

Dear W.C.,

I am a single mother with a three-year-old son and I find myself unable to pay my rent and utilities this past month. My mother is the only family I have, and we have lived together for the past three years. My mom used to help me with my rent and watch my son when I worked. She just moved into a memory care facility due to her worsening early onset Alzheimer's. She had been living with me, but I could not manage her care while working. Last year I had to put my son in daycare as her behavior kept changing. I was worried about her caring for my son and herself. Several times I came home to find burners going on my stove or she was out wandering the halls lost. I was terrified that she would set fire to our apartment or endanger her life by getting lost in the cold. My car needed to be repaired last month and that took a toll on my budget as I used every penny I had to get it fixed. I need my car so I can get to work and my son's medical care. He has a birth defect that requires regular appointments at Children's Hospital, and we cannot miss them. I'm praying The Time is Now to Help can help us get through this difficult time.

Dear Readers,

We began the new year by helping a homeless woman find safe shelter, providing security deposits for two single mothers with children and rent for two senior women. That was just on the first day. We are off to a good start already using the first funds from the New Year 2024 Helping Hand Up \$50,000 Matching Grant.

This mother was also helped after we shared a long phone call and budget review. We made sure her prayers for help were answered and prevented their future eviction and utility disconnection.

When I called, I found the mother and son on their way to Milwaukee for the son's medical appointment at Children's Hospital. We agreed to talk later since she was driving.

When the mother called back the first thing I asked about was her son. The mother said, "I never have anyone to share this news with, so it is nice that you asked." I was glad to hear he was doing well. We went on to talk for a long time about the boy's condition, his continuing care, and the boy's father who had no relationship with him. He never paid for his child support and did not want any responsibility for him.

We went on to talk about her mother and the woman was devastated by her mother's continuing memory loss. She shared how they had always been best friends and she had hoped to live with her for many years, not just the few special ones they had before she began to show signs of advanced Alzheimer's. This had also affected their financial arrangement that had made it possible for this single mother to have enough funds for "extras" like car repairs, decent food, and clothing for her son. Now she was in the position of barely getting by due to paying for childcare and the expensive car repair. We went over her budget line by line, and I found areas she could either apply for assistance or reduce her costs. These tweaks would make her budget successful going forward. We

would pay her overdue rent and utilities. We would also pay an additional two months' rent to allow her to have a small savings for future unexpected expenses. This would be the key to preventing future financial worries. With the addition of gift cards for food and clothing for her son, the mother was in disbelief and cried tears of gratitude, thanks to all of "You".

Thanks to your generosity to The Time is Now to Help, we have been able to give this mother a desperately needed helping hand up and remove the pains of poverty for her and her son. Please donate at this time as all your donations will be matched by the New Year 2024 Helping Hand Up \$50,000 Matching Grant, doubling your help provided to remove the pains of poverty in our communities. Thank "You" and God Bless "You".

*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 for more information, to read more of our past and current columns and/or to make a donation: [www.timeisnowtohelp.org](http://www.timeisnowtohelp.org)

**A Very Special Thank You:** Clarence W. and Marilyn Schawk Donor Fund, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Kune's Family Foundation, Kunes Country Auto Group, Wayne and Beverly Hilbelink, Joan Thompson, Jim and Lynette Heimann, Edward Hechmann, Joseph and Sharon Symoens, Lynda Adas, Donald Schwab, Timothy and Margaret Kumbier, Thomas Getzen, Colleen Heffernan, Doris M. Kushch, Paper Dolls, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schuberth, Martin Group, John Stensland and family, Glenn and Diane Lemanczyk, Joseph and Jeanine Kopecky, Bernard and Nancy Kleiber, Jeffrey Germanotta, Jay and Karin Hiller, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, Margaret Rifken, Larry and Kelly Happ, James and Christine Lovell, Donna De St. Aubin, William Reisner, John and Marian McClellan, Barbara Spiegelhoff, Ron and Jacque Wuttke, Duane and June DeYoung, Janice and Gerard Aldrich, George and Nadine Kelm, James and Marilyn Anderson, Carolyn Bintz, Charles and Kathleen Heinz, Patricia Jankowski, Lake Como Beach Women's Club, Dennis and Carol Gilhooley, Marilyn Desing, 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.

**Memorials:** Anita and Peter Palmer in memory of her mother Eleanore Barth. Maureen Lahey in memory of Margaret Zapata. James and Pat Herda in memory of the Lux Family. Delores Piotrowski in memory of beloved parents Gene and Lottie Piotrowski and beloved best friend Martha "Dee" Valentine.

**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: Brian, Mike, Sylvia, Megan, Kayla, Maria C., Sal, Betty, Scott, Annie, Marilyn, Brandon, Helen, Dennis, Mary, Joseph, Jordan, Jean, Tom L., Dr. Peter, Matthew, Pam E., Jenene B., John S., Patricia H., Ron K., Marian K., Judy, Wendy, Eric, Anthony, Mary, Charlie, Tom P., Christina, Billy, Mike, Cheryl, Bryan E., Ellie and Cornelia.

Please visit: [www.timeisnowtohelp.org](http://www.timeisnowtohelp.org)