



## **Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message**

Dear Friend,

Happy 2022! I hope that folks had a lovely holiday period, and were able to stay safe from the renewed spread of COVID. As we dive into the new year, I want to continue to introduce you to some of the folks living on our streets. This week, let's meet Howard. Much of this story is first person from William Shelby, FID's Director of Street Outreach and Housing.

*Howard is so loved by the community. I have played catch with him in the courtyard at the Bad Weather Shelter. Some of his back story is that he was abused by his family, and he is very afraid they will find him. He will never stay in a motel due to fear of being found. It always takes time to develop a relationship with Howard due to his PTSD, and I'm sure it was only through several visits from the outreach team that he became more confident in the trustworthiness of the team. The team have found Howard's speech difficult to understand, but having known Howard for many years, I can say that once you have earned his trust he will talk your ear off!*

*It may well be that we will never get Howard off the streets but, with continuous engagement, Howard's quality of life has improved. He continues to have better hygiene due to the outreach team providing toiletries and clothing. His medical condition has improved as our Street Outreach team continues to encourage him to utilize the services of our partners at the Azusa Pacific Nursing program.*

*The moral of the story may be that the goals we have for folks aren't always the goals the folks have for themselves. So we just continue to engage and meet people like Howard where they are, and we add as much to his quality of life as we can in ways that he is comfortable with.*

I so appreciate this perspective from William, as he has taught me, since my first day at FID, that the goals for our neighbors on the streets are different with each person, and that we may not know the whole story, or what a person has faced in their lives. So, we provide compassion, connection, dignity, and love - each person is

created in the image of God and deserving of being treated as we would want to be treated.

Finally, our Friends In Deed staff continues to grow! I am thrilled to welcome Lindsey Reed to the team as of January 1st. Lindsey will be our new Senior Manager of Programs and is Director of our Cold Weather Distribution and Motel program this season. Lindsey worked at Pasadena City College starting as a student worker, then part-time employee, before accepting a full-time position as the PCC Flea Market Coordinator in 2016. Amongst all this, she has done lots of event and wedding planning on the side for over ten years!



Lindsey was born and raised in Pasadena, and was homeschooled through high school. She is a former member (and board member) of the Pasadena Jaycees. Lindsey earned her Bachelors in Organizational Leadership from National University, her Masters in Public Administration from California State University, Northridge, and is also certified as a Myers-Briggs Practitioner. When not busy with all of that, Lindsey enjoys traveling in her camper van with her husband and adventure cat, with a goal of visiting all the National Parks. Always DIYing something, she loves thrifting, event planning, being involved in the community, bringing people together, game nights, and chats around a fire pit. Welcome Lindsey!

See below for the second episode of our new show, The Friends In Deed Podcast, which will have weekly episodes.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



**We can only operate with your help!**

**Donate today**

## Get Social



### Cold Weather Distribution!

Last night kicked off our first Supply Distribution night of the winter season. Pictured: Karen, Jorge, Noah, Jordon, Patrick, and James. [Read more...](#)



### Girl Scout Blankets!

Much silliness was had with Helene & Evelyn, from Girl Scout Troop #7571! [Read more...](#)

### Generous Donation from Sherwood Foundation

Pictured: Jennifer from the Sherwood Foundation, with Rabbi Joshua. [Read more...](#)





## Pasadena Elks Lodge

Our friends over at Pasadena Elks Lodge gifted Friends In Deed with a generous donation just before the holidays. [Read more...](#)



## Community Adventist Fellowship Church, Sierra Madre

Pictured: admin staff Helen and Eva, with Cynthia and Joni who brought a large gift of blankets and beanies from their church! [Read more...](#)



## Home Depot Water Donation

The Home Depot does it again, donating another 40 packages of water bottles to keep our unhoused neighbors hydrated! [Read more...](#)



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## News and Events

### Podcast Second Episode Available!

[Rabbi Joshua sits down with Ryan Greer](#), FID Director of Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance, to discuss the recent eviction moratorium and other current ways FID is working to curb homelessness in the Pasadena area.



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**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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