

A Miracle in Ponca City: The Matthiessen Family Story

When a hidden water leak sent the Matthiessen family's utility bills soaring above \$4,000, they faced the very real threat of losing the home they had worked so hard to keep. With Michelle disabled and her husband Jay a loyal employee for over 13 years, hope was slipping away as code enforcement prepared to board up their house.

Lisa Lee Martin, of RM Entertainment Channel and Raman-Martin Film Productions, saw their quiet plea on a Facebook post. Sensing urgency, Lisa reached out to a compassionate code enforcement officer who allowed time for the community to rally.

Amanda, the motivator in Kay County Community Helpers, energized residents and volunteers using Facebook posts and personal outreach. Local helper Austin Gerry stepped forward and donated his plumbing skills. Yvonne Pendley Wehrle, a RE/MAX Signature real estate agent in Ponca City, contributed not just encouragement but contributions to buy much-needed parts for repairs. Businesses like Savvy Cactus Mercantile, Newkirk, Marcie Meyer, and All About Trees owner Freddy Kawik gave support. Adam Meeks from M.E.A.N. Advertising shared network help, contributions and fundraising, while out-of-state donor Glenda Derveloy of DepoNet Solutions added a generous contribution.

The Ponca City Utility Company responded with empathy—crediting \$850 from the original \$4,155 bill after reviewing the leak's impact. Community donations and GoFundMe gifts filled the gap, bringing in heaters, a mini refrigerator, cleaning supplies, and food. Other local businesses and churches donated quietly, ensuring the Matthiessen family would not lose their home. Family Resource Center's Chrissy was the catalyst to church information and Facebook's Kay County Community Helpers. Avenue of Hope at donated a heater until gas can be turned back on.

What began as one neighbor's act of compassion became a true Ponca City miracle—proof that when local businesses, service professionals, and ordinary citizens join hands, extraordinary help is possible.

Today, the Matthiessens are safe, home, and hopeful thanks to the kindness of their community.

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone and don't forget to help others!

Contact Kay County Community Helpers group on Facebook if interested in helping The Matthiessen Family restore their gas for heat and hot water.