,

I am a senior widow. I have been a widow for many years and raised one son on my own. My husband died in his thirties in a farming accident. This was many years ago, before women had careers and job skills. I was a farmer's housewife. I never had a job other than helping my husband with the farm and raising my son. Now I am an old woman living in a dilapidated mess of a house. My son is all grown and moved away. He has not been home in more years than I can count. I have had no money to do any repairs on my home in years. It looks as weathered and worn as I do. If I pay for my heart medications I do not have enough money for food or utilities. I have had broken pipes from not keeping the heat turned up warm enough. I have an old car that I can still drive but I don't dare drive far due to gas costs and worries about how unreliable the car can be. I do not want my son to see how I live. I can't ask him for help as he is raising a family of his own and just lost his job. I am so ashamed to ask but would it be possible to get some help?

An Embarrassed Senior

Dear Readers,

There was no need for shame or embarrassment. After I spoke with this wonderful woman I could see she was a wonderful person, a fellow creation whom has fallen on very hard times. When her son called to tell her he had lost his job and could no longer help, she told him she was fine. She told her son she was living off money from selling off her land. She did not tell him she had been taken advantage of by someone that paid her much less than her land was worth and she had run out of money a long time ago. She was ashamed by her lack of knowledge in business matters. She tried to get by on the meager amount but that was spent quickly when she became sick and had many medical bills. Then her property taxes rose. It was all too much for her so she started to leave her electricity and heat off as much as possible and ate as little as possible. I see this so often in senior citizens. They barely receive

enough nutrition to keep themselves healthy. They may eat nothing but soup and crackers for months on end. She barely even had a working toilet.

The Time Is Now to Help stepped in and brought her utilities up to date. We had several repairs done to her older car to make it more reliable. We also supplied her with gas vouchers to get her to and from the doctor's office. We told her about our W.C. Family Resource Center/Food Pantry and she is excited to come for her first food pickup. If she ever becomes unable to drive we will deliver her food.

A big heartfelt thank you to all for Caring and Sharing.

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.

Food Pantry Contributors: Drescher Family Charitable Foundation, Michael & Sue Borden, Bill & Lois McEssy, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Gregg Kunes & Kunes Country Auto, Jean and Kent Kruzan of Kruzan Construction, Ron Amann of R.J. Amann Builders, Advantage Alarm, P.J. Electric, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Steven Slawkin/Owner Hemingway's Port of Call Restaurant, Keith Nissen & Master Services, Genoa City Cub Scouts, Delavan Service League, Gary & Crystal Smith & Drew Linendoll, White River Cycle Club, Pleasant Lakers Snowmobile Club, Badger High school FFA, Prairie Tree Landscaping Center, Lind Plumbing, Budget Blinds, Mather Specialty, Drywall Plus, Stephan Electric, Kelly Electric, Kuhl Painting, Kustom Kitchen Designs, Wisconsin Cabinets, Sherwin Williams Paint Company, Stock Building Supply, 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, St. Joseph's Parish members, Rev. John Baumgartner & the Human Concerns Committee, and our food pantry volunteers . A whole hearted THANK YOU to everyone.

A Special Thank You to: Michael & Sue Borden, The Rhoades Foundation, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Paper Dolls, Martin O'Brien, Margaret Allender, Mary Cucchi, Ruth Farber, Heidi Hall, Shawna Kneipper, Gene Krauklis, Lisa Loepke, Diane Palma, Cassandra Kordecki, Allan Ackerman, Lynda Adas, 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, or you may pick one

up from my office, Lake Geneva Area Realty, 101 Broad St., Ste. C3, Lake Geneva.

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 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