

## **A New Year's Blessing – The J.D. Development \$25,000 Matching Grant**

Dear Readers,

Throughout the holiday season I have been so busy with requests that I have barely had an opportunity to do much else. I thank everyone that has written encouraging words and prayers, for keeping me strong and energized. The holiday season is a good time for extra Caring and Sharing and it seems to bring out the best in many people. God bless each and every one of you.

I spend a lot of time researching and helping the genuine needy that have been stricken by financial despair. As we begin the long winter months ahead of us, January, February, and March can be the hardest time of year for many poverty stricken. The weather is often very cold, utility bills will be more costly than ever, if you do not have a car walking to work can be terrible at best, and many children and families are sick and cannot afford to see a doctor.

As we go into this hard time of winter we have been blessed with a generous \$25,000 Matching Grant from J.D. Development, I thank God and I find this very encouraging. Being provided with the opportunity to carry on our mission of helping the poverty stricken, offering them hope when they are faced with the most difficult time of year, has renewed my strength. This means that for every dollar you give, a matching dollar will be given. If you give \$5, it will be matched by another \$5, up to \$25,000. This is a great Caring and Sharing way to start the New Year.

There are so many in need. If we can each contribute something throughout the year, it means that Time is Now to Help can continue our mission of easing the pain and suffering, giving hope to those that live with the fear of losing their shelter, of not being able to pay for heat and light. We will be able to help provide food to the hungry. We will be able to keep people in their homes rather than becoming homeless in the midst of a harsh winter. So please Care and Share what you can from the blessings that have been bestowed upon you, thank you and God bless you.

Over the past few weeks, we have helped many and there are still many more to be helped. I still have 46 unanswered requests. My thought when I go to visit someone is “I hope that the need is not as great as the letter indicated. I hope when I get there I find them better off.” Sad to say, 90% of the time the need is exactly as stated and for the most part the need is much greater. As much as people try to convey, and what I try to portray

in my letters to all of you, is how difficult it is on my heart to find children hungry, to find adults full of shame and sorrow because they need help and feel alone.

One of my first questions after I review bills and employment is very obvious, “How much money do you have?” I have had some tell me, four dollars and some cents, some hold up a handful of change. I have had many just break into tears, too embarrassed to admit they have nothing to their name. Many do not know there are options open to them, such as food pantries and clothing banks. I let these people know where to obtain free clothing. I provide them with the names of their local food pantries. I try to emotionally stand strong until I leave.

One of the hardest things is when I walk in to find hungry children, elderly and often whole families. I get to a store as quickly and safely as I can to bring food back as soon as possible. When I return you can see the excitement on their faces as I set the bags down and they clamor around them. As I unload the bags it is like watching children on Christmas morning. They are excited to see food items they have not seen in a long time, or ever, due to their poverty. Sometimes I help prepare the food and watching them eat is very heartbreaking. Many of us scold our children for eating “as if” they have not eaten a good meal in awhile, but these children and adults actually have not eaten in awhile.

As in any good business, we need to market the food pantries. People have to be aware of what options are available to them. Many think if we market the food pantries there will be too many people to provide food for. I can’t abide by this thought when I come upon people who are literally starving. Did you ever see a starving elderly person when you bring them food? Sometimes they are so weak you have to feed them, and that is when it becomes necessary for the good people in their area to help them regain their strength. You think they should not be living alone but often after they regain their strength, they have a continuous supply of food available to them, and someone keeping an eye on them, their independence is quite renewed. Our situation of help given is numerous. Please Care and Share as we go through this winter and please take advantage of this J.D. Development \$25,000 Matching Grant.

I thank all of you for your Caring and Sharing. Please continue to network our letter by mailing it, faxing it, reading it to loved ones, family, friends, and business associates. I thank all of you for what you have been doing. I have been receiving letters from all over the country, thanking us for showing them how other fellow American’s are struggling. We have brought to light situations that they normally would not even be aware of.

They also like the fact that The Time is Now to Help uses every penny given to assist the poverty stricken and that we are a Federally recognized 501C3 charitable organization that does not pay for any overhead or compensation from its donations. Every penny donated goes to help the poverty stricken. Please, every dollar you give will be matched by another dollar from the gracious J.D. Development \$25,000 Matching Grant. Please Care and Share.

*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:** J.D. Development, MLH, Bill & Lois McEssy, Tom & Kathleen Murray, Dick & Jean Honeyager, Steve & Catherine Boho, Jay Ieronimo, Donald & Kim Parker, Bill & Rose Mohr, Steven Pils, John & Elizabeth Long, Elaine Voss, The Food Service Staff of George Williams College, John & Karla Zils, Kay Lange, Joel Voss, Robert & Joanne Batzler, Albert & Ellen Burnell, Randy & Debbie Sims, Allyson Freitag, James & Carolyn Miles, Lynn & Jan Jeka, Judith Castleman, Bethel Christian Church, MPC-Walworth Marketing, Immanuel United Church of Christ, Creek Road Community Church Guild, Joan Murphy, Howard & Maureen Gleason, Marcia Madaus, George & Virginia Polkow, Walter & Carolyn Hendrickson, Jim Holtermann, Richard & Janice Ploch, Anton & Paulette Jensen, Peter & Doris Fidler, Leon & Mary Sterken, William & Ruth Rasmussen, Donald & Gail Holden, Keith & Laurie Leitner, Gerald & Marilyn Wilkin, Joseph & Lois Haas, Marshal & Susan Ketchpaw, Avis Luchsinger, Fred Zeller & Bette Popik, Ruth Prezewoznik, Bruce & Loretta Adsit, Steve & Susan Woodcock, John Race, Charles & Kathleen Heinz Jr., James & Susan Mirabella Jr., Bob & Betty Madsen, Scott & Jeanne Severson, Tom & Regina Kipp, Steve & Rebecca Madsen, Dan Madsen, Jim Madsen, Scott & Inga Madsen, Sue Madsen, Scott & Tricia Deleskiewicz, Heather Severson, Margarie Egger, Keith & Marie Rithamel, Howard & Deborah Czernejewski, Jim & Karen Goodrick, Cheryl Fringer, 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.

**Pick ‘N Save “We Care” Program:** Please sign up for the “We Care” program at your local Pick ‘N Save. A percentage of each purchase will go directly to The Time is Now to Help. All you have to do is designate The Time is Now, account number **832410**, on your Advantage Plus Savers Club Card application.

**Much Needed Cars:** Please consider helping someone in need of a car in order to get to work and support their family. Instead of trading in a car, donate it to The Time Is Now To Help and receive a tax deduction. Please Care & Share.

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