

# FRIENDS IN DEED \*



Dear Friend,

It is not always possible to share about follow-ups for folks in our Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance (EPRA) program, but occasionally we can. A few months ago I shared about a man named George. Here is a reminder of his story before I give the update:

*George is a longtime Pasadena resident who has spent the last decade working at the Staples Center. When the facility shut down at the beginning of last year, George was furloughed from his work and went on unemployment. Now, on top of his regular expenses, George is dealing with a cancer diagnosis and the additional costs of treatment. When he called Friends In Deed he said, "I don't consider myself to be a prideful person, and I don't want my ego to get in the way, but it is hard to watch my savings dwindle away and to feel like there is nothing I can do but continue to wait and pray."*

*Ryan was able to listen to George and connect him to additional resources, like the newly opened [California Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#) to help California renters who have unpaid rent or utilities they have incurred in the past year. George left the conversation saying, "I feel like a huge weight has been lifted off my back." Now that he has some options, he's feeling more prepared to outlast this crisis and looks forward to getting back to work!*



Here is the update this week from Ryan:

Initially I referred George to the California Emergency Rental Assistance Program, which he applied for and was waiting to hear back. During that time he was given a three-day notice to pay or quit. I spoke with his landlord and they were a bit hesitant about waiting to hear the results from the Cal ERAP, and it wouldn't have

covered all of his back rent anyway since he had incurred rental debt in the last couple of months (and that program only covers until March). So, I stepped in and told the landlord we would help if they didn't evict, and told the client to withdraw his application for the state funding since FID was willing to help right away.

After paying five months of back rent, he's now all caught up and doing work at Dodger Stadium, and in a much better place than he was last month!

We are so grateful for opportunities like this when a client reaches back out to us and we are then able to help. Thanks to Ryan for his patience, empathy, and diligent work to help George get back on his feet.

Of course, we can only be there for George - and the hundreds of others we served this week - [with your help and support, so please give generously](#), and thank you!

Blessings, and have a lovely weekend!

Rabbi Joshua

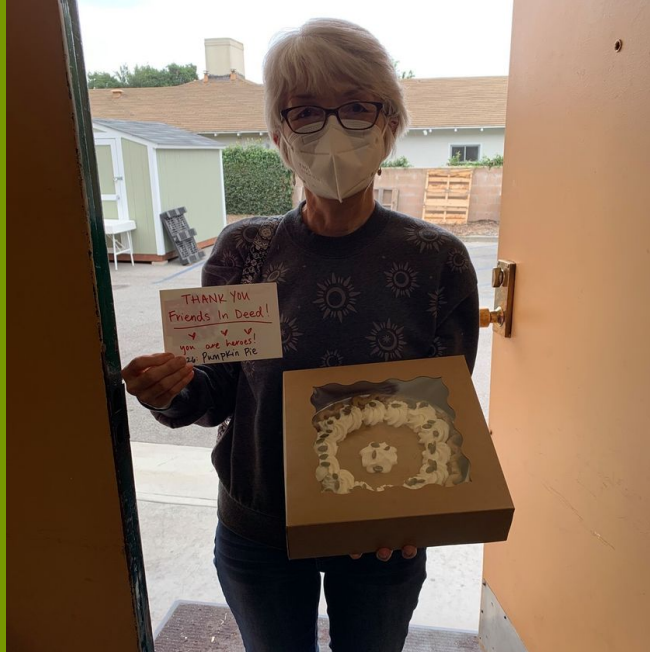


We can only operate with your help!

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Cathy delivered this beautiful pumpkin pie made by her daughter Emily, a pastry chef, for staff at Friends In Deed! For 31 days, Emily is baking a pie and donating it to a local hero as a way to honor heroes during the pandemic. Thank you Emily and Cathy for honoring our staff!



We are so grateful to our longtime Friends In Deed volunteers, Scott and Lisa, who go to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank on Saturdays for produce pick-ups. This is what over 2,400lbs of food looks like, transported in a truck bed!



Thank you to [Neighbors Empowering Youth](#) for these fantastic bags of supplies for our Friends In Deed Street Outreach and Housing Workers. These bags are not just useful supplies for our unhoused neighbors - they also help our team build up relationships of trust, the first stage of working with someone to get them into housing.



We are so happy that crafting - along with many of our volunteers - has returned to The Women's Room! Long experience has taught us that arts and crafts build community and have great therapeutic value.



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HATE

**BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER**