

Dear W.C.,

My wife and I, along with our three children, moved to this area last year after enduring a very difficult and frightening situation involving my wife's ex-husband. They have been divorced for eight years, and our oldest son is from that marriage. We have been married for five years, and our two youngest children are ours together.

I have been the only father my stepson knows, as his biological father has spent much of his life in and out of prison and has caused only heartache for my wife and his family. After his most recent release from prison, he attempted to kidnap my wife and our oldest son while under the influence of drugs. It was a terrifying ordeal until the police found them the next day. He traumatized them and they are both still recovering. He has since been sent back to prison, but we live in fear of when he will be released again.

We moved here to start over—far away from him and his circle of friends. Unfortunately, doing so meant giving up good jobs, family, and support systems. Since the move, we've struggled to get back on our feet. My wife's health has suffered from the ongoing stress, and it does not help that we continue to fall further behind.

At this point, we are behind on rent and utilities and facing possible homelessness. We recently learned about *The Time is Now to Help* and were deeply moved by the many people who shared how your charity has changed their lives. We are praying you might be able to help us find stability and truly begin again here.

Dear Readers,

When I received this family's letter, I could feel both the fear and the determination to escape that fear behind every word. This husband and wife had uprooted their lives to protect their children and find peace after surviving a terrifying ordeal. They left behind everything and everyone they knew to start over in a new community, away from threats and the bad reminders of what they had gone through.

When we spoke, I could hear the toll that the past few years had taken. The mother's health and weight had both declined under the weight of constant stress, and their savings had been depleted by the move, the period of unemployment, and higher living expenses. They were behind on rent and utilities, with the threat of homelessness hanging over their heads. Still, their hope to give their children a safe, stable home and a fresh start remained.

A large part of helping those in need is guiding them to focus on their budget and the future. With encouragement and direction, this husband and wife were able to shift their attention from the pain of the past to the promise of the present and future. Their love for their children was their greatest motivation that inspired them to work hard and succeed in their

new jobs as they built a better life, free of fear. This motivation has helped them to continue to succeed.

Thanks to the generosity of “You,” our caring supporters, we were able to provide this family with the immediate assistance they needed. We brought their rent and utilities up to date, preventing eviction and disconnection. We supplied grocery gift cards to ensure their family had nutritious meals and helped cover a few essential household necessities they had been doing without.

When I visited the following day to drop off the much needed and appreciated assistance, tears of relief filled the mother’s eyes. The father expressed his gratitude over and over, saying this help gave them the chance to breathe again, and allowed them to focus on work, health, and healing instead of fear.

Because of “You”, this family has hope and stability once again. Your generosity continues to change lives and remind those who are struggling that they are not alone. To continue that spirit of compassion please consider donating to the Barnabas \$5,000 Matching Grant.

God bless you and thank you for making our poverty relief mission 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: Carolyn J. Gable Foundation, Family Foundation, Kunes Family Foundation, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Gerald and Cheryl Kuhn, John and Valerie Lincoln, Dale and Gaile Folkers, Timothy and Brenda Wegge, Paper Dolls, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Mary Fitzgerald, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, Carolann Lippert, Gregory Swanson, Kelly Tomaske, Diane Emerson, Marjorie Rappold, Karin Slayton, Jeanne Allen, Terry Collamore, William Davit, Carolyn Doorn, David Greenawalt, Mark and Kim Berger, PayPal Giving Fund, Denise Hubbard, Bob and Millie McCormick, Beth and Jody Rendall, John and Rita Race, Kelleher Family LLC, Tim and Margaret Kumbier, all of our anonymous donors and ALL of you who support The Time Is Now to Help. 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