

Widowed, Elderly, Ill, and Hanging On

Dear WC,

There is an elderly widow who I feel needs your help. I have contacted her, and she continues to express that everything is all right. Can you please check on her? I am very concerned for her well being. Thank you for writing the column and bringing awareness to our neighbors in need. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to write in for help, even if it is not for ourselves, but instead for a neighbor.

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for bringing this elderly widow to my attention. Yes, you were correct to be concerned, she did need help.

Dear Readers,

When I first spoke to this lady, she expressed how tired she felt all of the time. She said she had been feeling that way for some time, even though she tried to get enough sleep. Fortunately due to our networking, I know of a woman who lives near this widow, who happens to be a nurse. I asked the nurse if she would mind visiting the elderly widow with me, since I could tell the situation needed to be addressed right away.

Our neighborly nurse said, "Of course I will join you. I would be honored to help." We met at the lady's house and knocked on the door. When the tired elderly lady answered the door you could immediately see how weak she was. She stated that she was diabetic, so the nurse checked her blood sugar. It was only 58, so our first instinct was to call an ambulance. The woman became quite agitated and very adamantly refused an ambulance. We thought she would cause worse damage to herself by the stress caused from the worry of going to the hospital, so we decided to see if she would eat something, like an orange, with natural sugar, and some other food to give her a boost. Within a matter of minutes, she began to perk up. A half hour later, she was much stronger, and an hour later, she was a completely different person.

We talked to her about going into a nursing home. Again, she was very adamant and became distraught over the idea. The nurse offered to come over once a day to check her blood sugar for her, and to make sure she was eating properly. The elderly lady said, "You would come to my house and do this for me?"

The nurse said, "Of course I would. I only live a few blocks away, and I would love to help." This made the elderly lady very happy. With both her hands, she grabbed our hands and thanked us. I said, "Our job is not done yet." I asked her how she was doing financially.

She replied, "Times are rough, but I can hold out."

After further investigation, the woman disclosed to me that her checking account was negative, and her social security check did not come for another two weeks. I looked at her utility bills, and she was behind in both her gas and electric. She said, "This winter took a real toll on me, between trying to keep warm and the long, dark nights. I kept the temperature at 58 and only turned on a light if necessary."

Here again is another person who was living in her house with her coat on during the winter. She told me it was not that bad wearing a coat inside, it was just hard to sleep in her coat. She mentioned how difficult it was getting up in the night to go to the bathroom when it was so cold in her room.

I visualized this lady experiencing a low blood sugar episode, attempting to get out of bed with a winter coat on and all the blankets over her. There is no telling how long she

lived with her low blood sugar. Diabetes is not an illness that you can be careless or irresponsible with. Proper diet, exercise, rest, medication, and medical supervision are all necessary for correct management and control.

It felt good to help this lady with her utilities and get her financially back on her feet. The only thing she was up to date with was her rent. The lady said, "My landlord yelled at me so loudly six months ago, that I got the biggest headache. I cried for a week. I never want to go through that again, even if I have to live in the dark and starve to death."

I wondered what kind of human being would intimidate an elderly lady like this. The nurse knew of the landlord and said he had a reputation for not only being unkind, but also for renting out some very poorly maintained properties.

At my last meeting, I could tell the nurse had been visiting on a regular basis. A lively woman that looked healthy and well rested greeted me at the door. She was happy, well-nourished, and most of all, she found a good friend in her neighbor.

I received a letter from the elderly woman. It stated, "Please give a big thank you to everyone. I never knew there were such Godly people who are willing to help." The letter was signed, "Affectionately yours. God Bless *The Time Is Now* for returning to me my independence and my health."

Dear Readers,

There is nothing more fulfilling than helping a fellow creation of God. I thank all of you for Caring and Sharing.

WWJD – Our Fellow Creations Need Our Help

We presently have 107 requests for help. In order to help ease the pain and sorrow of poverty, please donate what you can. Any funding you could Care and Share with the less fortunate would be greatly appreciated.

Please Help by Caring and Sharing. Send your donation to: *The Time Is Now to Help*, PO Box 70, Pell Lake, WI 53157. Every penny of your donation will go to the needy for daily necessities of life including: food, clothing, utilities, toiletries, shelter assistance, and household necessities.

Please make checks payable to: *The Time Is Now to Help*. *The Time Is Now to Help* is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization licensed in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing exactly what every penny of your donation provided for the poverty stricken.

Health and Happiness, God Bless, WC

A Special Thank You To: Eli Warzynski, Desiree & Ron Lipowski, Sally Acker, John Curran, Sandy Anast, Victoria Bates, Doris Kamys, Donald & Beth Vold, John & Mary Flesch, Frank & Carol Bell, Glen & Patricia Stach, Mr. & Mrs. Kroll, and Nancy Geidel - all in memory of Leo Grace, James & Janice Batten, James & Karen Goodrick, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Donna & Shawn McLafferty, Margarie Egger, The Grunow Family, Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, ALL of you who support *The Time Is Now to Help* donation boxes, and the businesses that allow our donation boxes. Anyone who would like a *Time Is Now to Help* donation box in your business, please call 262-249-7000.

Endowments/Helping Others through Your Will: For those of you who wish to leave an endowment for the poverty stricken, we would greatly accept any gifts. Please think of those in desperate need, good people, living in fear of poverty and consider helping them through your will.

Desperately Needed Cars: If anyone has a car they can donate, knowing you will be helping people get back on their feet, out of their desperate need for transportation to work, etc., please call 262-249-7000. We have many in desperate need of reliable transportation, so they can regain their independence, retain their jobs, provide food and necessities for their families, and ease their pain and suffering. Thank You and God Bless You.

Please visit: HYPERLINK "<http://www.TimeIsNowToHelp.org>"

May we be an Example of Goodness by the Life We Live.

Unity of Spirit - Communities of Friends