

Dear W.C.,

For over thirty years I worked as a caregiver and housekeeper for a family I came to love. Despite limited financial appreciation over the years, I stayed because I cared deeply for them. Last year, when my mother became ill, I had to care for her while continuing to work. The family provided no sick pay or time off. I often had to leave my mother alone so I could work. When my mother passed, I was grieving and faced funeral expenses, yet they were only concerned about when I could return to clean and cook. I took just two unpaid days off and later asked for a raise or assistance with the funeral cost, which they declined. I had to take out a loan because I had no savings.

Two months ago, the family sold their home and moved out of state with very little notice, leaving me unemployed and without time to prepare. Because of my age it has been difficult to find another job. I feel betrayed and discarded after so many years of loyal service.

Last week I accepted a night cleaning job. It will be hard at my age, but I am relieved to be able to earn again. Unfortunately, I am currently two months behind on rent and utilities and urgently need help to catch up. Any assistance you can provide would be deeply appreciated.

Dear Readers,

This woman's letter of request touched my heart as she was clearly distressed over being callously discarded after years of devotion to the family that had employed her. She had expected more from them than they were willing to give but had hung on in hope and a sense of loyalty.

When I called, I learned more about the woman, her long years of work and the financial burdens she now faced. After her mother's passing, she had moved into a smaller apartment and was living with the bare minimum. In desperation she had turned to the food pantry for help. Through tears, she admitted she had been too proud to ask sooner and was still in shock at how quickly her situation had unraveled after the family moved away. She wept as she shared that she had truly believed the family loved her as much as she had loved them, and that they would need her for many years to come.

We spoke for a long time, and I listened as she described the many responsibilities she had completed for the family she once served. As I listened, I thought of someone I knew who needed that same kind of attentive care—and who, I was certain, would value her far more generously than she had been valued before. I told her I would call back, as I did not want to raise her hopes if the position had already been filled.

After a short conversation, I was able to arrange an interview for the woman. When I called her back with the good news, she broke down in tears once more. This time they were tears

of relief. Securing this job would mean she would not have to work nights and she would finally earn enough to support herself.

Several months later I am happy to report this arrangement has exceeded all our expectations. The woman is grateful to be working for the elderly couple, and they are grateful to have her care and companionship. They appreciate what she does for them and show that appreciation by providing both fair pay and reasonable hours.

With our help providing the two months overdue rent and paying the late utility bill the woman was able to stay in her apartment, pay off the loan she had taken out to pay her mother's funeral expenses, and have a fresh start. Together, we have brought hope, relief, and compassion, helping our fellow creations rise above the pains of poverty.

We have nearly matched the Ava Gable Memorial \$25,000 Matching Grant. This is a wonderful opportunity to make your kindness stretch even further in our mission to help our fellow creations find relief during their most difficult times.

Thank you and God bless you for the incredible difference you have made and continue to make in the lives of those turning to The Time is Now to Help during their time of need.

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: Carolyn J. Gable Foundation, Family Foundation, Clarence W. and Marilyn Schawk Donor Fund, Kunes Family Foundation, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Gerald and Cheryl Kuhn, Albert Mihlbauer, Russ Perkins, Jeff Martin, Timothy and Brenda Wegge, Harold & Bernice DeWeerd Family Foundation, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, Interstate Insurance, First Baptist Church, Dick and Trae Torhorst, Gregory Swanson, Kelly Tomaske, Ellen Flanagan, Karin Slayton, William Davit, Bradley Shoppell, Carolyn Doorn, David Greenawalt, Julie Ferraro, PayPal Giving Fund, 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: Trae, 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