Happy Friday!

It was a good week in The Women’s Room (TWR)! The number of ladies is growing, and we have volunteers starting to return for fun activities. We had a new volunteer, Lisa, who brought materials for the women to do DIY journals for creative and personal writing. One of our regular volunteers, Nicole, led the ladies in making “summer candy homes.” They were constructed from graham crackers and other goodies that Nicole had selected for our guests. Everyone loved it, and one lady even said, “it’s a lovely reprieve to feel like a kid again!” And yesterday one of our stalwart volunteers, Celia, cleaned out her closet and brought in dozens of pieces of costume jewelry - and I mean lots and lots of them! They were fun prizes for bingo and parting gifts - everyone has something new to wear for the weekend.

A week like this felt like we were returning to the pre-pandemic days in TWR, as the ladies got to engage in activities that touched their minds, bodies and souls. The main goal in The Women’s Room is to help ladies to feel whole, dignified and cared for, just like we all want. The community is created not only around shared experience, but around the desire to laugh, connect, enjoy the day and get the love and compassion that is so often missing in their day-to-day lives. A huge shoutout to TWR Director Marlene Martinez, and TWR Associate Jane Armbruster, for continuing to make this possible, and for all of their amazing perseverance and patience throughout these past 18 months - I love seeing their faces light up as they see the ladies they care about so much.
Don’t forget we have the backpack drive starting for kids going back to school (more information below); we have Jazz on the Screen 2.0 ready for your sponsorships and donations; and we have water and other summer supplies needed for our Outreach Team (again, more information below).

Thank you for all your support - we couldn’t do any of this without you!

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,
Rabbi Joshua

We can only operate with your help!

DONATE

LEARN ABOUT PLANNED GIVING

New volunteer Lisa led our TWR women in making DIY journals for creative and personal writing.
We have a lot of July birthdays at The Women's Room and we celebrate them all!

We celebrated with lots of laughter, singing, and good things to eat.
Longtime volunteer and resident baker, Celia, baked a themed cake and brought matching party favors!

Assembling candy houses in The Women’s Room.
One of our guests with her finished house!

Now that we are well into the heat of summer, our programs are hoping for water bottle donations to hand out to our most at-risk clients on the Street. The Women’s Room, Street Outreach team, and Food Pantry could all use water bottles to give out. Headed to the store? Consider buying a case of water and dropping it at FID house Friday or Saturday between 9am and 3pm. Much appreciated!!

Over the course of two consecutive Saturdays, July 31 and August 7, we will be distributing backpacks and supplies to our community. We ask that all donations be dropped off/sent to Friends In Deed,
Back to School Supply List 2021-2022
More 6th – 12th grade than lower grades

Backpacks (please, no red or blue backpacks)
College ruled notebook paper (this is used more commonly than the “Wide-rulled” paper)
Wide ruled notebook paper (early grades will use this)
Spiral notebooks
Composition Notebooks, hardcover
Pens; red, blue and black
Pencils, including #2 yellow 6-sided for younger grades; mechanical pencils
Erasers
Pencil-top Erasers
Copy paper (for printing on computer)
Zipper pouch for pens and pencils (3 holed to go in binders)
Dry Erase Markers
Colored Markers (NO Sharpies or Permanent Markers)
Highlighters; all colors
Colored Pencils
Sharpener for colored pencils (must hold shavings)
24 Colors Crayons (prefer Crayola Brand)
2 Pocket Folders (prefer poly folders)
Student scissors (such as Fiskar)
Rulers (metric & customary)
3” x 5” index cards
Glue Sticks (many schools prefer the sticks to bottles of glue)
3 Ring Binders - 1"- 3" ( Prefer with Clear View pocket on front)
Tab Dividers for Binders
Tissue/Kleenex – small little packages that can easily fit into the backpack or school desk
Hand sanitizer – still incredibly important
Disinfecting wipes – still incredibly important
Friends In Deed was chosen as a 2021 California Nonprofit of the Year. Read the full story here.

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.