

Dear W.C.,

A few months ago, my husband lost his job when the company he worked at for over a decade shut down. I drive a school bus and am only able to work part-time during the summer. This year, despite looking, I haven't been able to find additional work. We have two children, and lately, it's been a struggle just to keep a roof over our heads. Our utilities are past due, and affording food and gas has been difficult. We've never been in this position before—we used to donate to food drives and help others in need. Going to the food pantry ourselves was humbling, but we were grateful for the understanding people and the food they provided.

My husband has been doing everything he can to find work and recently had an interview we're hopeful about. If he's hired, it will help us tremendously, but we'll still need short-term help to stay in our apartment and avoid a utility disconnection until he receives his first paycheck.

We understand you must be overwhelmed with requests right now. If you're able to help, we would be truly grateful. If not, we understand and are keeping the faith that, things will improve.

Dear Readers,

This family, like so many others, never imagined they would be in this situation.

The husband had worked at the same company for over ten years, but when it went out of business due to the owner passing away, their lives were turned upside down. His wife drives a school bus and usually has a part-time job during the summer to help with the bills. She's been trying to find additional work until school begins again but this year it has been difficult. They have two children, and their biggest worry has been simply keeping a roof over their heads.

They applied for assistance but are on a waiting list. Their rent and utilities both fell behind. Their situation was becoming more desperate by the day.

Still, they kept their faith and did not give up. The husband has been applying to every job he can find. He finally had an interview scheduled and was praying for good news. If he could just get hired, the wife stressed that they needed just enough to stop their utilities from being disconnected and avoid eviction.

Before their hardships, this family had always been generous with what they had. They did not have a lot but when they lacked resources they offered their time. They regularly donated to food drives and participated in charity walks. They gave their children's outgrown clothes and toys to those in need. They never thought they would one day be on the receiving end. The husband stated the hardest lesson for him had been to learn there is no shame in needing help.

That's where The Time Is Now to Help stepped in.

We paid their past-due rent and utilities just in time. The husband began his new job and even though it pays less than what he once earned, it's a start and there is hope for future growth. Having met their immediate needs gave them breathing room to start fresh and the relief of knowing they were no longer in immediate threat due to the devastating consequences of job loss and poverty.

The moment they learned about the assistance we would be providing, the husband and wife cried tears of relief. The weight lifted off their shoulders was visible. We spoke about the tough times many are facing and how important it is to stand together with compassion. We shared prayers for healing, strength, and hope in this struggling world.

Even through their challenges, the mother remained a beacon of positivity and faith. This family's journey is a reminder that with kindness, understanding, and a helping hand up, we can all help lift each other through difficult times.

Please continue to pray for those suffering through poverty, hunger, illness, and uncertainty. When we Care and Share, we bring light into the lives of those in need.

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.

A Very Special Thank You: Family Foundation, Kunes Family Foundation, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, United Way of Walworth County, Jeff Martin, Jim and Lynette Heimann, Joseph and Sharon Symoens, William and Susan Mackey, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Anthony Zwirgzdas, Sharon Jardas, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, DiMeo Family Charitable Fund, Sarah Wootton, Emily Andrews, Richard and Christine Costa, Greg Johns, David Greenawalt, PayPal Giving Fund, Bob and Millie McCormick, Roland and Diane Schroeder, William and Jean Isaacson, Dennis and Patricia Positano, Timothy and Margaret Kumbier, all of our anonymous donors and ALL of you who support The Time Is Now to Help donation boxes. Anyone who would like a Time Is Now donation box in your business, please call (262) 249-7000.

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.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org