

Dear W.C.,

Five years ago, I began caring for my mother who has several disabilities, even though I am disabled myself. We share an apartment and split expenses. Neither one of us receive much from social security and with the increased cost of everything lately it is harder and harder to keep up. Then our old car broke down last month, and paying for the repair has put an even further strain on our budget. This was the first month I was unable to pay our rent, even with cutting back on food and toiletries. I am so worried and ashamed that we must ask for help, but I do not know where else to turn. I am not physically able to get a job and can no longer leave my mom for any length of time due to her failing health. I am humbly asking for your advice and hopefully some assistance to see us through this difficult time.

Dear Readers,

When I went to visit this mother and daughter, I learned more about their struggle to survive. They were both indeed disabled, the mother in a wheelchair and the daughter walked with a cane. I learned as I spent time with them that they relied on each other for care and companionship.

When I arrived, the daughter was ready to go over their situation as I had called ahead and we had discussed what information would be needed for me to determine the best plan of assistance. The mother made her way around the small apartment slowly, pulling herself along in her wheelchair with her feet. She had some confusion about who I was, but the daughter explained I was a friend there to talk with them. When we could softly communicate without her hearing us, she explained her mother would worry constantly if she knew the situation they were in. I kept that in mind so as not to discuss anything that could be distressing to her within her earshot.

I looked over the budget she had written up on a pad of paper. The daughter confirmed these expenses by showing me the bills, including the expensive but necessary car repair that caused them to miss their last rent payment. It was easy to see they used every penny of their small income each month to pay for utilities, food, prescription medications, paying off a past dental bill, and rent.

Looking around the small apartment I found it tidy and very empty other than a few chairs and a small dining table. The daughter followed my gaze and commented that she had sold or given away the rest of their furniture to allow room for her mother's wheelchair. I asked if there was anything else they may need beyond what I had already seen. The daughter seemed embarrassed but when I asked a second time she admitted they needed toiletries, in particular some personal care items for her mother that were very difficult for them to afford. I assured her there was no need to be embarrassed and confirmed we could help with those items, along with two months' rent, paying their utility bill, paying off the remaining amount on her dental bill, providing gift cards for toiletries, food and other daily necessities.

This brought tears of relief from the daughter that she tried very hard to hide from her mother. Just then the mother made her way over to her daughter and looked concerned as she reached for her hand. The daughter reassured her mother that all was okay, and I felt better knowing that they would be okay.

A month later the daughter checked in with me to provide an update to their situation. She reported that thanks to our rent and utility payments, and gift cards for food, toiletries and household necessities, she was able to save some of their social security for future financial shortfalls. The daughter again cried tears of relief and gratitude as we both thanked God for the blessings that The Time Is Now to Help was able to provide.

Thank you and God Bless you for making all our poverty relief efforts possible.

Health & Happiness, Love & GOD Bless Everyone, Sal

Please Help: There are many coming to us in desperation. Our good fellow creations need our compassion. Together we make a big difference. Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 1, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. The Time Is Now to Help is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing how 100% of your donation was used for providing poverty relief.

Please visit our website to read more of our past and current columns and/or to make a donation: www.timeisnowtohelp.org Please go to the home page, follow the yellow highlighted link that says WC Letters to see current and past columns.

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Prayer Chain: The power of prayer and positive thoughts comes from the true healer, our Lord answering our prayers. Please pray for healing for the following people: Bill, Brian, Mike, Sylvia, Megan, Kayla, Maria C., Judy, Scott, Annie, Marilyn, Brandon, Helen, Dennis, Mary, Joseph, Jordan, Jean, Tom L., Dr. Peter, Matthew, Pam E., Jenene B., John S., Patricia H., Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Betty, Ellie, Concetta, Cheryl, Kirubel M., Wanda L., Joan, Bruce and Andy.

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