

Dear W.C.,

I am writing in hope you can help my brother. He lives alone out of state and is going through treatment for cancer. It started out as prostate cancer several years ago and just seems to keep spreading even though he has been through many treatments. Now it has spread to his bones and lungs. He is starting chemotherapy again and radiation but I worry about him living all alone with no one there to help him. I have been trying to get everything settled in my life here so I can move to live with my brother and care for him. We both just need a little help to make this all work out. My brother is behind in his utilities and rent due to some of the alternative therapies he is using to try to control the pain and make the chemotherapy tolerable. Of course they are not covered by his health insurance even though they make a huge difference in his ability to live through this next round of treatment. I need to have my car repaired so I can drive there safely and have a vehicle to transport him to his medical appointments. There are no organizations like The Time Is Now to Help where he lives so you are our only hope.

Dear Readers,

It saddens me to think we are the only organization that would help this man while he is putting up the fight for his life. We have helped many people while they undergo treatment for cancer. It is often times grueling and very debilitating. It takes every ounce of our fellow creations strength to get through these treatments and try to just get through the day. Getting to work is most often not even possible. If there are alternative therapies that can possibly make a cancer patients days more tolerable, reduce pain, relieve some of the symptoms from chemotherapy and give them the will to live once more we should be embracing these therapies. Instead our health insurance chooses to only cover the expenses of surgeries, chemotherapies and radiations, the traditional routes to killing cancer. If you are fighting for your life you will be looking beyond just killing the cancer, you will be looking to achieve a quality of life you cannot just tolerate but still hopefully enjoy. The out of pocket expense for these alternatives is often worth it to many cancer patients due to the enhanced quality of life it allows them to have. I have seen people sell all their possessions and go through a life time of savings because they still have hope that they will beat this terrible disease.

I called the sister that wrote this letter of request for her sick brother. We agreed to meet at her apartment to talk about any options of assistance we could provide to prevent the brother from becoming homeless and also to see if there was a way we could help the sister move to care for her brother. The sister was already crying when we began our conversation on the phone. I knew this would be an emotional home visit.

I arrived at the townhouse where the sister lived. She met me at the door as I wanted to meet her outside and look at her car in need of repairs. We introduced ourselves as we walked to her garage. I started her car and made some notes with questions for our mechanic. The car was not in bad shape. I noted the tires needed replacing. After looking over the car I asked the woman if she would like to sit and talk at a picnic table I noticed outside. She agreed so we moved over to the table to speak.

I asked the woman if she had any pictures of her brother. She said, "I have many pictures as he has been sharing with me from his phone all he is going through." I asked about her brother and their relationship. The woman said, "I think my brother and I are so close because we are twins. We are both 60, never married and have no children. It is strange how many similarities we have." The woman showed me many pictures of her brother from the time they were younger to the present. I could see the cancer had taken a toll on him physically over the past two years. The weight loss was dramatic. I asked the woman why she had not moved sooner and she said she had been looking for a job by her brother. "I have been always careful with my income and have lived very frugally. My brother did also but he has had to use all his savings to pay for his co-pays and for the other therapies he has tried. He had to sell his condo because he could not keep up with the payments and just broke even so now he is renting. Now he is behind in his rent and utilities. I can't afford to pay both my bills and his so I must move out there as soon as possible." I asked why she did not consider moving her brother here. She shared that her brother did not want to change doctors at this point in his treatment.

I asked the sister about her plan for moving. She had someone that was interested in purchasing her townhome when she was ready to move. She was planning on selling most of her furniture. She would have a little left over once she paid off her mortgage. These funds she planned on using for her moving and living expenses until she began her new job and to help pay rent and utilities with her brother. The woman said, "It is really my brother I wish for you to help. He needs to have the threat of eviction and utility disconnection removed from his daily worries. I also worry about my car making the long trip to Oregon. I will just feel so much better once I'm there and able to help. He has no one to cook for him or drive him to appointments. We both know this next round of treatment is his only hope for survival but he is hesitant to do this on his own." I thought how frightening and sad it would be to have to go through something so difficult all alone, without any help from family. Thanks to all of "You" this brother would have his sister by his side as he tried to fight for his life.

