

# Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

At Friends In Deed, we are grateful and beyond appreciative of the volunteers who commit their time and love to being a part of what we do. And so, when a volunteer is recognized by their own community, we are so proud! This week, we learned that Nancy Johnson, a member of the Ahiah Center for Spiritual Living, had been recognized for her contributions to the community. Nancy is a longtime, stalwart volunteer in both the Food Pantry and The Women's Room. She has been awarded a merit award at the recent 2022 Spiritual Living Convention and, in her acceptance speech, she talks all about her volunteerism, along with that of her church, at Friends In Deed. Congratulations Nancy! I have included a short video of her acceptance speech. I want to also thank Rev. Amadi Hines, a member of the Ahiah community and an FID board member, for his commitment to our work.



Last week, the world lost a truly remarkable spiritual leader with the passing of Thich Nhat Hanh, Buddhist monk and peace activist, at the age of 95. I have studied his writings and teachings and I try to bring his path of mindfulness into my everyday life. I also believe that this path is very helpful in working with our guests and clients, as being fully present and nonjudgmental and staying in the moment can offer all of us a more profound and meaningful experience.

And, if you haven't had a chance to listen to the new Friends In Deed Podcast, I encourage you to do so this week. I talk with Bonnie, a client helped by our Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance program, and FID's Director of Street Outreach and Housing, William Shelby. Bonnie shares her story with us, and William tells us about Howard, a sweet man who lives on our streets.

Again, mazel tov to Nancy on her award, and thank you to ALL of our volunteers and supporters - you help us to live up to our motto, "doing together what we cannot do alone!"

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



### We can only operate with your help!

**Donate today** 

Join the Legacy Society

# **Get Social**









#### **Lotus Buns!**

Our friends at Little Jasmine dropped by last week with a donation of 30 cases of frozen lotus buns. Read more...



This crew arrived with DOZENS of hygiene supply bags, as well as incredible packages of sleeping bags, tarps, and half inch ground pads. Read more...



#### **Cold Weather Supplies**

Director of the Bad Weather Shelter Lindsey Reed sets up directional signage pointing toward our supply distribution center (see below). Read more...

### **News and Events**

# Our Cold Weather Supply Distribution

Every Thursday, rain or shine, our team will be providing services out of First United Methodist Church (500 E. Colorado, Pasadena CA 91101) between 5 – 7pm, as well as on weather-activated days (less than 40 degrees, or more than 40% chance of rain). Clients will have the opportunity to receive supplies, including ponchos, blankets, food, etc. On Thursdays, our partners at the Azusa Pacific University nursing program will also be on hand.



## **Podcast**



# **2022-4 Stories from the Street**

This week, we will hear directly about clients that have been through our programs. Rabbi Joshua talks with Bonnie, a woman very close to becoming homeless before connecting with our Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance Program. And we learn about Howard, a gentleman living on the streets of Pasadena, as William Shelby, Director of Street Outreach, shares his story.

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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