



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on April 4, 2023

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The Goodness of America

“Love”

When a local community learned a struggling mom of two was walking more than an hour to her job each morning in Spring Lake, Michigan, they blessed her with incredible generosity.

Samantha Turcotte found herself without transportation after a car accident in February, WZZM reports. Without a vehicle, she had to walk more than an hour to work each day for her 5:00 a.m. shift. To make matters worse, she suffers from plantar fasciitis, which causes severe heel pain.

Turcotte’s friend tipped off 13 ON YOUR SIDE to her situation, and within hours after the outlet covered her story on February 27, members of the community came forward with donations to help her out. Turcotte said offers ranged from money to car rides to work.

One particular donation, from a man who wished to remain anonymous, proved to be life-changing. He contacted the news station to inform them that he had a \$10,000 check for Turcotte. The subject line on the check read “love.”

“Your broadcast piqued my interest, and I thought, here I am sitting here, with no worries in the world,” he told the outlet. “Your story about her opened up my heart by presenting the predicament that this lady was in, and I said I’ve got to do something.”

He said he was moved by Turcotte’s commitment and devotion to her children.

“She couldn’t do that hour and a half walk in the ice and snow if she didn’t have the love in her heart for those two kids,” he added.

He asked the station to pass along a message to Turcotte.

“Samantha, I know it’s been a trauma for you, but I want you to know that there are people out there in the world who hold you very sacred,” he said. “Jesus loves you, and God made us all to love one another.”

“I know I don’t know you, but I still love you, and I love what you represent,” he added, “and I can see that you are a great woman, and a great mother.”

Turcotte was in disbelief at the man’s kindness. She noted that his surprise was serendipitous, as a local dealership had just contacted her to say if she could come up with some money, they’d be sure to have a vehicle for her.

She noted that, thanks to the incredible generosity of the anonymous stranger, she will be able to get a better vehicle that requires less “fixing-up.”

“To this wonderful person,” she told WZZM, “thank you. This means so much.”

River Rescue

Stopping along the Potomac River in Washington, D.C., to enjoy the view and wait out a traffic jam gave Jelani Clayton the opportunity to become a hero.

Along Ohio Drive SW on March 3, Clayton pulled over to get out of frustrating traffic and take in the sights.



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"I love the view," Clayton said. "That's why I came down here, because if you see the view of the city over there, I think it's beautiful."

He spotted something in the water and quickly realized it was a woman. Her jacket was zipped closed and covering her face.

"I did not realize it was a person," Clayton said. "I thought it was an animal or some trash, and as I got closer, the person whimpered."

Without thinking twice, Clayton jumped into the icy cold river and dragged her out of the water before calling 911 for help. Thankfully, the woman is expected to make a full recovery.

It remains unclear how the woman ended up in the river, but Clayton's actions likely saved her life, according to Vito Maggiolo of DC Fire and EMS.

"She was getting very hypothermic, and she could have easily, within a matter of minutes, gone under, and we would have lost her if it wasn't for his efforts," he said.

Clayton is hopeful his story will inspire others to help those in need, NBC Washington reports.

"Humanity still exists. It could have been easy for me to walk away," Clayton said. "Nobody was here; nobody was around. I could have left, but the humanity in me said that that's a person in need, that's a person who needs help."

Tie Tuesday

Chicago second-grade teacher Daniel Jackson does something truly unique to help prepare his students for a strong future: He holds a weekly event called "Tie Tuesday" to teach his students how to dress and behave professionally and "show them a different side of the world."

Each Tuesday, Jackson has his students come to Dixon Elementary School dressed to impress, an event that brings people from all over the school to his class to see how the students are dressed.

"I've been at Dixon for five years," he explained in a video released by Chicago Public Schools (CPS), "and each one of my students has had the opportunity to learn how to tie ties but also show their own professionalism."

For Jackson, Tie Tuesday is an important chance for students to learn life skills such as tying a tie, something he learned from his grandfather.

At the start of the school year, Jackson teaches the boys and girls how to tie a tie. He believes Tie Tuesday will help his students "learn how to be professionals."

The students are excited to participate in this neat tradition. The CPS video shows the students talking about what they like about it.

"When I wear my tie, I feel I am a businessman," one student said.

"Tie Tuesday helped me in class by motivating me to keep my grades up," another explained.

The custom has become so influential that students reportedly continue to wear ties after leaving second grade, Breitbart News reported.

Fifth-grader Aden Redmon told Fox 32 Chicago, "It makes me feel better about myself sometimes and if my classmates do it, they feel better about themselves too."



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And parents at the school are so supportive of Tie Tuesday that they have begun to donate ties to the program.

Jackson is hopeful that students will continue to carry on his tradition and embrace the lessons he is hoping it teaches.

“I would like this to be a legacy,” he said.



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