I asked the woman to call her brother so I could talk to him on the phone. She said, "I told him about you but he really didn't believe there was such an organization like The Time is Now to Help. I told him to go to your website and he couldn't believe it. He will be so surprised when I put you on the phone." She dialed the phone and after speaking to her brother for a few minutes she put me on the phone with him. I put the phone on speakerphone so the sister could hear our conversation. I introduced myself and asked the brother how he was feeling. After a few minutes of polite conversation I could hear the brother was crying. I watched as the sister heard this too and had her own tears fill her eyes. The brother said, "I try to be strong for my sister. There are many times I wanted to give up and not go through any more treatment but she has encouraged me to continue on. When I was all alone, I couldn't pay my bills and was living in constant pain I wondered why I was still here. I never thought it would be possible for my sister to move here to help me. I can't believe I have never met you yet you want to help me too. You are giving me the strength to fight again. I thought it was gone but now I have something to look forward to. God Bless you and your organization." We all were crying then and the brother was crying so hard he could no longer speak. After a minute I said, "It is time for us to wipe our tears and get to

work.” We all found it difficult to do that but there was much information I needed yet to complete our financial assistance.

After a long phone conversation I could hear the fatigue in the brother’s voice. It had been a tiring conversation reviewing all his expenses and past history. Both the sister and I said our goodbyes after many repeated “thank yous” from the brother to all of “You”. I put together a plan and timeline for the sister to get on the road as soon as possible. With our help the sister could be on the road sooner and could leave before the sale of her townhome was complete. The car was scheduled for service and rather than selling some of her belongings or paying to transport them she was going to donate them to another family in need. This left just her personal belongings and household necessities that could all fit in her car. The sister was incredulous over how quickly I put things together for her departure. I reminded her that our name is The Time is Now to Help. For the first time I saw a smile on her face as she said, “It certainly is.”

Two weeks later I called the sister to see how her move had gone. She shared her car had been very reliable and safely transported her and her belongings across the country. She said, “Thank God you had replaced my tires. I ran into many heavy rain storms on my journey but my car handled the rain and the mountains just fine. I would never have made it without your help.” I asked about her brother and the woman told me how he was struggling with the chemotherapy. She told me about some of the alternative therapies they were using and it was incredible how much they were helping him achieve a better quality of life. With our help with rent and utilities and the sisters help going forward the brother would now be able to afford some of these therapies. He also was able to eat some of the healthy food the sister prepared for him. The sister told me how they spent time every day praying and meditating. She also drove him to his daily treatments and to some group therapies she had encouraged him to join. The sister said, “The change in my brother is huge. He has gone from wanting to die to now feeling he has a chance to beat this. Thank you and your donors for making this even possible. You are incredible.” I agree, “You” are incredible. Thank you for removing the stress of poverty that hung over this man and made him lose his will to live. Secure shelter and utilities have restored this man’s hope for the future. It has rekindled his belief in a cure and in the kindness of others.

My Dear Friends, together we continue to remove the pain and suffering of poverty for our good fellow creations that need and deserve our help. I cannot do this alone. It takes all of us together. Every penny you give is used to help the poverty stricken. Thank you, thank you for your support in helping our fellow Americans in desperate need. God Bless “You” for your compassion and Caring and Sharing for God’s creations.

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, Clarence & Marilyn Schawk Family Foundation, Martin Business, Elkcast Aluminum, Rita's Wells Street Salon, Elkhorn Chemical & Packaging, Patricia Jankowski, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schuberth, Marshal & Susan Ketchpaw, Hurvey & June Haskins Jr., Laverne & Jean Reu, John & Marian McClellan, Yvonne Mol, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Lorna Klein, Sid & Patty Johnson, Marilyn Carver, Al & Rosemarie Reiherzer, John & Vickie Geier, George & Laretta Clettenberg, Duane DeYoung, Peter & Debbi Kroening, 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.

Honoraries: Mike & Natalie Reno in honor of Mike Reno's 26th Birthday.

Prayer Chain: Please pray for healing for the following people: Mike, Caroline, Susan, Jennifer, Clarence, Ryan, Jayden, Santana, Alex, Lily, Kaitlyn, Kynesha, Brandi's Grandma, Marilyn, Sal, Corinne.

Inspiration Ministries Resale Shop: Please donate your gently used household items and furniture to the Inspiration Ministries Resale Shop. 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. New hours: Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays. Please visit often knowing your support will provide life changing assistance for the fellow creations in their care. Inspiration Ministries is home for up to 80 residents that live with multiple physical and mental challenges. I thank all of you for helping. For more information visit www.inspirationministries.org.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org