

Dear W.C.,

You are my last resort as it seems there is no help available for me anywhere. Me and my three children have been living in a motel for the past six weeks ever since we lost everything in an apartment fire. Our neighbor's apartment caught fire and it quickly moved to our apartment. With the smoke and water nothing was salvageable. I have been having a difficult time keeping up with all the expenses of purchasing new clothing, shoes and daily necessities while also paying for a motel. I do not have any savings as most months we just get by. I have been paying for after school care because I do not want my children to go back to the motel after school alone. It is not a safe place for them with all the homeless men and addicts I have seen about, but I cannot afford anything else. I feel trapped without the ability to save enough for a security deposit and first month's rent for a new place. Please help us out of this situation.

Dear Readers,

As is often the case, there was more to this story than was shared in this brief letter. When I spoke to the overwhelmed mother I would learn the details of their current situation.

When I called, I found the mother was in the motel room getting her children ready for bed. We agreed to speak as soon as the children had drifted off to sleep so she could speak freely. Thirty minutes later we returned to our phone call, and we began our long conversation.

I heard how they had barely gotten out of the apartment in time, only able to grab their coats, her purse, and their cat Grace. She was grateful her daughter had been able to catch the cat as she had been in a panic with the smoke detectors blaring and the younger children crying in fear. The mother told me how they had spent the night sleepless in her car as they had been in shock and did not know where else to go.

The following morning a different organization had put them up at a motel for a week, but that was all they allowed. When the mother inquired about the rate to stay there, she was in shock over how much it would cost to keep her family there indefinitely. She had immediately begun to look for other solutions, a different apartment, or a church or organization that could put them up somewhere.

The mother had finally been able to secure a week at their present motel, but quickly learned it was not a place most people would want to stay. Trying to afford the motel and save for a security deposit and first months rent, while also paying additional expenses, including the children's clothing, new shoes, toiletries, pet supplies for their cat, fast food or microwave meals due to a lack of a kitchen, was proving almost impossible. The mother broke down in tears of fear and frustration over the position they found themselves, due to no fault of her own.

When I heard the mother share the state of the motel they were in, the men propositioning her preteen daughter whenever they walked to the car, the filth and lack of security, I knew we had to get them out of there immediately. The first thing we did was find rooms in a family-friendly, clean motel. Then we got to work helping the mother secure a new apartment that provided the same environment at a price she could afford.

It was not an easy task but a few days later the mother found an apartment that filled all those requirements. It would be closer for the children's schools and the landlord was willing to get the apartment ready sooner so they could move out of the motel that week.

With our help providing not only a clean safe motel, first months rent and a security deposit for the new apartment, four new beds, new bedding, towels, and other daily necessities, clothing for work and school, gift cards for additional items for their home and the children, a table and chairs, and a sofa, the mother and children were well on their way to recovering from the fire.

Our last conversation was several weeks later and much different than our first conversation. This time the mother was cheerful and filled with gratitude for the changes our assistance brought to their lives. She shared how happy her children were in their new apartment, sleeping in the new beds they loved, and even their cat Grace was happy again.

We hope you will take advantage of the Family Foundation 2025 \$40,000 Matching Grant as your donations will be matched dollar for dollar, doubling your donation and the assistance we will be able to provide. Thank 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.

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**A Very Special Thank You:** Family Foundation, Carolyn J. Gable Foundation, Kunes Family Foundation, Ziegler Charitable Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Paper Dolls, United Way of Walworth County, Timothy and Brenda Wegge, Bonnie Glennon, Michael and Mary Alice Deutsch, Jeff Martin, Barbara and Lee Zuzanek, Kathryn Drexler, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Dr. Mark and Cynthia Brower, Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation, Brenda Dahlfors, Eileen Altenburg, Richard Green, Diane Emerson, Dick and Trae Torhorst, Gregory Swanson, Leo Zinnen, David and Terri Kropetz, Kelly Tomaske, Karin Slayton,

William Davit, Jeanne Allen, Brian Fay, Sarah Wootton, David Greenawalt, Sindee Benson, Kathleen Toner, 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.

**Honoraries:** Carla and J.D. Olson in honor of the Livingston and Olson Families.

**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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