



Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2018

A Message from the Executive Director



While the number of homeless people in Pasadena is still rising at far too fast a rate, the good news is that the success and forward progress of FID in the past quarter has been tremendous. I want to share a few of the things that are brewing for the rest of the year and into 2019.

We are now operating out of a second location, which is exciting! It offers new opportunities for staffing and volunteering. Our Street Outreach team is already operating from the new location, and we have room now to have this program reach its full potential.

With the new space, we also have fresh opportunities at FID House. We are strengthening the current programs, particularly the Food Pantry and the Women's Room. Going into 2019, we are excited that the entire second floor of FID House can now be dedicated to the Women's Room - two newly vacated offices will be used to expand programming for the women. Marlene and her team are already setting up a multi-purpose room in one, and the other will house a library/reading room.

We want to finish the year strong so we can enter 2019 in a good place to not just continue operating our programs, but also improve and enhance them.

Thank you for all your help and support!

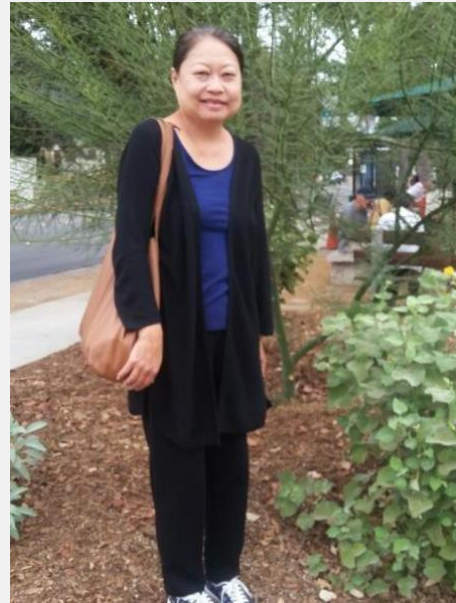
Rabbi Joshua
Executive Director

Stories from the Programs



Tim Nistler, our Food Pantry Director, recalls a phone call he received from a very sweet 93-year-old woman called Ellen. A resident of San Gabriel, she had called to see if she qualified for our food pantry. Tim was horrified: "At 93 yrs, the last thing you should have to be worrying about is whether you have enough to eat!"

The good news is, she did qualify to get food at Friends In Deed. But we suspect Tim would have found some way of helping her anyway.



Newly housed Women's Room client Meg answers questions about what it's like to finally have somewhere to live:

What's the best thing about having a new home?

Peace of mind, for sure! It's great to have my own bedroom. I'm adjusting faster than I imagined.

What would you say to other women in the position you were in?

Be open to the possibilities that are out there. It's important not to be too picky! Getting good housing is so difficult.

Tell us about one thing that has surprised you.

A TWR volunteer made a handmade piece of furniture for me. This really touched me! She's never even met me.

It is through your generosity that we are able to provide these programs and other services

DONATE



For Your Calendar

18th November: Operation Gobbler: Thanksgiving for food pantry clients (signups during pantry hours Oct 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Nov 1).

20th November: Thanksgiving Meal for Women's Room Clients 1-3:30pm.

16th December: Christmas for the Kids for children of food pantry clients 12-3pm (registration during pantry hours Oct 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Nov 1).

18th December: Holiday Party for Women's Room clients. If anyone would like to donate 50-60 bottles of pleasant-smelling hand/body lotion as gifts for the ladies, please talk to Marlene, 626-797-2402.

We are able to put on these events as a result of your generosity. Thank you!

Volunteer Spotlight



Sharon Cockroft helps out in the Food Pantry. She says what drew her to the program was her own interest in nutrition combined with the opportunity to provide food for people who need it. Her depth of knowledge about food is very useful in the pantry where she finds she often gets asked "Sharon, what *is* this?" about some mystery vegetable. She can also advise clients on how to cook the food they choose.

One of Sharon's favorite memories is the time two Asian ladies who spoke very little English (but who did have a language in common) joined forces to help each other communicate to get the food they needed. The two women bonded over the experience and Sharon thought this epitomized the spirit of Friends In Deed: "*Doing together what we cannot do alone.*"

Pamela Warrick is a Women's Room volunteer who found us through the "action tables" at All Saints Church. She had retired and was looking for an opportunity to help people where she would be able to immediately see the results of what she does.

