



Rabbi Joshua's Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Unable to find housing, Yvonne was burning through her savings to pay for a motel. As a senior living with multiple health issues and trauma, the isolation brought about by the pandemic was very much the last straw. Yvonne took an emotional nose-dive and, her savings running out, could not find a way to get back on her feet.

Fortunately All Saints Church put Yvonne in touch with Friends In Deed. Since then, says Yvonne, it has been a “whirlwind.” She was in the Motel Pilot Program for only two weeks before being matched with permanent housing.

Yvonne is very articulate about her experience. It was “as scary as hell” - not the words we might hope to hear, but useful to know. As you move along the path to housing, she says, you are asked all the time to take the next step in faith and trust that everything will all work out eventually. Everything is open-ended, and there are absolutely no certainties. But when you are homeless, you are desperate to get away from all that uncertainty, and this goes some way to explaining why so many people are not able to make the leap of faith required to see a program through.

Now that she has her own place, Yvonne’s courage is going to be rewarded. She is looking forward to the quiet, and to having time to write and listen to music. She hopes to get back into academic tutoring and earn a little money, and she is also very keen to return to her former practice of Reiki.

We are so happy that we were able to connect with Yvonne, and thankfully, in such a short period of time help her get some stability in her life. We pray that she continues on that path, and hope to stay in touch and hear how she is doing. At FID, each person is treated with compassion and connection, and each one according to their needs, as best we can.



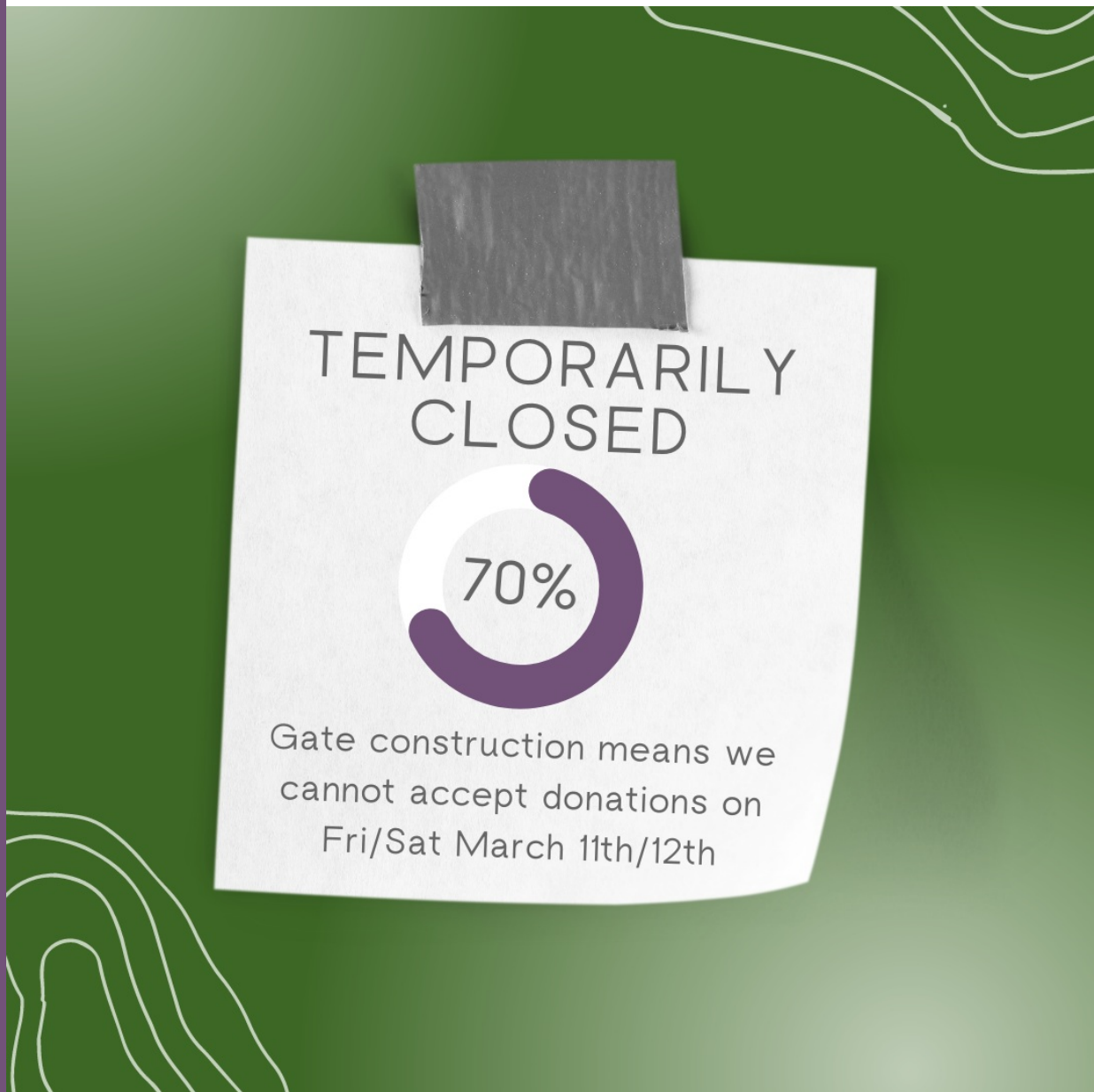
In other areas of our services this week: for the eighth week running, we have seen over 430 households coming to the Food Pantry, with one of those weeks serving 474 households. Kudos to Tim, Stacey, Doug, Coty, and all of the volunteers that are working so hard to serve so many people. Our Bad Weather Distribution/motel program is in full force, with over 40 people placed in motels just last night; that came after being offered supplies, food, clothing, nursing services and attention. Shout out to Lindsey Reed and her staff for handling the sometimes overwhelming number of people coming for help. You can learn more about Lindsey and the program on [this week's episode of the Friends In Deed podcast](#).

