

Dear Readers,

Together we help change the lives of many of our fellow creations, those that are suffering in the pains of poverty and those living in fear, depression and loneliness. Our Caring and Sharing hearts, led by our love for God, are especially needed for those who are handicapped.

I received a letter from an employee of a wonderful place that cares for the handicapped and multiply challenged fellow creations. The CNA told me about an individual that was in a terrible accident and became paralyzed. This person never had any visitors. This person would cry almost all the time while awake. When asked if they were in pain the answer was, "I wish there was but I have no feelings in this paralyzed body. I'm so alone and scared."

Most of you reading this can imagine that fear but thank God have not had to endure it or live with it the rest of your life. It is our mission at The Time Is Now to Help to make a difference, a big difference, in the lives of those suffering. I communicated with some very understanding volunteers and finally found four that would commit a few hours each week, long term. This creation of God, whose mobility was taken away by a drunk driver, needed life friends. Four friends that routinely visited, talked and listened, with wonderful hearts that would create a relationship over time.

This handicapped person began to look forward to the four different visitors and spending a few hours with each new and growing friendship every week. All had great faith and felt the direction of love by our gracious Lord. After a month this person was much happier, still living in the same body with the same challenges, but full of stories to tell. A new purpose emerged as she shared in each new friend's life. She felt cared for, loved and now the extreme loneliness was gone. And all this took was a few hours a week shared by gracious volunteers.

I visited many more times and now I saw laughter and joy. What had been an impossible situation was turned into a positive life changing one, and this was all due to the wonderful God loving people that cared.

The Time Is Now to Help has provided assistance to many of our handicapped fellow creations over the years. When I first began this mission I was led to help relieve the suffering of the handicapped by my cousin that worked at a specialty daycare for the multiply handicapped and poverty stricken. This daycare provided specialty care services for children and adults with multiple disabilities in order to allow the parents to go to work. Most of the clients could not walk, many were on feeding tubes and could not talk. I would visit them regularly, often providing wheelchairs, clothing and other necessities. We also provided bus trips for outings that the handicapped children and adults would never have had the opportunity to enjoy. The smiles and laughter are what I remember now, not the suffering due to living in extreme poverty while being multiply handicapped. At each visit we would be greeted by name by those that could speak. For those that could not speak we were greeted by a smile of recognition. They knew if we were there they would not feel alone and scared trapped in bodies that did not work.

Over the years we have developed friendships with many people struggling with disabilities and challenges. Many of them we have watched as their disabilities progressed. The one common element in all these fellow creations we have helped is their need for friendship. They all were afraid and lonely when we first met them. When we took the time to share our life with them they then shared their lives with us, including sharing their challenges. Some were afraid as their diseases progressed and voiced these fears to us. Just voicing these fears out loud seemed to help to ease their fear. Just having someone to talk to and someone to listen made a huge difference in their lives.

We have a place in need of our friendship and support in our community. It is Inspiration Ministries. They are a non-profit who house and care for up to eighty handicapped residents. I visited and toured this God loving, caring facility several months ago. I found Inspiration Ministries to be a clean and orderly community where our fellow creations can live and receive the care they need. The people that work there and the volunteer Board members are a God loving group of people giving their best.

The two areas I found them in need of our help is their budget shortfalls and their need for additional staff. Where do they need additional staff? They need a group of social workers that not only love their job but also their clients. They need to let their Caring and Sharing hearts go out to all the residents and spend time removing their fears of loneliness by being long term friends. This would be a small specialized group that would be there year round. The residents will get to know them and spend anticipated, scheduled time with, knowing that they are not alone. They would have visitors that care them and joy for the residents to look forward to. This will also create four new positions, giving employment to those that are in need. Not every resident at Inspiration Ministries has family or friends that visit. Many spend their time alone. Residents need friends they can count on to visit them several times a week, friends that will listen and friends that will share their own stories. The positions of these social workers will bring life and love back to those suffering in loneliness. The life given back to those that are physically challenged will feed their minds with well being, just like the handicapped woman and the many multiply challenged students we helped.

So how can all of us help? Well we came up with a way to bring Inspiration Ministries budget up to meet all the necessary requirements to: house, feed, clothe, utilities, maintain the property and buildings, provide the best care... The way "We" together can help this wonderful ministry is by supporting their Resale Shop. Many people do not even know they have a Resale Shop. It has been floundering at best. Together we can make it a great success! Every one of our supporters, readers and friends can help. We all have too much "stuff". Everyone remodels their homes and have furniture to donate. Next time you have gently used furniture, household items, knick-knacks, and holiday decorations, anything that is still usable, call Inspiration Ministries. Inspiration Ministries will pick-up if necessary or maybe take some time to drop off what you can carry and visit their Resale Shop. If we all participate in this they should be able to double their size and income quickly. When you visit the Inspiration Place Resale Shop you never know what treasures you will find for bargain prices. Make your visits often and make it a family event. Feel good about doing good and providing the best possible place for our fellow creations living with handicaps to live.

The success of the Resale Shop provides homes and happiness for almost eighty of our fellow creations. Please help by donating your gently used items and visiting the Resale Shop. Together we will fulfill many challenged lives and make long lasting changes. This challenge for us has been put on our hearts by God. Please let us pull together and support the Inspiration Place Resale Shop. For more information visit www.inspirationministries.org. For local pick up of major items or collection appointments please call (262) 275-2264. Inspiration Ministries Resale Shop is located at N2270 State Rd. 67, Walworth, WI 53184. The Resale Shop is open Monday; Wednesday; Thursday & Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday & Sunday they are closed.

We have almost matched the Ziegler \$15,000 Matching Grant. Please donate during this matching grant knowing your donation will be matched dollar for dollar. As always, every penny of your donations will be used to provide desperately needed poverty relief in our communities.

The Time is Now to Help has been chosen by the Lake Geneva Restaurant Week selection committee to participate in the 2016 Charity Check program - where the most voted non-profit will be the recipient of \$5,000 sponsored by Lake Geneva Country Meats. The 2016 Lake Geneva Restaurant Week event will take place June 3rd – June 12th, 2016. To learn more about this event please visit www.LakeGenevaRestaurantWeek.com. Be sure to start planning to attend this year's event and vote for The Time Is Now to Help to be the charity that receives the \$5,000 Charity Check.

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: Family Foundation, Paul Ziegler, Fox Charities, The Rhoades Foundation, Martin Business, The Dan & Donna Casey Family Charitable Fund, Badger High School FFA Coin Drive, ITW Foundation, Dan & Regina Mehring, Kathryn Roen, Michael & Kathe Beach, Sid & Patty Johnson, Joan Marabito Rietz, Loretta Griffin, Paul Weinstock, Gerald & Joyce Byers, Bettye Bidwell, Joy Nelson, Joseph & Patricia Zeien, Kathryn Drexler, Robert Ribordy, John & Kathy Poiron, Geneva Inn, Gregory Swanson, Mike & Kim Olsen, Alex Dahlstrom, Karin Collamore, William Davit, The Meredith Family, Gerald & Marilyn Wilkin, Dorothy Tookey, John & Marian McClellan, William & Jean Isaacson, James & Marilyn Dyer, Russo Drywall, Judy Dishneau, Leroy & Barbara Madsen, Carl & Arlene Singer, Randall & Margaret Smith, our anonymous donors 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.

Honorary: Douglas & Janet Muzatko in honor of Carol Wolk McPherson.

Memorials: Mary Mooney in loving memory of her son Michael Joseph Mooney

who died while heroically saving others. Carla Matz in memory of Harry Bublitz and Heidi Danner.

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, Susan, Clarence, Ryan, Jayden, Santina, Alex, Lily, Kaitlyn, Kynesha, Brandi's Grandma, Corinne and Marilyn.

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