

We have received requests to revisit some of the people we have helped in the past to highlight some of our success stories. We feel all of our assistance is a success because it removes the pain and suffering of poverty. Every situation we evaluate and assist is different than any other. That is why we provide the assistance we feel will provide the largest impact, the biggest change for the better.

Our first success story revisits a mother with two children that was abandoned by her husband after nine years of marriage. When I first met this mother she was a stay at home mom. She did not have a job and could no longer afford the rent without her husband's income. With our help and encouragement she moved in with her mother. The mother/grandmother's apartment was small, and especially cramped with the children, but their love made it work. The mother cleaned and organized the grandmother's apartment until it felt less overcrowded. When I paid a visit I noticed the remarkable change in the apartment and came up with an idea. I suggested the mother start her own cleaning business. We helped her with cleaning supplies and all she needed to start her business. Her customers loved her work and word of mouth helped her business to grow. She has even hired another single mother to help with all her customers. The mother, children and grandmother were all able to move into a larger rental, allowing the mother to finally have a bed and room of her own. Three years has passed since our assistance was given. The mother still remembers how "We" gave them hope when they were hopeless and has gratitude for the life changing assistance "We" provided.

Several years ago we helped a middle aged husband and wife that were homeless due to job loss. This was during the recession and they had already lost their home and one car. They were also feeling hopeless and adrift, not knowing how to begin again at their age. They had no family to turn to. No one was hiring at the time, much less two people in their fifties. Since they were homeless the first thing we did was put them in a motel. They were both willing to work any job. Thanks to one of our caring and sharing donors we were able to find first the husband a job, a tough manual labor position he was grateful to take, and then a part-time job for the wife in a restaurant. They were very careful with their earnings and after reviewing their budget I saw they only spent on car repairs for the remaining older vehicle they had and very little food. We helped them get the car in good working order and provided food assistance to ensure they were eating properly. When I was sure they could afford rent going forward we provided first month's rent and security deposit on a very affordable apartment. Over the past few years we have had emails and notes from them occasionally updating us on their situation. They had a set back once when the husband suffered a medical problem that required him to give up his strenuous manual labor position, but his employer was so impressed by his hard work and dedication they gave him another position that did not require the physical labor of his past job. It also included a raise that helped them even further. This husband and wife continue to be a success story we are proud to share.

Often times our senior citizens fall victim to people that prey upon them. Last year I found another one of our senior citizens unable to survive thanks to predator loans that are allowed in Wisconsin but illegal in many other states. This senior widowed gentleman had no idea his interest rate would soar to over 600% when he signed up for the loan. Due to the size of the

monthly payments he could no longer afford rent and food. I explained to him how the payday loans worked and he hung his head in shame. When I asked why he had needed the money to begin with he told me he had needed the funds for car repairs and a dentist visit for his wife when she was still alive. He shared with me his desperation and fear over not being able to get his wife to her doctor's appointments when the car broke down. He also said he had hoped to ease some of the mouth pain his wife was enduring in her last days by taking her to a dentist. "We" helped this senior gentleman to pay off his loan debt, ensuring he could live within his budget going forward. Now I am happy to report this senior gentleman has now moved to an assisted living facility and no longer spends his days alone and stressing over his bills. He has received the assistance needed to be where he needs to be thanks to all of "You".

A significant amount of the assistance we provide lately is due to illness. It seems to strike people of all ages. While we do not pay medical bills we do provide financial assistance in other ways and advise the recipients to negotiate a payment plan for the medical bills. Our caring and sharing comes in the form of rent payments, utility payments, food, toiletries, car repairs and other daily necessities. When you remove the stress of these pending expenses, evictions and utility disconnection sometimes our fellow creations health improves as well. Often the assistance is given to the caregivers of children with life threatening illness or senior citizens, allowing them to fully devote themselves to their loved ones. One of the recent recipients has been a single mother with two children. One of her children has been battling cancer since last year. It is not only heart breaking but also motivating to see the strength and love this family shares. A lot of this strength is due to all of "You" removing the stress and worry over eviction and loss of transportation. The mother cannot thank you enough and either can we. As this little boy improves every day, as we see the hollows fill in his face and his hair begin to grow again we are filled with gratitude for your generosity that was there to help.

These are just a few of the success stories we see every day at The Time is Now to Help. Part of that success is due to our matching grant providers. Please consider donating at this time and every donation will be met dollar for dollar by the Family Foundation \$30,000 Matching Grant. The lives changed are all due to "You". Thank you and God Bless "You".

Health & Happiness, God Bless Everyone, W.C./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 licensed in the states of Wisconsin and Illinois. You will receive a tax deductible, itemized thank you receipt showing how your donation provided assistance for the poverty stricken.

A Very Special Thank You: Fox Charities, Priebe Family Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Dorothy Heffernan, Mary Kay Ring, John & Valerie Lincoln, Certified Power, Martin Business, Thomas & Mary Johnson, Bernard Labovitch, Kunes' Country Ford-Lincoln of Delavan, Lake Geneva Economic Development, Rita's Wells Street Salon, Edward

Hechmann, Scott & Lisa Stearns, JP Ieronimo, Michele Goodier, Kathryn Alder, Glen & Vicki Whitmore, The Sowers House, Corcoran Landscaping & Co., Kathleen & Brian Hurdis Charitable Fund, Robert & Kathleen Hanson, Ernest & Lillian Roy, J.S. Moore, Phillop & Mary Lou Esmond, Alliant Energy Foundation, Aurora Health Care Employee Partnership Campaign, Barbara Buchheit, Richard & Ann Weber, Violet De Wind, Nancy Yaeger, Gerald & Joyce Byers, Carolyn May Essel, David & Marty Altwies, Ronald Szatkowski, Josephine Carpentero, Jack & Mary Lou Mc Kinney, Helen Rosseland, George & Laurreta Clettenberg, Gerard & Debra Buck, John Race, Donald Kolbe, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schubert, and 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.

Memorials: Peggy Cardiff in memory of Dot Cardiff and Marty Hansen. Robert & Jacquelyn Anderlick in memory of Thomas M. Phillips.

Prayer Chain: There have been numerous requests for a prayer chain addition to our weekly column. Please pray for healing for the following people: Caroline, Clarence, Ryan, Jayden, Santina, Alex, Lily, Kaitlyn, Kynesha, Brandi's Grandma.

W.C. Food Pantry: The W.C. Food Pantry is located at: 205 E. Commerce St., Elkhorn, WI. 53121. This is in the old Aurora Clinic building off of Hwy. 67 just east of Interstate 43. Their phone number is (262) 723-4488.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org