

Last week we successfully matched the Family Foundation \$30,000 Matching Grant. The generosity of many donors, combined with the generosity of the Family Foundation, has made this matching grant a life saver for many turning to The Time Is Now to Help for desperately needed assistance. We are so grateful for the giving community we live in that supports our good works to remove the pains of poverty for so many. This week we will give you a preview of where your donations have been used so far. We will share with you soon the full breakdown showing the impact we have made using 100% of your donations for our mission to help our fellow creations.

One of the first people helped with the Family Foundation \$30,000 Matching Grant and your generous donations was a grandmother raising her grandchild. The grandmother was struggling with a health problem that made her fall behind. She missed some days at work due to her illness but continues to work when her granddaughter is in school. The grandmother waits on child support from two careless parents that share a history of drug and alcohol abuse. This has put the grandmother and granddaughter in jeopardy of eviction. The grandmother also was struggling to maintain transportation with a car that needed many repairs. When we stepped in to provide our caring assistance the grandmother was doubtful we could help them. She never heard of such an organization as ours, an organization that changes lives and gives our fellow creations a hand up, not just a hand out. Thanks to our assistance with rent, food and car repairs they can now afford to stay in their apartment and keep up with their bills going forward.

We received several referrals for people in our communities suffering due to poverty. Social workers, teachers and friends stepped up to request assistance for someone in need. We looked into each situation thoroughly before our assistance was shared, assuring your donations are used for those that are truly in need. In each situation finances and expenses are reviewed, family information is gathered, jobs and assistance are verified for accuracy. Our assistance is shared where we feel most needed.

As our utility disconnection date is now in effect many are turning to us in fear of pending disconnections. Another grandmother raising her three grandchildren was in just that situation last week as her 15 year old grandson became terribly ill several months ago and ended up in Children's Hospital in Milwaukee. This medical emergency caused many trips to and from Milwaukee over the past few months, using all their funds for utilities for gas for their car and a needed car repair. Our assistance brought their utilities up to date and we also provided additional assistance with another car repair and gas gift cards for their future trips to Milwaukee.

In addition to this grandmother's car repairs, three other cars have been repaired over the past month. This includes a very important car repair for a wheelchair accessible van for one of our fellow creations living with nearly complete paralysis. We have also paid car payments for two single mothers and purchased a vehicle for a woman that was struggling to maintain her employment due to lack of reliable transportation.

A senior citizen contacted us when her furnace died in the middle of winter. She was only able to keep her mobile home interior temperature at 50 degrees with the use of a space

heater. She did not have the funds to fix the furnace or replace it. After an evaluation it was determined the furnace was not worth repairing. The senior woman did not have any family or friends to turn to in this crisis. She had no other place to live. She turned to us. Thanks to all of "You" and the Family Foundation we were able to answer her plea for assistance. We replaced the furnace and with the help from volunteers she was provided additional food, toiletries and several household necessities.

A new bed has been provided for a senior citizen that has lived a life of hardship. This woman has endured the loss of both her children at young ages and her husband after a long battle with cancer. She was left penniless after his illness and death used up their life's savings. Now she lives in government subsidized housing and was sleeping in a recliner for several years, until her apartment manager brought this woman to our attention. She is now sleeping comfortably for the first time in years and she is also very grateful for the new sheets, blankets and pillow that your donations provided. Beds were also provided for a mother and daughter that lost their belongings in a fire. They did not have renters insurance and nearly everything they owned was ruined by the smoke and water damage. When there is a life tragedy or emergency we are there to help thanks to "You". Whether it is illness, fire, job loss or a tragic life event that leads to poverty, we do our best to be there with a helping hand. Whether it is something that changes our fellow American's lives in an instant or something that takes years to lead them into the pains of poverty, we are there to ease those pains thanks to "You". All these people were helped thanks to "You" and the Family Foundation \$30,000 Matching Grant. Over the next few weeks we will be adding many more areas of assistance your donations provided. When we have completed this matching grant we will again share with you where every dollar was spent to alleviate suffering in our communities.

For the past nearly 14 years in our weekly column we have been sharing with you many of our client's lives and struggles. In that time we have helped thousands of people that were never written about or shared with anyone. They remain anonymous and their stories are untold. Many of those people touched us deeply with their resilience and the faith they kept, even when they were in the darkest moments. All of those people that have been touched by your generosity have shared with me their overwhelming gratitude for your donations that allowed our assistance. As we continue our mission thanks to all of "You", and our generous matching grant donors, our goal is to help thousands more over the coming years. We are staying steadfast in our charity work. We are strong and committed to our mission. Our goal is to keep working together to remove hunger, homelessness, hopelessness, for years to come. We hope and pray you will be with us every step of the way. We cannot do this alone.

My dear readers and friends, we have many other fellow creations that need our help and compassion. Helping our fellow creations, our Caring and Sharing, doing our good works, is life changing for those we help. God Bless all of you for making "Our" The Time Is Now to Help a beacon of hope for those in need. Together "We" need to continue to do our good works that make our mission for God a success. Together "We" make a big difference removing the pains of poverty for our fellow creations.

*Health & Happiness, Love & 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:** The Gallo Family Fund, Family Foundation, Fox Charities, Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust, Martin Business, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schuberth, Unilock, Rhoades Foundation, Freedom Plastics Foundation, Petco Foundation, Lake Geneva Petco, Sibley-Saltinstall Charitable Foundation, Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Grunow Family Fund, Brian Pollard, Mark & Sandra Schmitt, Badger FFA, Judy Dishneau, John & Marian McClellan, Shawn & Donna McLafferty, Alliant Energy Foundation, Garrett & Lisa Sullivan, John Race, Robert Sheridan, Gerald & Marilyn Wilkin, Barbara Kufalk, Stuart & Valerie Brown, Christine Jordan, Dan & Regina Mehring, Gene Sylvester, Shari & James Loback, John & Kathy Poiron, Denise Hubbard, Father Hugh Fullmer, Donald Lightfield, John & Kathy Poiron, Robert Ribordy, George & Laurette Clettenberg, 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:** Ronald & Carol Bloch in honor of Joseph Helm's Birthday.

**Prayer Chain:** The power of prayer and positive thoughts comes from the true healer, our Lord answering our prayers. Please pray for healing for the following people: Mike, Caroline, Susan, Jennifer, Clarence, Jayden, Santana, Alex, Lily, Kaitlyn, Kynesha, Brandi's Grandma, Marilyn & Lois.

**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. 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](http://www.inspirationministries.org).

Please visit: [www.timeisnowtohelp.org](http://www.timeisnowtohelp.org)