

Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

In honor of Veteran's Day, I want to share a story about a gentleman whom we were able to assist recently.

Khari is a U.S. Navy veteran, honorably discharged after two and a half years of service as a hospital combat medic specializing as an ophthalmic technician. Despite having considerable skills and experience he has struggled, since leaving the navy, to find the career path that is right for him. But Khari is a proactive individual, and he decided to take his future into his own hands by moving to California.

Unfortunately the move didn't quite pay off. Khari's military career has taught him to plan and prepare and he had faith in his own resourcefulness and fortitude, but it is a sign of how hard it can be at the moment, for someone starting in life, that this wasn't quite enough. He found himself stranded and homeless in California without the resources to get back on his feet.

It was at this point he made contact with Angel from Friends In Deed's Street Outreach team. Angel referred Khari to Najwa, who was able to get Khari into a motel. Khari says this was the respite he needed to get himself back on track, and since being in the motel he has been proactive in figuring out his own future. He found a veterans' organization which was able to offer him longer-term accommodation; in his own words, no doubt drawn from his navy experience, he is going to keep "moving across the ocean" until he is fully independent.

Khari says that organizations like Friends In Deed are a great blessing - even if they can make a bad situation only just a little bit better, that little bit goes a *very* long way.



We are so honored that we could be a part of Khari's journey on the way to rebuild his life. That is precisely what our mission is all about! It is a sad commentary that so many of those experiencing homelessness are veterans, those who served our country with distinction, only to return home and find themselves in situations like Khari's. We owe our veterans so much more.

In case you missed the State of FID presentation, you can watch <u>here</u>, and learn all about what we have accomplished in the past year. It is delivered from my new oval office (Zoom background!). Of course, we couldn't do any of the good and holy acts of compassion, connection, and dignity without everyone's help: volunteers, donors, our board, our staff, and everyone who gives their time and treasure. Thank you!

Blessings and have a lovely weekend, Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Join the Legacy Society





FRIENDS IN * DEED

We Couldn't Do It Without Them!

Friday Food Pantry volunteers play a pivotal role in our operations. <u>Read more...</u>

Making Connections

Friends In Deed had a booth at last week's Homeless Connect Day, organized by the Salvation Army. <u>Read more...</u>



Media Interest in The Women's Room

Spectrum News reporter Ryann onsite with The Women's Room! <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>

News and Events

St Mark's Christmas Tree Sale!

Support Friends in Deed with a

Christmas Tree purchase from St. Mark's Church!

<u>Order</u> your tree by 3pm Tuesday November 16, 2021.

Pick up your Tree Saturday December 4, 2021 from 8 -11 am or pay \$25 for delivery Saturday December 4, 2021 from 8:30am - 1pm.

Buy a tree for your home or buy a tree for a local family in need!



Ten Thousand Villages Holiday Benefit Shopping

Shop for handmade fair trade gifts at <u>Ten Thousand Villages</u> in Pasadena, November 16-30, and they will donate 15% of your entire purchase back to our organization. Just be sure to mention Friends In Deed at checkout in order to support us when you shop.

567 S Lake Ave., Pasadena

Looking for a New Home

Our friends, Iglesia Communidad Misionera, are looking for a new home! They are a small congregation of about 25 members who are looking for a space where they can hold services on Sundays for two to three hours. They are also hoping for access one day during the week for about two hours. Their budget is approximately \$1300/month.

If any representatives of churches or other organizations on this email list know of a space that might fit this congregation's the state of the

HOLIDAY BENEFIT SHOPPING

to support Friends In Deed



NOVEMBER 16 - 30

at Ten Thousand Villages Pasadena 567 South Lake Ave. Pasadena | villagespasadena.com





needs, please contact Pastor Pete Rossel, 626 321 0222, prrossel@gmail.com.



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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