Dear FID Community,

We are back - Happy 2020! I hope that everyone had a nice holiday period and feels refreshed to get back to the work of caring for the most vulnerable in our community. Even though the offices and most of our programs were closed, our Bad Weather Shelter was open a bunch of nights in the last 10 ten days, with the largest group being 67 people. A big thank you to BWS Director William Shelby, Assistant Director Rachel McHenry, all of the staff, and the wonderful volunteers who served our clients during the holiday season, including Christmas Eve. I know folks were grateful to have a few nights with a hot meal and a warm place to sleep.

Pastor Connie and members of Altadena Baptist Church and St Elizabeth Church volunteering at the Bad Weather Shelter

I am happy to say that, thanks to so many people’s generous contributions, we surpassed our Winter Appeal goal of $100,000! This is so helpful for us - to end the year strong, add money to our reserves, and prepare us for the new year that has started. If you gave any amount, be it $25 or $5,000, every dollar matters, so thank you! If you haven’t given, then please give now and we can start 2020 off with a bang.

As we begin the new year, I am committed to speaking even more in the community, especially in congregations. In
addition to me reaching out directly, you can help by asking your clergy leaders if I can come to speak, either during a service (I give a pretty good sermon), or to a mission committee, community breakfast, forum, or any other opportunity. Please email me and we can follow up.

The Pantry and Street Outreach staff tell me that we need a restocking of water to meet demand. If you can, please drop off a few cases to FiD House during business hours.

We are looking forward to continuing our work of caring for the most needy and vulnerable in our community, partnering with you to share the compassion, connection and dignity that everyone deserves. Here's to another year of "doing together what we cannot do alone!"

Blessings, and have a lovely weekend,
Rabbi Joshua

PS. The annual Pasadena 2020 Homeless Count is coming up on Jan 21, and they need volunteers! More information and signups [here](#).

As always, we can only operate with your help!
Interfaith Study Group
Sunday, January 12th, from 5 to 7:30 pm.
“Helping People Experiencing Homelessness”

“Insanity or Creativity” with Rabbi Joshua Grater
“From Street to Advocacy” with Dorothy Edwards

ALL SAINTS CHURCH
132 North Euclid Avenue, Pasadena 91101
PLEASE BRING AN OPEN HEART, A MIND WILLING TO LISTEN AND LEARN AND A VEGETARIAN DISH TO SHARE IN OUR POTLUCK.
For information, contact Ada Ramirez, (626) 583-2734, ARamirez@allsaints-pas.org
All Saints Church Pasadena, Islamic Center of So. Cal. & Pasadena Jewish Temple
Long-term and valued FID supporter Ingrid Kuo is opening a new Nothing Bundt Cakes location! 20% of sales go to Friends In Deed at their grand opening on January 11.
Thanks to Trinity Lutheran Church for providing a meal at the Bad Weather Shelter!

Yoga Works hands over the results of their food drive
Rabbi Joshua and his wife Franci spend the first night of Hanukkah helping at the Bad Weather Shelter

Santa visits the Bad Weather Shelter staff! (And nobody could deserve it more - these people are definitely not on the naughty list!)
Members of First Lutheran Church, Temple City, help out at the Pantry.

Volunteers from Food Forward Harvest Pickup with the fruits of their labors ready to be delivered to the Pantry!
New Year's Day volunteers in the Pantry

Debbie and Robert from the Society of St Vincent de Paul at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church with a huge donation of hams!
Father Philip and volunteers from Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church at the Bad Weather Shelter

And a delicious and hearty meal on a cold night
Thank you to Mak, whose patrol in Scout Troop 507 collected these bags of essential supplies for our homeless neighbors!