



Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

As we end this week, I am thrilled to share another success story from our programs. We are working hard on integration of and collaboration between our programs, and today's story is a great example. Please allow me to introduce you to Lillian.

As someone who was raised to be independent and strong, Lillian did everything right. She had savings, part time work, benefits, and her life was running smoothly. Then the pandemic came; her work dried up and her benefits were not enough to cover her rent. After she lost her housing, she moved into motels, but eventually she ran out of money and found herself on the streets.

Lillian paints a vivid word picture of ending up in Pasadena's Central Park with almost nothing except her two dogs and a list of phone numbers to try and find help. It was a culture shock to suddenly find herself in the company of a community of folks experiencing long-term homelessness - fortunately, she says, they were very kind and helpful, even if some of them were "characters."

After encountering our Street Outreach team in the park, Lillian found her way to The Women's Room (TWR). She is effusive about TWR - the homemade food, the kindness of the staff and volunteers, and the fact that she was given an incentive gift card for getting her COVID vaccine, which was a real windfall.



We were able to put Lillian - and her dogs - in a motel for a little while, and she is now transitioning to supportive housing, with a promise of permanent housing in the future. Her new home even has its own outdoor area for dogs, so the faithful companions who stuck with her all through the trauma of homelessness - Fancy the poodle and Peaches the Chihuahua - will have everything they need.

A big shout-out and kudos to the TWR staff and the Street Outreach and Housing staff, not only for helping Lillian to get the care and love she needed in a time of great distress, but also for working together to find a solution - we are thrilled for Lillian, Fancy, and Peaches!

Are you moved by Lillian's story? Do you want to help us to help more people like Lillian? If the answer is yes (which I assume it is, with this amazing community!), please don't hesitate or wait to give a gift - [do it today; do it right now;](#) why wait? Can I get an amen!?

Finally, as we begin a new month, we are getting ready to unveil our new website and I am working on the first episodes of a new FID podcast. So stay tuned!

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,
Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Join the Legacy Society

Get Social



Student Nurses

Sarah and Abbie from the Azusa Pacific School of Nursing are joining our FID Street Outreach & Housing team this semester!

[Read more](#)



Live Music at the Pantry!

Goh, one of our steadfast volunteers, gave a little impromptu concert for some of the other volunteers recently.

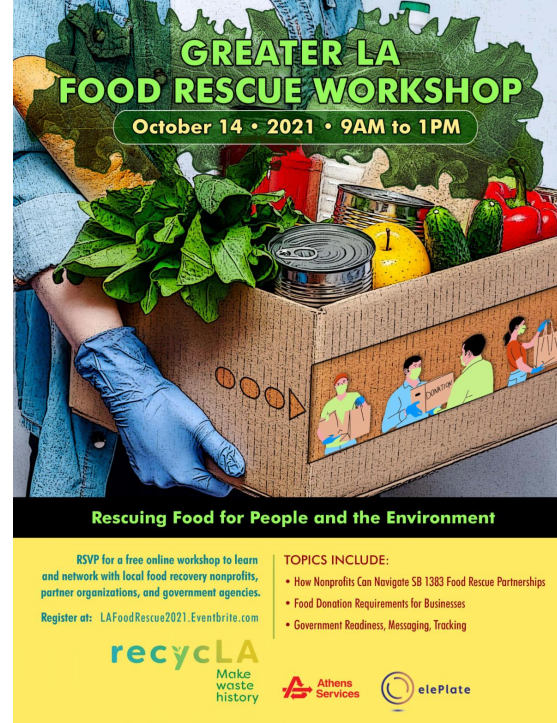
[Read more](#)

News and Events

Food Rescue Workshop

Athens Services and recycLA are holding an online food rescue workshop, Oct 14, 9am - 1pm.

Restaurants, caterers, grocers, hotels, hospitals, entertainment facilities, faith-based organizations, schools, government agencies, avid food rescue volunteers and advocates, and nonprofits engaged in food rescue and recovery are all invited to attend. Click on the photo for more information.



2021 Nonprofit of the Year!

Friends In Deed was chosen as a 2021 California Nonprofit of the Year!

[Read more about this prestigious award](#)

Friends In Deed is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. We embrace and celebrate the spectrum of our employees', volunteers', and clients' ages, color, ability or disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, neurodiversity, and other characteristics that make our employees, volunteers, and clients unique.

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