

As we begin our busy holiday season filled with blessings, there are also many struggling to provide their families with basic needs. As I and my volunteers usually spend our time in both worlds we truly get to see the stark differences first hand. While my volunteers dropped off food and other necessities to those living without, some commented how they felt blessed to have their own hot meals waiting for them at home. I have shared that same feeling of disparity over the past 27 years I have been bringing our caring and sharing assistance to those in need. To remove that disparity is what drives us to continue our good works.

What helps to fuel my drive to bring our assistance to the senior citizens, the handicapped, the working poor and children in our communities, is knowing “You” are there beside me every step of the way. And that support is what has allowed us to successfully match the Richard H. Driehaus \$30,000 Matching Grant on Thanksgiving Day. How fitting to receive a call from a generous supporter that follows our good works even while visiting in California, called on Thanksgiving Day wanting to donate to our mission. His donation along with all of “Your” donations will be allowing us to receive Richard’s matching funds that will bring so much help to our fellow creations in need. We cannot express how grateful we are to have received both the Richard H. Driehaus \$30,000 Matching Grant opportunity and your donations that made this a success.

This Thanksgiving we also have been blessed to have Fox Charities once more provide us with a new matching grant opportunity. Our prayers have again been answered with the Fox Charities 2016 Christmas Wish \$25,000 Matching Grant. This matching grant is beginning immediately as their Christmas Wish is truly to inspire continued generosity to the impoverished in our communities. Just as the harsh winter months are almost upon us, when we find so many of our clients suffering due to the threat of impending homelessness and high utility bills, we have all of “You” and Fox Charities to thank for making it possible for us to provide this life changing assistance.

Some of those recently helped include a single mother that moved home to care for her mother dying from cancer. She gave up her job and moved cross country with her young daughter. Her father needed to keep working so they did not lose their health insurance so he was unable to stay home to care for his wife. When the mother passed away the father ended up losing his job due to his overwhelming grief and the employer’s inability to give him the time off he needed. They were unable to pay their rent so they were evicted. The father went to live with his brother as he slowly recovered from the loss of his wife. The single mother and daughter were living with another relative, sleeping on their couch. The single mother was looking for a job when we stepped in to offer our caring and sharing assistance.

After assessing their needs we found a two bedroom rental that would fulfill their requirements. The single mother had decided to stay in the area as her father would need her continued support. Once the mother had found a job, and we provided a reference, she was able to support herself and her daughter going forward. We provided the single mother and daughter with a security deposit and first month’s rent to help them even further. Thanks to all of “You” and the Richard H. Driehaus \$30,000 Matching Grant we were able to help this family get back on their feet once more. When they had been feeling lost and depressed,

overwhelmed by the sadness of losing their beloved mother, we were there to help remove those pains of poverty.

Another family helped due to our matching grant donors sent us a lovely thank you note full of gratitude. This family was provided a handicap accessible van as the mother suffers from a continually debilitating disease. The husband wrote, "My wife continues to fight every day to stay strong against a disease that rips you from your once strong and healthy body. You have made our life easier and enabled her to get to the doctor and be with family and friends outside our home. When you called on Sunday to inform us about the van, we had just been at church where our pastor informed us we were in our church community's prayers. A mere two hours later you called giving us the news that you had a handicap van for us. This is a testament that prayers are answered and Angels do exist. The Time Is Now to Help is truly an Angel of God and an organization that truly cares about people, and helps those in need. Thank you again for your generosity, we are forever grateful!"

For each person shared in our weekly column there are many hours of work done by our volunteers. These volunteers are busy delivering food, household necessities and sometimes just a smiling face that lets our fellow creations know that someone cares. We all work together as a team that allows victory over poverty.

While we cannot remove all pains of poverty, we certainly can help to ease those pains. We can use our energy to provide love, compassion and support. Our world is sorely in need of these attributes and I am proud to be able to share them in our communities. We feel blessed and grateful that Richard Driehaus, the Fox Charities donors, the Barnabas donors and all of "You" help us to share this love and compassion to as many of our fellow Americans as we possibly can. Our volunteers make this possible. Your donations make all this possible.

I have yet to find a day when I do not see the inequality of wealth in our world. For 27 years I have had it front and center in my life every day. What we do with the gifts we are given is a true measure of our integrity in this world. I am blessed to be surrounded by others of incredible integrity as well. I am extremely thankful for your part in making the Richard H. Driehaus \$30,000 Matching Grant a success and the many lives that will be touched by your generosity. Your donations will help us to spread the true meaning of Christmas to those most in need.

Please consider donating to the Fox Charities 2016 Christmas Wish \$25,000 Matching Grant. Your funds continue to be desperately needed to provide the poverty stricken senior citizens, the handicapped, working poor families, children and veterans in our communities with shelter assistance, utility assistance, transportation assistance, food, toiletries and the many other daily necessities. Every dollar of your donation will be matched by the Fox Charities 2016 Christmas Wish \$25,000 Matching Grant, doubling your donation and the poverty relief you provide. Please let us stand together for this fight against poverty and remove the suffering and pains from our fellow creations. 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: Barnabas Matching Grant, Fox Charities, Larry & Sally Rayner, Christine Adams, Kunes Country Auto Group, Gregg Kunes, Bess Spiva Timmons Foundation, The Harold & Bernice DeWeerd Family Foundation, Martin Business, J. Kruzan Construction & Remodeling, Lake Geneva Area Realty, Harleen Corporation, Electronic Specialties, Lake Geneva Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, ITW Foundation, Elkcast Aluminum, Thomas Getzen, Donald & Emily Henderson, Kathryn Drexler, Michael & Kathe Beach, Al & Ellen Burnell, RB SVS, Inc., Elaine Goode, David & Shirley Heigl, Herman & Elizabeth Gudeman, Gbay, Michael & Sally Anne Chier, John & Marian McClellan, Peter & Gail Niewehuis, Susan Hinske, William Kowalke, Jeanne Allen, Janet Konkel, David & Terri Kropetz, Bruce & Loretta Adsit, Sid & Patty Johnson, Carolyn May Essel, J. Pontius, Donald Lightfield, Rita's Wells Street Salon, 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: Mark & Natalie Reno in thanks for prayers answered.

Memorials: Jackie Leedle in memory of Edna Fisk. Delores Piotrowski in memory of beloved best friend Martha "Dee" Valentine and beloved parents Gene & Lottie Piotrowski. Margaret Cardiff in memory of Marty Hansen & John Mercier.

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

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 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Sundays. 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.

W.C. Food Pantry Food Drive: Williams Bay Police are hosting a nonperishable food drive for the W.C. Food Pantry and also a Toys for Tots drop-off. If you need to drop off after hours please use phone in vestibule to call officer on duty to accept donation 24/7. Williams Bay Police Department is located at 250 Williams St., Williams Bay, WI.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org