



Dear FID Community,

I don't often get stories or anecdotes from the Food Pantry as, in order to serve the nearly 340 households that visit us each week, people come in and out at a good pace. But Tim was able to share this about one of the regular clients:

"Our food pantry community knows their way around the kitchen. You can tell by the foods they pick up when shopping and the fact that we distribute between 1,500 and 2,000 lbs of fresh fruits and vegetables every week. But there is another way to know - and that is when someone from the pantry community prepares homemade food for the staff and volunteers on the day they come to get food. For many months now, it has been Helen, one of our senior-age Chinese women. One week she will bring chow mein, then next it will be fried rice, and then the next week something different. And it is delicious. They give back to us as we give to them. We are a blessed community."



Stacey in the Food Pantry storeroom this week
with LDS missionaries Sister Williams and Sister
Hernandez

And Debbie, our Homelessness Prevention Manager, shared these details about a woman I mentioned last week:

"N. wakes up early every morning - she works hard and long hours at a local supermarket, cooking every day. Her husband works odd jobs here and there because he is not allowed to work due to his legal status. They have been struggling to pay the rent every month. They have children, and one was born with a defect that would need surgeries from time to time. These surgeries have caused N. to take time out of work to care for their son, at times leaving her with fewer hours at work and a shortfall on rent.

We met last year and FID helped her and her family with rental assistance. When I called N. to follow up and hear how they were doing, she was late on rent again and needed more assistance. We set up a time to talk, and during our case management time together we revisited the conversation that they either needed to move into a more affordable apartment or N. should look for a new job. However, over the next few months, N.'s current landlord noticed her determination to work hard for her family. To N.'s surprise, her landlord offered her an opportunity to become a landlord at another location and live in an apartment rent free."

Thanks to the combination of keeping the family housed through rental assistance, and case management to follow up on conversations and ideas, N. and her family are on the

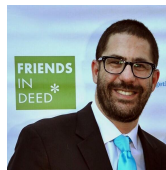
road to financial and housing security.

[It is only with your generous support and contributions](#), for which we are so grateful, that we are able to help people, and share these wonderful stories of real human beings. Please give generously!

A reminder that FID programs and offices will be closed on Monday for Presidents' Day. At this moment of crisis in our country, this day takes on a greater sense of urgency and will hopefully lead to continued action, both on the large and small scales. As Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel famously said, "...morally speaking, there is no limit to the concern one must feel for the suffering of human beings; that indifference to evil is worse than evil itself; that in a free society, some are guilty, but all are responsible." This speaks to so many current issues, including our neighbors residing on the streets and those living with housing and food insecurity. And another famous Jewish aphorism also applies: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?"

Finally, I look forward to being at Neighborhood Church this Sunday at the 9:30 and 11am services!

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,
Rabbi Joshua



P.S. [Reserve your bike now](#) for our Spin Class fundraising event on Feb 23rd! Details below.

P.P.S. Also see below for a Homeless Town Hall event on Thursday Feb 27 at 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Ahiah Center

As always, we can only operate with your help!

DONATE

SPIN FOR

FRIENDS
IN
DEED *

Come join us for a fun ride to benefit Friends In Deed at **SoulCycle Pasadena!**

Get ready for 45 minutes of sweat and fun!
Don't miss out on this fun event!

***Sunday,
Feb. 23rd
2:00pm***

**class begins at 2:00pm – new
riders must arrive by 1:30pm*



Reserve your bike now!

(Donations also accepted)

<https://tinyurl.com/spinforfid>

All proceeds will benefit Friends In Deed's programs – Food Pantry, Bad Weather Shelter, The Women's Room, Street Outreach and Homeless Prevention Programs.

www.friendsindeedpas.org

SOULCYCLE

TOWN HALL

PASADENA HOMELESS SOLUTIONS

THURSDAY FEB. 27, 2020

6:30 – 8:30PM

AHIAH CENTER, 150 N. EL MOLINO, 91101



TELEPHONE

626-795-4216



Guest speakers and open dialogue

Come out and share. Hear what our community is doing to alleviate homelessness in Pasadena

A community collaboration

with speakers:

FRIENDS IN DEED

Rabbi Joshua
Levine Grater

“Homeless
Prevention”

LAKE AVENUE CHURCH

“Homeless
Outreach Ministry”

UNION STATION HOMELESS SERVICES

Shawn Morrissey

“Housing First”

HOUSING COALITION

Anthony Manousos &
Jill Shook - “Making
Housing Happen”



Happy Valentine's Day! A cake for The Women's Room



Volunteer Brooke helps blind TWR guest Portia create a candy house



TWR guest Miriam, with her completed house, and volunteer Kathleen Vallee Stein, who organized the gingerbread house activity for our guests



FID staff at the Bad Weather Shelter (a volunteer night for many of them)



FID board and staff take a break from dinner prep in the BWS kitchen



Girl Scout Troop 5151 (Sophie, Megan, Naomi and Makenna)



Another Girl Scout Troop helping in the pantry - Troop 5001



Jennipha of Garfield District Neighborhood Association provides Breakfast Bites for our pantry clients (and plans to continue doing so regularly!)



Students from Chandler School help out in the pantry

