



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

I am filling in while Rabbi Joshua is on vacation this week and felt like we could all use a little positivity to end the week!

Recently our office received a phone call from Reno Apartments in Los Angeles. We had provided a security deposit for a client last year, and now that client was moving out. The security deposit had to be returned to the same entity that paid it, so they called to ask who they should make the check payable to.

Ryan, our Director of Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance, looked up the client in the Los Angeles homeless management database and was happy to discover this client has now qualified for long-term emergency housing funding from another agency, meaning they will have housing security for the foreseeable future!

We are delighted that we were able to protect our client from homelessness in the short term, and thrilled that they have secured long-term help to remain housed. But we are also very pleased that we were able to help them essentially for free, and that the money temporarily used for their security deposit can now be used to help someone else!



On a personal and professional note, I spent the last six months as a part of the fantastic [Leadership Pasadena](#) program. Months of connecting with other professionals in the local area, neuro-science based leadership development, a dive into Pasadena's rich history, and a community service project all culminated with graduation last week (photo of my cohort above provided by Sonia Tapia Photography). Special thanks to FID Board member Ervin Galvan, owner of [We Olive Pasadena](#), for supporting this opportunity as I expanded our network of community collaborators on behalf of Friends In Deed.

Thank you for everything you do to help support us in *doing together what we cannot do alone! Our hard-working staff will be taking this 4th of July off, so all regular services will resume Tuesday, July 5th. As we jump into the long holiday weekend, I wish you and all of your communities healthy and safe Independence Day celebrations.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Merria Velasco



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Join the Legacy Society

Get Social



TWR 4th of July Celebration

Happy Fourth of July from The Women's Room! Yesterday our guests celebrated the upcoming Independence Day holiday with a great meal, trivia games, and this deliciously festive cake made by our volunteer, Celia.



Welcome Back Volunteers!

We are thrilled to welcome back some of our pre-pandemic volunteers from First Lutheran Temple City. Before the pandemic, a group from the church would help on Saturdays with donations. [Read more...](#)



Water Donations Needed

With the hot weather upon us, our programs are hoping for water bottle donations. The Women's Room, Street Outreach team, and Food Pantry could all use water bottles to give out to our clients on the streets. [Read more...](#)

News and Events

Backpack and School Supply Drive!

We ask you to help us by dropping off donations of backpacks and school supplies to Friends In Deed House.

Donations will be accepted between 9am and 3pm on the following days only:

- Saturday, July 2
- Thursday & Friday, July 7-8
- Saturday, July 16
- Thursday & Friday, July 21-22

For more information and printable list, [click here](#).



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Friends In Deed

2022-2023 Back-to-School Backpack & School Supply Drive

Dear Friends,

As the school year ends and summer approaches, we are looking forward to making a fresh start in the fall. The Food Pantry community is pleased that our young students will again return to be with their friends and teachers in the classroom next school year. With anticipation, we have already started planning our annual "Back-to-School" event.

Our FID families continue to face many financial challenges including frustrations over rising prices and supply shortages. Economic instability and the pervasive uncertainties of our time make it even more difficult for families to prepare their children for the new school year. This makes our 2022-2023 "Back-to-School" event so vital to the families we serve.

Your participation is more important than ever. Your help and support are imperative to the success of this special event. We cannot do it without you.

Every year, we come to you, our Friends In Deed family, to help us make the Back-to-School Backpack & School Supply Drive a success. Last year, we gratefully distributed over 330 backpacks filled with school supplies to school-aged children representing over 60 schools in Pasadena and the neighboring communities.

We hope that you will join us in this effort!

On two consecutive Saturdays, July 30 and August 6, we will be distributing backpacks and supplies to families in our community. We ask you to help us by dropping off donations to the Friends In Deed house, located at 444 E. Washington Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91104 (on the corner of Washington Blvd. and Los Robles Ave.).

Donations will be accepted between 9am and 3pm on the following days only:

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, June 30, July 1 & July 2
Thursday & Friday, July 7 & 8
Saturday, July 16
Thursday & Friday, July 21 & 22





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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