

Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

After graduating college, Allen struggled with finding a job in the field he'd studied for. He couldn't keep up with loan repayments and also pay for living expenses, and that, alongside childhood trauma, meant he suffered increasing mental health challenges.

He was able to stay with friends for low rent, and then moved back in with family. He got a job and moved to Texas, but the stress of the job worsened his depression and he became unemployed again. His brother bailed him out and brought him back to California, but this caused strain in their relationship and eventually Allen was living on the streets with no savings and nowhere to go.

He says it "took a while" but eventually he connected with the Friends In Deed Street Outreach team. We were able to give him hygiene items, food, blankets, and a sleeping mat, and then Angel, one of our Street Outreach team members, sought Allen out in a park and told him she had a motel place for him.

Allen says it was "unexpected and great" to discover that there were still people who cared. He began working with Najwa. He didn't expect much - he was afraid he wouldn't be able to find housing with his dog. His dog has been with him for nine years, helping stabilize his mental health and "keeping him going," so giving him up was not an option. But then Najwa called to say she had found a place in bridge housing for Allen - and his dog!

Allen says his life now has stability and direction again, two things in which he had lost hope. He says that Friends In Deed has been a great organization for him - "really amazing!"



A huge shout out to our entire Street Outreach and Housing team for not only meeting Allen where he was, but sticking with him, building trust and eventually helping him on the road to rebuilding his life. That is what Friends In Deed is all about!

2021 has been a tremendous year for FID, in many ways, and so I want to invite everyone to join us next Tuesday, November 9th, for our first ever "State of FID" address! You will hear from me and our Board Chair, Bret Schaefer, and we will provide a detailed update on all of the programs for the past year. It is the closest I will ever get to being President, so don't miss it! You can join the zoom meeting with this link.

As always, we are so grateful for your <u>continued support and</u> <u>generosity</u>. Please know that for folks like Allen, and the hundreds more we serve each week, we are truly "doing together what we cannot do alone."

Blessings and have a lovely weekend, Rabbi Joshua

P.S. Don't forget to turn your clocks back!



Donate today

Join the Legacy Society

Get Social









Girl Scout Food Drive!

Charlotte (pictured with Director of the Food Pantry Tim) from Girl Scout Troop 11175 organized a food drive to benefit FID! Read more...



Sharing the Love

Denise and her son, Joshua, received the California P-EBT card for over \$700. Read more...

Gifts from Gamble Jones

Our friends over at Gamble Jones really came through for our Street Outreach and Housing team! Read more...



News and Events

2021 State of FID Address

In an effort to share our collective community impact as often and transparently as possible, we have launched a new event: 2021 State of FID Address. This presentation will feature information about all of our programs and where the organization is headed in the coming years. All Friends In Deed supporters are invited to attend.

Tuesday, November 9th at 5pm

Join online:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8712 3991027

Or join by phone: (669) 900-9128 and enter meeting ID 871 2399 1027

St Mark's Christmas Tree Sale!

Support Friends in Deed with a Christmas Tree purchase from St. Mark's Church!

Order 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





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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