When asked what keeps bringing her back to the Women's Room, Pamela says it's the desserts! But she also says that the opportunity to meet with our clients, many of whom are working so hard to find safe housing for themselves and their families, is really important to her.



Pamela talks about an incident on a hot day last summer. A woman literally stumbled into the Women's Room – barefoot, dirty, and wearing only a garbage bag. She was hungry and confused and didn't seem to know what

had happened to her clothes. The team swung into action and organized clothes, underwear, shoes, food, and a shower. Pamela says it was deeply encouraging to be able to meet that urgent need.

Meet a Board Member



Jonathan Webster grew up in Pasadena and started working at Caltech right out of college – he now runs the food services there. He's an avid cyclist and just returned from an eight day tour of the Sierra Nevada.

Jonathan feels like he interacts with the top one percent at Caltech and he needed something in his life to balance that out – to contribute to the other side of the scales. He has spent his career growing a set of businesses, which means he is well positioned to provide advice to Rabbi Joshua and the board on how to prepare our exponentially growing organization for the future.

The Homelessness 101 event was Jonathan's idea – and he was excited by people's reactions to the event. He is passionate about helping people understand the nuances of the issues we are working to fix.

November 16th - December 1st, 2018
Fair Trade Holiday Shopping to Benefit:

Friends In Deed

Shop for handmade fair trade gifts at
Ten Thousand Villages and they will donate
15% of your entire purchase back to us!!!

Kickoff Party November 16, 6:00pm
567 S. Lake Avenue Pasadena, CA 91101.

Join us for refreshments
and music to start off our
two week holiday benefit shopping!
Any purchase that evening also enters our
organization in a chance to win
an additional \$200 donation!!!



pasadena.tenthousandvillages.com | 626.229.9892





Did You Know?

If you are 70½ or older, the required minimum distribution from your IRA account can be distributed directly to Friends in Deed, providing several tax advantages for you while bringing help and hope to people in Pasadena! Donating through your IRA allows you to give pre-tax assets that would otherwise be counted as taxable income. It frees up your cash flow for other things and is quick and easy to do - just notify your IRA administrator.



Jazz on the Green was attended by nearly 400 people, and, thanks to your generosity, it raised over \$130,000!

This will allow us to continue the work we do to support low-income and homeless families and individuals in the greater Pasadena area.



A Message from the Board President



What an amazing evening on September 26th! Our annual Jazz on the Green was the most successful to date. The crowd listened to the smooth jazz of LosAKAtombros while enjoying food and drinks under the market lights at Castle Green. The evening continued with our silent auction, and guests filled the venue with laughter, fellowship and smiles. ([Click here for event photos.](#))

We celebrated this year's honorees: Hercules Forwarding, St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Rhonda Stone. All three honorees are very deserving and have made tremendous contributions to Friends In Deed.

I personally want to thank all our sponsors, attendees, vendors and volunteers for making this year's event so special. Lastly a heartfelt thank you to Stacy, Kathy, Sonya and Pam, board members, for leading this year's JAZZ committee.

See you next year for our 125th Anniversary Celebration!!!

Richard Cheung
Board President

PROGRAMS

The Women's Room (TWR) Daytime shelter for homeless and at-risk women

The Food Pantry - Dignified grocery shopping experience for 350+ households weekly

The Bad Weather Shelter (BWS) Weather-activated shelter offers a hot meal and warm cot for up to 140 guests

Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) Short- and medium-term rental support to prevent eviction

Street Outreach - Team of workers on the streets engaging with our neighbors experiencing homelessness and connecting them to services

STAFF

Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater, Executive Director
Marty Campolo, Director of Finance and Grants
Marlene Martinez, Program Director (TWR)
Tim Nistler, Program Director (Pantry)
William Shelby, Program Director (BWS), Supervisor (Street Outreach)
Monica Cardenas-Ochoa, Program Manager (HPP)
Jane Armbruster, Program Associate (TWR)
Brandon McGuckin, Program Associate (Pantry)
Denisse Mirkin, Case Manager (TWR)
Rev. Donna Byrns, Community Liaison
Najwa Payton Jones, Street Outreach Worker
Daryl Johnson, Street Outreach Worker
Helen Angove, Administrative Assistant
Julia Moreno Perri, Development Coordinator
Doug Haught, Security & Grounds
Monica Ayres, Laundry Assistant
Coty Dietel, Food Pantry Aide

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