

# The Time Is Now to Help

Dear Readers,

I received a letter from a mother/grandmother asking if I could please help her daughter and grandchildren. Her daughter was recovering from surgery and the husband had abandoned both her and the children over 2 years ago.

I first contacted the mother/grandmother. We had a very good rapport from our first conversation. I could sense there was much she also needed, yet she never once asked for anything for herself. When I contacted her daughter and the three grandchildren, I was sent on an emotional roller coaster.

When I first conduct my investigations, I tend to take a firmer stance. To safeguard all donations, I need to do a very thorough check on all facts. After I do my introduction, I begin checking and then double checking the facts. I often research third parties for additional information before I begin to obtain a true picture. Sometimes the true picture is apparent from the start and this was one of those cases. I was very shocked at what I found here in 2007 in our great United States of America.

The mother had recently endured a very extensive operation to remove cancer. The doctors told her it was an isolated cancer, but it had left her nearly disabled. Apparently our government did not consider this young mother disabled enough to receive a disability check, even though she is unable to function normally.

The children were suffering greatly due to the lack of child support and disability funds. Her daughter is a middle school student that had nothing to eat all day other than the lunch program at school and a bowl of cereal for dinner. That was it. There was no other food to be had. She actually had to wear her pajama bottoms to school because the only other pair of pants she had no longer fit her properly. She had not had a new pair of pants in two years and had outgrown her only pair.

Her toddler was the only child in the home to have enough food. In order for him to have enough to eat the mother had given up her meals. There was also a teenage son involved. I asked if he was going to school, and he said that he was not. He should have been a senior in high school. I could not understand not going to school your last year, being at home and not working. My initial thoughts were that the son was lazy so I thought I needed to spark some inspiration into this young man.

At first I was not that easy on him, asking him if he loved his mother. He replied, "Yes, of course I do." I asked, "How much do you love her?" He replied, "As much as I can love anyone." I asked what he would do if somebody was trying to hurt his mother. He told me he would do everything he could possibly do to protect his mother. I told him, "Poverty is hurting your mother. If you are not going to school, you need to get a job." The young man was 18 so I was prepared for some defensiveness and rebellion. Happily, the boy responded with, "I will do whatever I have to, to help my mom."

I told him, "You need to go apply for a job." He said he had been trying but no one would hire him. When I looked at his appearance I immediately noticed he needed a haircut. When I asked him if he would get a haircut he said he wanted one but was unable to pay for one when they could not even afford food. When I offered to pay for a hair cut he gladly said he would go and thanked me. I also noticed his clothes were very worn, old and fit him poorly. When I offered to purchase him a pair of slacks, a nice shirt, and some shoes, he was extremely grateful and was close to tears. This young man really stepped up and took on some responsibility for the family.

When I asked the mother why the son was not working, she said he had been trying very hard to find a job. When they were very desperate he had been giving blood for \$20 so they could afford some food. In fact, after he gave blood several times, since he only weighed 127 pounds and was six foot two, the blood bank suggested he not give blood due to his being severely underweight.

After making some calls to verify they were not trying to abuse The Time Is Now and its supporters, I returned with food. It was very late and when I asked the young man what he had eaten all day he replied, "I had one sandwich." It brought back many memories of when I was a little boy and how I got used to the hunger. I also had been very skinny and had clothes that were too small and very worn. I saw before me a young man that had the same problems that poverty thrust upon him.

The utilities were about to be turned off. Their landlord was very understanding. He was not evicting them even though they were behind on several months of rent. They had absolutely no income, no child support, no disability, they had nothing. They were surviving on hand me downs and a monthly visit to the food pantry. The mother did not tell her story of the surgery to the food pantry staff so there was no sympathy shown to her. They questioned why she did not have a job, not understanding that her internal system does not work like ours. They had an old car that barely ran

but could not pay for license plates and registration. Out of desperation the mother would occasionally drive it across town to get to the grandmother's for some help with food for the baby. She had been stopped three times for no plates and given three tickets she could not afford to pay.

We live in a very defensive, cynical world. We chastise and judge people without offering a kind word or help. If we instead offered love and help where needed we would truly be doing what God would want us to do.

I might have been defensive and cynical when I first began my investigation into this family, keeping my guard up, but after a closer look I was able to clearly see their desperate need for assistance, their daily struggle for survival in an uncharitable world. I opened my heart to their pain and suffering. I used my free will to employ what we call Caring and Sharing, using our abilities to help educate, care for, and love our fellow creations.

The daughter was the first one to start crying when clothes were supplied. She had tears of relief from the shame of having to wear pajamas to school and the endless taunts from other students. She loved school and she knew how important a good education is to her future, but the children making fun of her did not make it easy. She was so proud to be able to return to school with proper fitting new clothing. She was happy to come home to a warm meal where the cupboards were filled with food supplied by your generous contributions.

The young man got his much needed job. I called the general manager and asked him to give this young man a chance. Before he left for his first day of work I asked him if he was going to make his family proud. His reply was, "I will do everything possible to make my mother proud of me and to be proud of myself." He started to cry, thanking us for getting their life back together.

The mother did not understand our Caring and Sharing. She was quite bewildered by our help. She had been suffering for a long time, being mistreated by not just one, but two husbands. She said she gave her heart, her love and her hope twice, and both times it was shattered. She could not believe how The Time Is Now was giving from our heart, wanting nothing in return. I had to tell her how we receive our fulfillment by helping others and how our hearts are filled when we Care and Share.

We gave her some direction on getting further assistance, brought her utilities up to date and paying some into the future. Having the son bringing home a consistent paycheck will be a big help to this family. His mother is proud of him, he has become proud of himself, and I am very proud of him for coming to the calling.

The grandmother never asked for any help for herself. This wonderful senior citizen was not only widowed, but had recently lost one of her adult children a few months prior. She was just barely making ends meet, consistently falling behind while she was trying to help with food for the baby and medicines that were needed for her daughter. We offered her assistance with her utilities and rent. She accepted our help with much evident relief. She also wanted to help with the rehabilitation of her family so she got a part time job working for some wonderful people.

There are many good American's in need of our help. I want to thank everyone for networking to make the assistance to this good American family possible. Please network all our good work with your friends, relatives, business associates, etc. I want to thank everyone for Caring and Sharing.

*Health and Happiness, God Bless Everyone, WC*

**Please Help:** Make checks payable to: The Time Is Now to Help, P.O. Box 70, Pell Lake, WI 53157. 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.

**A Special Thank You to:** MLH, Bill & Lois McEssy, Richard & Jean Honeyager, Gregg Kunes, Kunes Country Chevrolet and Cadillac & Kunes Country Ford, Badger High School & the Freshman Class, Mark & Natalie Reno, The Mud Hens, Nancy Golden Bell & Golden Oaks Mansion, Fit for a Queen, Joseph & Elizabeth Michels, Randy Christenson, Linda Haen, Allyson Freitag, Diane Flitcroft, Marshal & Susan Ketchpaw, William & Ruth Rorig, Neil Diercksmeier, 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 donation box in your business, please call (262)249-7000.

**McDonald's Fundraiser:** Please join us this Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. For the fifth year Bill McEssy is donating 100% of his gross sales from his 6 local McDonald's to The Time Is Now to Help. Please eat at one of Bill's following McDonald's locations: Lake Geneva, Lake Geneva Wal-Mart, Elkhorn, Delavan, East Troy, and Burlington.

Every penny you spend will go to help our local poverty stricken of our communities.

Please visit: HYPERLINK "http://www.Time"[www.Time](http://www.Time) Is Now To

Help.org

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