

## Dear Friend,

This is my first individual weekly email of the year! I am grateful that you got to hear from Richard, our outgoing board chair, and Bret, our incoming board chair, two amazing leaders who give so much of their time and energy to help FID succeed. And, thanks to Helen Angove for producing our wonderful FID in Focus quarterly newsletter, with so many stories from our clients and volunteers. We are blessed to have such dedicated people sharing their love and commitment with everyone we serve!

With the rain and cold arriving in Pasadena, our Cold Weather Distribution operation has been underway every Thursday and Sunday with our partners at Pasadena Presbyterian Church. We are seeing between 45 and 65 individuals, who come for a wonderful take-out dinner provided by the church and then get supplies as needed from us. On Sunday nights, folks have the opportunity to see a nurse through our fantastic partnership with the Azusa Pacific Nursing School. I want to thank Lindsey Reed, BWS Associate Director, for setting up an amazing program - organized and efficient - getting so many different items to so many people. I want to also thank William Shelby, BWS Program Director, for his hard work in getting people into motels during this time, and James Bull for being our seasonal motel liaison. This hasn't been an easy program to manage, and I appreciate their hard work. Since early January, we have put 16 individuals into motels over several nights.



We also have our first permanently housed individual for 2021! Here is a little history on Mr. Dancy (pictured above), as told to me by Najwa.

"He's 66 years old and from Pasadena; he started using drugs and getting in trouble with the law. He went to jail for 19 years. When he got out, he found himself homeless on the streets of Pasadena. He contacted me when we were working from home after the COVID pandemic first hit. I took his information over the phone and found out he was in bad health, and I got him into the Project Roomkey here in Pasadena.

I remained his case worker from there until we moved him to our new scattered-site motel program, where he's been for about five months. In total he's been in the motel program for eight months. Now for the first time in over 20 years, he finally has his own place. He says I was tough, but he knew I cared. He is extremely grateful and thankful."

Of course, we couldn't do anything at FID without your support, so thank you for giving! We ended 2020 in a stronger financial position than ever before in our 126-year history. As we begin 2021, our goal is to continue the momentum, allowing us to provide even more services to more people this year. So give what you can, when you can.

Blessings, have a safe and lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!



LEARN ABOUT PLANNED GIVING



## HELP PROTECT YOUR NEIGHBORS WITH A DONATION TO

## FRIENDS IN DEED'S



## CLOTHING:

gloves hats jackets/sweatshirts socks waterproof clothing shoes

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PPE: masks hand sanitizer SUPPLIES:

ponchos hand & foot warmers umbrellas blankets tarps backpacks/suitcases

INTERESTED IN DONATING? Email Lindsey at bws2@friendsindeedpas.org.



The FID team distributing bad weather supplies for folks experiencing homelessness Pasadena Presbyterian Church!



Giving out cold and wet weather clothing and supplies



See the flier above for information about the donations we need



Thanks to William Shelby and Lindsey Reed for their leadership and organization!



And thanks also to all those who have donated supplies!



One of our TWR guests put this care package together for Jane to remind her to "relax at home," and "take care of herself." The guest sanitized the items and put them in plastic baggies to be safe. Such a touching gesture!



Mr. Dancy with Najwa



Mr. Dancy in his new home!

