



Dear Friend,

Deon is 54 years old – but when he was 38 years old he worked in the San Fernando Valley for a construction company. In a workplace accident he sustained a fractured fibula, torn rotator cuff, and back injury, and he lost his job. He did get unemployment for a bit, but it ran out.

Since Deon couldn't work, he moved to Pasadena where his mom lived. After a couple of years, Deon's mom moved, leaving him behind. Since he couldn't work he fell into depression. For the next few years he slept on friends' couches, until that was no longer an option. Then he began living on the streets of Pasadena.

He says now that, even though the COVID pandemic is a devastating event, in his case it was a blessing. He found out about Friends In Deed and was able to reach out to Najwa even though she was working from home at the time. This was when the City of Pasadena started their Emergency Motel Program, and Friends In Deed was able to enroll him in this. Deon says now he can finally start to find meaning in his life once again. And, earlier this week, he was able to move into his own apartment, starting the next chapter of his life!



This is another success story; and, just like the others I have shared, it can only happen with your support and dedication. It is YOU that is having the impact on Deon's life. So, we want to thank you so much, as last week's Jazz on the Screen, culminating in our fun Saturday video event, raised nearly \$177,000! We are blown away by the generosity of everyone who participated. A huge shout-out to our sponsors, donors, those who donated and purchased auction items – we are so grateful. As always, something like this couldn't happen without a behind-the-scenes team, so thank you to Richard, Stacy, Helen, and Tim, and to Ian Campbell, who made all the videos. We rocked it! See the link below to watch the [Saturday night event](#).

And, as an extra special surprise, we have made a new FID video to say [THANK YOU](#). We hope you enjoy it and know how much you are appreciated.

It is going to be scorching hot this weekend, leaving our most vulnerable neighbors in potential danger. Please try to hand out cold water and other supplies if you possibly can.

Finally, this is Labor Day weekend, so thank you to all the laborers who make our country what it is. We owe you more than we offer now, so let's work for a more equitable and fair society, treating all workers with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Blessings, have a safe and lovely long weekend. Stay cool!

Rabbi Joshua



PS - auction winners, don't forget you can pick up your items at 444 E. Washington Boulevard tomorrow, September 5, 3-5 pm. If this doesn't work for you, please contact Helen at 626 797 2402 ext 201 or [office@friendsindeedps.org](mailto:office@friendsindeedps.org) to make alternative arrangements.





We can only operate with your help!

DONATE

LEARN ABOUT PLANNED GIVING



Jazz on the Screen goes live at the pantry!



The Cheung and Grater double act!



Deon signs the lease for his new apartment





And he's in his new home!



Kathy and Devante with a donation of much-needed pantry staples

- pasta, tomato sauce, and rice. Thank you!



Tim snaps a quick selfie before the Jazz on the Screen live event

**BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER**