



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

Dear Friend,

Ken (pictured below) has suffered some massive tragedies in his life, tragedies that affected his relationship with his spouse and brought him to the point where he was drinking too much. He went into rehab, but even successful completion of the program wasn't enough to mend his relationship with his wife, who refused to let him return home. Ken then moved in with his sister, but even that didn't work out.

By the time Ken made contact with Friends In Deed's Street Outreach team, he had been on the streets for a month. The team was able to place him in a motel and, soon after, got him a place in bridge housing.



Now he has stability in his life again, Ken is looking forward to seeing if his relationship with his wife can be repaired. Even if not, he is very grateful to Friends In Deed for the opportunity for a new start.

After Sam's mom passed away, when he was just 13, he traveled hundreds of miles to live with his dad. But Sam's dad got hurt in a workplace accident and was fired while he was still recovering.

Sam's dad had enough saved to get by for a while, but eventually the savings began to run out. Despite living on nothing but peanut butter sandwiches for weeks, they were close to losing their home. By the time Sam and his dad had found out about Friends In Deed, they were terrified, deeply embarrassed by the situation they were in, and desperate.

They were extraordinarily fortunate. While the majority of our Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance program (EPRA) operates on government funding, which has significant restrictions, we do occasionally receive grants from private donors and foundations that give us a much greater ability to help those that don't exactly fit the criteria, such as those who live outside Pasadena. It is with these funds that we were able to pay the back rent so Sam and his dad could stay in their home.

The good news is that Sam's dad soon found a new job. He didn't get paid until the end of his first month, but that was ok, because Friends In Deed was able to cover that month's rent. Sam got back the stability he so desperately needed after the death of his mother and, with the help of the Food Pantry, he and his dad didn't have to live on peanut butter sandwiches any more!

These are only two of the stories of the many folks that we have been blessed to help, over the years. In addition, this week we had another week of over 430 households receiving pantry services; dozens coming to our Bad Weather Distribution site, with many getting motel rooms to rest and regain strength; and volunteers returning to TWR for expanded opportunities to offer the ladies. And, as you hear me say every week: we couldn't do anything without your help and generosity. So, thank you!



 **Friends In Deed Giving Day**

If you want to help even more, please participate in our [Giving Day!](#) Next Wednesday, 3/23/22, we need to get 128 donors to give, any amount, and the Appley Foundation has generously agreed to give us \$25,000 – don't you want to be a part of it? See the links below

or our website to join the fun.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua

P.S. For those that follow the NCAA tournament, if you had Saint Peter's beating Kentucky in the first round, I want to meet you! :)



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

**Donate today**

**Join the Legacy Society**

## Podcast

### **2022-11: The More You Give, The More You Get**

This week, in anticipation of our coming Giving Day, [we hear directly from Friends In Deed volunteers and donors](#) about why they find it so meaningful to give their time and treasure.



## Get Social



### **St. Patrick's Day Celebrations**

The Women's Room held their annual Saint Patrick's Day celebration this week, including decorating green shirts and doing fun word scrambles! [Read more...](#)



## Cold Weather Distribution!

Our Bad Weather Shelter Supplies Distribution team was definitely seeing green this St. Patrick's Day in their new Friends In Deed sweatshirts. [Read more...](#)



## Little Free Library

Our revamped little library is going strong! And the wonderful Pretty in Pasadena is also painting an amazing mural on the bus stop just outside FID house. Stop by to check it out, and thanks to this amazing local artist for beautifying our grounds and neighborhood! [Read more...](#)

# News and Events

## Friends In Deed Giving Day

Ready to come together as a

community? So are we! [Visit our giving page](#) to find out about our very first Friends In Deed Giving Day, on March 23!



✳️ **Friends In Deed Giving Day**

### **Soap Drive!**

In honor of Women's History Month, we've teamed up with our friends over at Ten Thousand Villages Pasadena for a soap drive to benefit our guests at The Women's Room. Head over to their store at 567 S. Lake Avenue during March and you can buy a bar of soap to donate. Thanks for the support!



### **Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast**

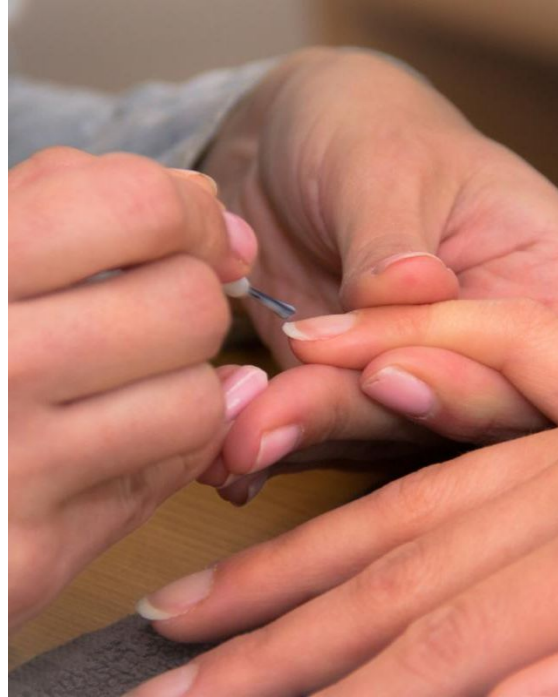
Save the date! Friends In Deed is once again hosting the annual City of Pasadena Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast. The event will be held at 7:30 am on 5-5-22. We are proud to announce that this year's keynote speaker is [Reyna Grande, author of the bestselling memoir, The Distance Between Us.](#)



### **Volunteering is Beautiful!**

Are you a licensed nail tech? We want you! The Women's Room is searching for a talented individual to play a role in helping to restore dignity through compassion, connection,

and the gift of your skills. We are looking to have manicures once a month. 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).



*Image: Natasha Alimova @euromaidan\_pr*



**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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