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**Benevolent**

*Make a difference in someone's life.*

Help a person who has encountered a hurdle along the path to stability and success. Each need has been verified by professionals at community-serving organizations.

Meet the people who need your support ↓



**Car repairs so I can look for employment**

Member: Grace  
 Validator: Patricia, Bethel New Life

I need to get my car repaired so I can have a reliable source of transportation to look for and get to and from work. More

**\$300** of \$300

5 supporters  
 Needed by 1/13/2012

[Support](#)

**Benevolent:** This Chicago startup, founded in August by CEO Megan Kashner of Evanston, puts a social-media twist on philanthropy. The site focuses on helping individuals, whose needs are verified by non-profit groups. The need is listed at **Benevolent.net**, which collects money via a crowd-funding model. Finally, donations go to the non-profit, which helps out the needy individual. Two early examples of how Benevolent works: Eight donors contributed a total of \$280 to an unemployed nursing assistant, helping her buy three months of CTA passes so she could attend GED classes and apply for jobs. And 11 donors gave \$430 to a single mother who works part time at a university dining hall so she could buy a bed for herself and her son. Benevolent's initial non-profit partners include Bethel New Life, Community Counseling Centers of Chicago, the Cara Program and Family Focus. Ms. Kashner is the former executive director for the Taproot Foundation and a licensed clinical social worker.