

FRIENDS IN DEED *



Dear Friend,

The stories I share each week, be they about a woman getting housed, a pantry family receiving food for the first time, a single mom getting help so she and her kids aren't evicted, or a homeless vet getting attention and essential supplies on the street – none of these moments in the lives of real human beings are possible without your help and support, so thank you!

We are at the end of year, the time where we count on each and every one of you to share your generosity with Friends In Deed. By now, you should have received your year-end appeal letter – we are so grateful for the hundreds that have already donated! Our hope is that everyone reading this can contribute whatever you can, as every dollar counts. As an example, I opened an envelope this week that had a check for \$100 and \$4 in cash. A young girl wrote that she was adding to her family's contribution with some of her own allowance money. We are grateful for that family instilling charitable values at such a young age.



Last night, the Jewish community began the celebration of Hanukkah – eight nights of lighting our menorahs, singing songs, and eating lots of fried foods. There are many teachings about the holiday, but the one that is most important to me, especially at this time when so many are suffering, is that we increase the light each night. There was a debate between ancient rabbis about whether to start with eight candles lit and end with one, or light one and end with eight. The decision is the latter, that we start with one and increase the light each night, ending with eight bright lights shining into the darkness. And we certainly need as much light as possible right now. So, happy Hanukkah to all celebrating!

I look forward to being with the League of Women Voters tomorrow night during their Winter Wonderland virtual party.

Blessings, have a safe and lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



PS: HAMS for the HOLIDAYS! We have five more distribution days left in 2020 and we know our community would enjoy a ham for the holidays. If you would like to donate a ham for the community, we would appreciate it. Hams could be dropped off at our 444 E. Washington Blvd. address on Saturday December 12 and Friday and Saturday, December 18 and 19, from 8:30am to 3:30pm. If you have any questions, please email Stacey at pantryassociate@friendsindeedpas.org. Thank you!

We can only operate with your help!

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San Gabriel Panhellenic Society purchased lunch for The Women's Room! A variety of subway sandwiches, cookies, chips, juice, and water bottles. Picture here, Linda Golskin from the Panhellenic Society with TWR Associate Jane.

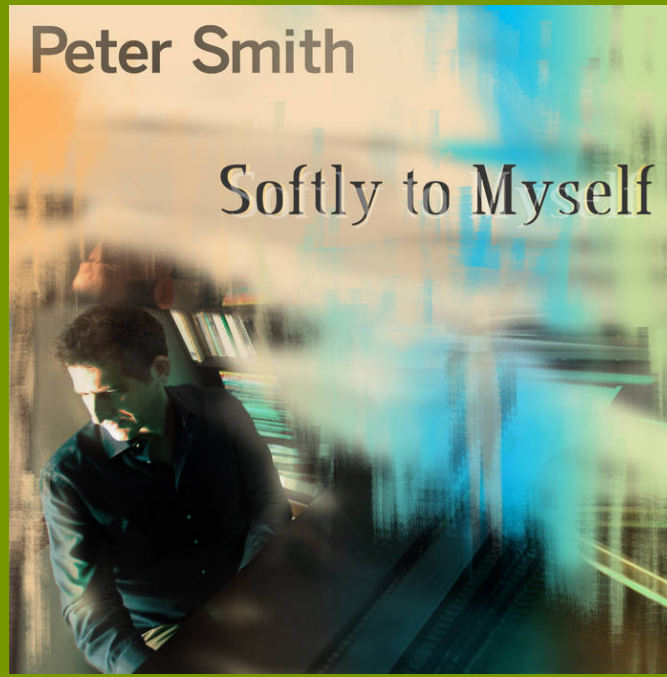


They also provided us with 25 gift baggies for our holiday party next Thursday!



Doug and Coty (Security and Pantry Assistant, respectively) don't make it into our photos very often, but they are a tremendously

important part of our FID team! Thank you, guys!



Huge thanks to LA musician and FID supporter [Peter Smith](#), who is donating to us from the proceeds of an album he has recorded in memory of his mother. The album may be purchased/downloaded [here](#).

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**