

Dear FID Community,

I want to begin by sharing the words of one of our former guests, a woman that we have not seen in many years. She wrote this poem, which was shared with me by FID board member Jackie Knowles, several years ago. Sadly, its sentiments ring true today. Read this poem, share it with others, let its message sink in. And, when you see one of the nearly 600 folks experiencing homelessness on our streets, perhaps imagine that it applies to them as well.

Lost and Found By Rose Vasquez

You know there's a lost and found for many things. There's a lost and found for my keys if I lose them at Von's Market.

There's a lost and found at LAX for my luggage if lost. There's a lost and found at Pasadena High School when my kids lose their books.

There's a lost and found for everybody's cats and dogs out on the street.

There's about a hundred or thousands of lost and found for everything and at almost every place.

But there's no lost and found for a human being.

I'm lost and I can't find my way home.

I have no home.

And no one's looking for me.

So will I always be lost?

Last week, I wrote about the serious challenges involved in providing rental assistance to those people facing evictions. Thank you to those who answered the call and gave donations to support this program. If you are so moved, <u>Lask</u> <u>you to consider making a donation this week</u>. Every dollar helps in providing the (average of) \$2,000 we give per family to keep that family housed for another month.



Rabbi Marvin Gross

Finally, as most of you know by now, we lost a giant in our community this week - Rabbi Marv Gross. Marv was the CEO of Union Station for 20 years, a fierce advocate for the most needy, a voice of conscience and moral persuasion, a man who dedicated his life for the betterment of his community and the world. Marv was a personal friend and mentor of mine, and he was one of the main people who encouraged me to pursue this position at Friends In Deed. His guidance and counsel were invaluable to me in the early days and months of starting this job. He touched the lives of so many, and he will be sorely missed. Having just returned from his funeral, which was attended by hundreds of people, and having heard his family and teacher speak, I realize his legacy and works in this world are even larger than I ever knew. May his soul be bound up in the bond of life, may he rest in peace, and may his family find strength and comfort in this time.

And, as we observe Veterans Day this weekend, we give thanks to all who have served, and who continue to serve, our nation. May those who died in that service be remembered for their courage and dedication.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend, Rabbi Joshua



PS. Our popular Breakfast Bites program is back! If you or your organization are interested in providing breakfast snacks and drinks for our clients outside the Pantry any Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, please call Helen at 626-797-2402 ext 201, or email <u>office@friendsindeedpas.org</u>.

PPS! Don't forget the 125th anniversary tours of our programs

at FID House on the second Thursday of the month, 10-11 am. Contact Helen (see above) to sign up.

As always, we can only operate with your help!





Our thanks go to all those who participatedin <u>Pasadena Crop Walk</u>! Pictured here: members of Christ the Shepherd Church, including FID volunteer Zetta Robinson



More Crop Walk participants - Rev. Mitchell Young, with members of Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church



And Rabbi Joshua with Rev. Sandy Olewine of First United Methodist Church, also enjoying the Crop Walk



FID's Rev. Donna speaks at the Friends In Deed Clergy Lunch, hosted by Throop Unitarian Universalist Church



Street Outreach Team Najwa and Scott visited Pasadena High School to speak to a class of 10th Graders



Many thanks to the guests of The Women's Room who helped put together packets of holiday cards in preparation for all the upcoming alternative



Thanks to Pasadena Central Library for giving us display space for a special 125th anniversary exhibit about Friends In Deed!



And a big thank you to FID volunteer Elisia Farmer for organizing the displays!



