

Summer is here and that means everyone is busy with BBQ's, beaches, boating, weddings, festivals and all the good things there are to enjoy outdoors in our summer weather. While these are all great ways to spend your summer it also is when we see a typical slow down in donations. The needs of the poverty stricken are still great. In fact we see an increase in requests due to the amount of children home from school for summer break, causing a greater need for food due to not having the breakfast and lunch meal assistance provided by the schools and the added expense of child care, and the very real threat of utility disconnection.

Our friends at Fox Charities are always thinking of ways to help the poverty stricken through The Time Is Now to Help. When they heard about the slowdown in donations and the still great need in our communities they immediately said, "Let's do another matching Grant!" We feel so blessed to have such caring friends and philanthropists as Fox Charities. They truly love, encourage and support all we do.

It gives us great joy to announce the Fox Charities Summer 2017 \$25,000 Matching Grant to begin immediately. Over the years we have helped thousands of our fellow creations due to Fox Charities Matching Grants and all of "Your" matching donations. We will continue to help many more this summer thanks to Fox Charities and all of "You".

Dear W.C.,

I am a 92 year old veteran in need of some help. I let a relative move in with me and I think he was taking advantage of me. I need to move closer to the V.A. hospital because I can no longer drive into Chicago or Madison on my own. I was counting on this relative to do the driving but they ended up just using my car for their own needs until they got in an accident and it was totaled. Then he told me my rent went up and I needed to pay the increase immediately. Like an old fool I gave him cash to drop off that never made it to my landlord, who has since told me they did not raise the rent. My utilities went up drastically because he was constantly putting the a/c on cold and forgetting about it and leaving lights on. I have had to cut back on food and other necessities to pay the high utility bill. Now I found the cash I have been hiding away to pay for my move, first month's rent and security deposit has been stolen from me. I know he must have taken it because he moved out last week and did not even tell me he was leaving. I have no idea where he went. I filled out a police report but they said there is not much they can do unless he shows up again. How could I have been so foolish? I trusted this person and really thought they were moving in to help me.

Dear Readers,

Again a senior citizen is the victim of a scheme to take advantage of them. There are many heartless people out there that have no problem using a senior citizen, even a relative, and causing them great financial hardship.

I called upon this senior veteran to get a better grasp on her situation. I did not know what I was going to find so I went prepared with a bag of food and some toiletries. I stood outside the senior woman's door waiting patiently for her to open the door, assuming at her age I may have to wait a few moments longer than usual. I was surprised when the door was opened quickly by a senior woman that looked much younger than 92 years old. She stood straight and tall and didn't even use a cane to walk. After I showed her my identification and we introduced ourselves she invited me inside. I handed her the bag of food and toiletries. She looked through the bag with a mixture of eagerness and embarrassment. I could see she was not used to receiving help but she also knew she needed it. She was from the generation that did not take hand outs or accept assistance easily.

The apartment was nice and very orderly. I watched as she carefully put away the items I had brought. When I commented on how organized her apartment was the senior woman told me she had been in the military for years and was proud of being a veteran and the training she had received. I noticed a few bare spots that looked out of place, where things may have been. There were wires on a TV stand but no television. There was an empty microwave shelf and no small appliances on the counters. When I asked about these things the senior woman told me her relative had taken all these things when he had left unexpectedly. I could see both hurt and anger on her face when she spoke about all the things this relative had done.

The senior woman told me how the relative had persuaded her into thinking she needed him to live with her. The woman said, "He had me convinced I was old and feeble so I should not be living alone. The thing is I have never been feeble and I managed to live perfectly fine on my own for years, since my husband died over fifteen years ago." I was beginning to see just how sharp this woman was. Age is definitely just a number and did not apply to this woman. She even looked and acted twenty years younger than her age.

After speaking in depth about her relative, and the many ways he had taken advantage of the senior woman's trust, I asked to look over her financial information. The senior woman showed me her overdue utility bill. I could see her rent was very high and her expense for rides to and from the VA Hospital for some medical treatments was very expensive. She could live much more comfortably if she was able to move closer to her medical care and into a smaller apartment. She did not need two bedrooms, especially for other people to live in rent free. She also would benefit from living where there would be more access to public and senior transportation. My goal was to get her caught up on her bills and to help her find a

place to live that would be close to the V.A. Hospital and much more economical. Her lease was up for renewal the following month so it was perfect timing for her to move.

The senior woman told me about the place she had been planning on moving into. It was a senior citizen apartment complex that was much closer to her veteran's services and included her cable television and utilities. When I commented on her lack of a television she said, "I do miss the company and entertainment it provides. It helps me to feel less alone." I had a recent donation of a new television that I knew had to be shared with this woman. I told her we would hook it up for her in her new apartment when she moved. She looked sad and said, "Well, I can't afford to go to that apartment any longer. My relative took my money that I needed for that move." When I told her we would be providing the first month's rent and security deposit I saw a look of confusion on her face. She asked, "You would do that for me?" I told her about all of "You" and how you would want her to live where she could get by successfully on her own. The only way she could do that was if she moved. I added, "It's the least we can do for one of our veteran's. God Bless you." I saw her bravely fighting tears as she said, "God Bless you and all those people that want to help me. Thank you."

A month later this woman was moved to her new apartment. It was only ten minutes from the V. A. Hospital. While being smaller it had more amenities for her. There were social gatherings she could now attend and even other veterans she could spend time with. She commented how she had hardly even used her new television we had installed for her due to her now busy schedule. Our assistance with the overdue utilities allowed her to leave without that expense to worry about. We also provided some additional food and toiletries to help her until she was safely moved. We provided new appliances to replace those that were stolen. The help we provided allowed her to live independently and successfully.

Thank you for your continued support of the charity work we all do together. It is a group effort, a labor of love and a blessing to many suffering in poverty in our communities. Please remember the new Fox Charities Summer 2017 \$25,000 Matching Grant. Every dollar you donate will be matched by Fox Charities, doubling your donation. Thank "You" and God Bless "You".

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: Family Foundation, The Gallo Family Fund, Scott &

Lisa Stearns, Mark & Natalie Reno, Martin Business, John Stensland & Family, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schuberth, Christine Adams, Jeffrey Martin, Thomas Morrissy, Delavan United Methodist Church, Michael & Sally Anne Chier, Russo Drywall, Dale & Gail Folkers, June Davidsen, Patricia Jankowski, Father Hugh Fullmer, Joseph & Beth Pizzo, Dan & Regina Mehring, Donald & Barbara Foth, Robert & Mary Winter, William Antti, and other concert attendees, 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.

Memorials: Daniel & Donna Casey in memory of their sister Eileen. Kenneth & Patricia Sharp in memory of Vera Lawton. The estate of William & Mary Osborn, David Osborn, Valerie Lincoln and Judy Sokolowki in memory of Mary Osborn. The children of Ray Wells: Jeanne, John & Jim in memory of Mary Osborn. Gerald Neinfeldt in memory of Nancy Fraser.

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, Santina, Alex, Lily, Kaitlyn, Kynesha, Brandi's Grandma, & Marilyn.

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.

Please visit: www.timeisnowtohelp.org