



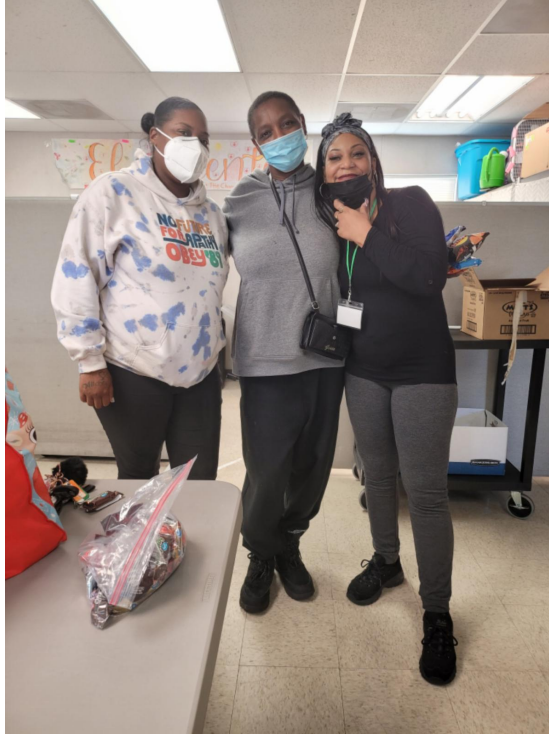
## **Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message**

Dear Friend,

Tracey had been sober for 16 years - remaining strong as her five children grew up - but when her youngest daughter left home she suddenly felt like there was no point any more. She says she "gave up trying" and her life rapidly disintegrated.

After living on the streets for seven years Tracey ran into Angel, a member of Friends In Deed's Street Outreach team, at the Salvation Army food pantry. Before FID agrees to work long term with someone in Tracey's situation, we go through an assessment process to determine whether the client is prepared to cooperate with us to permanently change their living situation. Angel saw something in Tracey that made her think Tracey would indeed be prepared to do what it takes to get off the street, and Tracey saw something in Angel that made her believe she could trust Angel enough to let her help her do that.

We moved Tracey into a motel, but Najwa, our Housing Navigator, was almost immediately able to get her a place in bridge housing. Tracey says there are many things she is looking forward to, now that she has her own place. She's looking forward to being able to wake up in the morning and not find all her possessions have been stolen overnight, she's looking forward to getting back in touch with her children and grandchildren, and she is looking forward to "starting life all over again." She says she has learned that it's not enough to stay strong for her kids - she also needs to learn to live for, and stay strong for, herself.



From left to right: Angel, Tracey, Najwa

We are so grateful that we could help Tracey in her time of need, and give her some positive, loving encouragement. And, this week, I can share another story of a person that was able to turn her life around, move through the darkness, and emerge onto the other side. However, this is not a client. It is our own Housing Navigator and Outreach Specialist, Najwa Payton Jones. I am very happy that Najwa agreed to join me on the podcast this week to share her life's journey, and how she made it from living on the streets to helping get people off the streets. [Please listen](#) - and be prepared to be inspired!

As we head into a long President's Day weekend, [please consider making a donation to Friends In Deed](#) in honor of the work we all do, helping our community live up to what President Lincoln famously called 'the better angels of our nature.'

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



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

**Donate today**

**Join the Legacy Society**

## Podcast

### 2022-7: Najwa Jones - From Being on the Streets to Getting People off the Streets

This week is a very special episode. [Rabbi Joshua talks with FID Housing Navigator and Outreach Specialist, Najwa Payton Jones](#), who shares her life story: from abusive foster care childhood to drug addiction to homelessness to recovery to college and to her career. This is a 'not to be missed' episode!



## Get Social



### Huntington Hospital

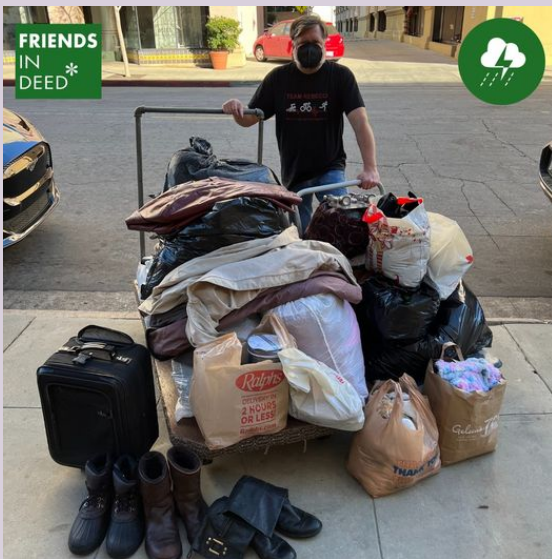
The Huntington Hospital does it again! Thanks for a successful food (and beverage) drive benefitting our Food Pantry! [Read more...](#)

### Valentine's Day

Anat, one of our longtime volunteers, brought Valentine's gifts for The Women's Room guests this week. [Read more...](#)



FRIENDS  
IN  
DEED \*



FRIENDS  
IN  
DEED \*



## Donations from Neighborhood Church!

Thanks to Matt Vasko from Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church who dropped by our Bad Weather Supplies Distribution with donations. [Read more...](#)



FRIENDS  
IN  
DEED \*



## Souper Bowl!

High Point Academy held its annual "Souper" Bowl soup drive for our Food Pantry this past week. [Read more...](#)

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## News and Events

### Volunteering is Beautiful!

Are you a licensed hairdresser or nail tech? We want you! The



Women's Room is searching for two talented individuals to play a role in helping to restore dignity through compassion, connection, and the gift of your skills. We are looking to have hair trims and manicures once a month. It would be a 2-3 hour commitment on one of our monthly days of operation (M-Th from 10am-4pm). We ask that our volunteers be vaccinated and wear masks while inside our facility. If you are interested in joining our family please email our program director, Marlene Martinez, at [twr@friendsindeedpas.org](mailto:twr@friendsindeedpas.org).



## Bad 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.

FRIENDS IN DEED in partnership with the  
CITY OF PASADENA and FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH provides



**EVERY THURSDAY AND ON WEATHER ACTIVATED\* NIGHTS**  
January 6<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 | 5:00pm to 7:00pm  
First United Methodist Church | 500 E Colorado Boulevard

\*Weather Activated: forecast to be 40 degrees and below or 40% chance of rain

### BAD WEATHER SUPPLIES OFFERINGS:

Cold Weather  
Supplies

Nurse Visits /  
Wellness Checks

Weather Activated\*  
Limited Motel Stays  
(based on eligibility)





# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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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.*

[Having trouble seeing this message? View as Webpage](#)