See below for some other great activities this week, and special announcements regarding our first-ever Giving Day and the Pasadena Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, which we are proud to once again be hosting.

And finally, we continue praying for the people of Ukraine, as the war is getting worse and the suffering is immense. I offer a small dedication with Ukrainian music on the podcast this week.

Blessings of peace, and have a lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Join the Legacy Society

Podcast

2022-9: Lindsey Reed, Director, Bad Weather Distribution/Motel Program, and Dedication to Ukraine

This week, [Rabbi Joshua talks with Lindsey Reed, FID's Senior Manager of Programs and Director of the Bad Weather Distribution and Motel program.](#) Hear about the work of taking care of our chronically homeless neighbors, a success story, and a challenging story of a woman fleeing domestic violence.

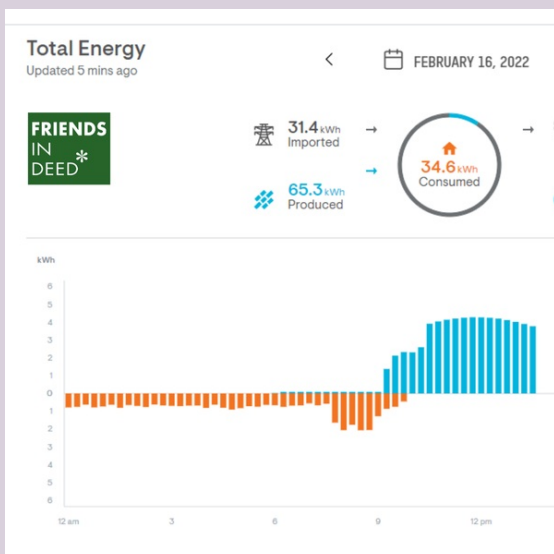


Get Social



Cold Weather Distribution

Team member Jordyn is ready to give out much-needed supplies at the Bad Weather Supplies distribution! [Read more...](#)



Friends In Deed Goes Solar!

Our new solar panels are up and working! By morning 1, we had already produced enough energy to light a 100-watt lightbulb for over 50 nights! [Read more...](#)

News and Events

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 and you can buy a bar of soap to donate. Thanks for the support!



Friends In Deed Giving Day

Ready to come together as a community? So are we! Save the date - 3-23-2022 - for our first ever Friends In Deed Giving Day. Stay tuned for more information coming soon.



✱ Friends In Deed Giving Day

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? Or an artist (amateur or

professional)? 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 regular art workshops, and also 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.



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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