

Dear W.C.,

I'm a single mother raising my thirteen-year-old daughter, along with my four-year-old nephew. His mother, my sister, passed away last year after a long illness. I could not let him go into foster care, even though I knew it would be a struggle for us. My sister did not have much when she passed and I used all my savings to pay for her funeral. I do not receive any child support because my ex-husband has been out of work for the past three months. After several years of juggling school, a job and parenting, I have finally earned my degree. I have interviewed for several jobs and will be starting a new job in two weeks. This new job will make a big difference in our future, but I am so worried we will be evicted before we can even celebrate this achievement. After several unexpected expenses, an overdue dental check-up and treatment for both children and a necessary car repair, I could not pay my rent or utilities last month. I have these two beautiful children counting on me and I cannot let them down.

Dear Readers,

I contacted this mother to find out more about their situation and to see how we could help. This was an emotional conversation that went through a year of caring for her sister as she declined, her intense grief due to the loss of her sister and best friend, her efforts to help her nephew feel safe and loved, and her determination to complete her accounting degree. All this took place while working at a job that barely covered their daily living expenses. It was a lot of stress and responsibility for one woman to shoulder on her own, but this mother seemed to do it with grace and determination to better herself. When I asked her how she did it all she shared her unwavering faith and her dedication to daily prayer. She reminded me that through prayer she never was doing all this on her own.

We then moved on to talking about their budget. Between the loss of child support due to her ex-husband becoming too ill to work, and the extra expense of the much-needed dental appointments and car repairs, the mother's carefully planned budget was unable to cover their monthly expenses. We reviewed her new job and the income and benefits it would provide. I could see they would be fine as long as we helped them through this difficult period.

Together we paid their overdue rent and paid one month ahead to allow the hardworking mother time to begin her new job and get back on track. We also paid their two overdue utility bills. With the addition of gift cards for food, gas, and clothing for both her new job and the children, they would be able to move forward without the risk of eviction or utility disconnection.

The mother began to cry tears of relief as she realized the weight of stress and responsibility eased from her shoulders. Thanks to your generosity, she will be able to provide for her family going forward. The mother asked if we could pray together and we both praised God for the blessings we were able to bestow on this family, thanks to your support.

Thank you and God Bless you for making this and 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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