



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Jessica grew up in the San Gabriel Valley and, like many, she married and raised a family with her husband. Unfortunately, about 15 years ago, her husband developed pancreatic cancer and passed away soon after.

Jessica moved in with her mother-in-law, but her mother-in-law also passed, leaving Jessica a homeless senior. She qualified for a Section 8 voucher and for a couple of years was able to keep herself in housing until the multiple bereavements of the previous years caught up with her. She suffered a mental breakdown and lost her home. She couch surfed for a while but exhausted the goodwill of friends and family, and began living in her car with her dog.

Friends In Deed was able to get Jessica's Section 8 voucher reinstated and ported to LA County. Finding housing was a very, very long process - even with the voucher and the support of FID she was continually rejected because of her credit score. Finally, however, Housing Navigator William's diligent searching paid off and we were able to move Jessica into a senior living facility in Duarte.



Jessica in her new home

Our picture shows Jessica looking out of the window in her new home. She is absolutely thrilled to have her own place, and thinks her view of the mountains is the most beautiful thing she has ever seen! She is looking forward to exploring the walking trails in Duarte with her dog.

This week, I have our last honoree to highlight for our [*Jazz, Encore!*](#) fundraiser, which is next week! Lisa and Scott Nelson are being honored with Special Volunteer Recognition for their tireless efforts in the Food Pantry. I asked Tim, our Director of the Food Pantry, to share his thoughts about Lisa and Scott. Here are his words:

"I've been in charge of the Food Pantry for almost 10 years and I don't remember exactly when or how Scott and Lisa found us. It has been that long since they first knocked on the Food Pantry door looking to see if we could take the donations they had in their truck. I said sure, and, after unloading, they asked how they could help. I wasn't exactly sure right then, but we exchanged numbers and I told them I would reach out when we needed some help. Well, it wasn't too long before I asked them about picking up donations from a local grocery store. They said yes and started doing the pick up a couple of times per week. From there, their service involved bringing bread donations which turned into filling in for our volunteers who would pick up from the LA Food Bank.

Currently, Scott and Lisa pick up two times per week from Trader Joe's (more if necessary) and go down to the LA Food Bank for a produce pick-up. Whenever there is a donation pickup I need help with, I call Scott and Lisa. I've probably called them too often, but they would never admit to that. And that is part of what makes them such wonderful people. Scott and Lisa are people that are just "built" with the desire and dedication to serve. And it isn't just for Friends In Deed. They helped start the PCC Food Pantry (and they still help out there). They take food to The Salvation Army and downtown LA.

They've helped our friends over at PazNaz Church with pickups and donations. Serving and helping are just a part of who they are. And our community is richer for it.

As I mentioned, I don't remember the exact reason why or when they came to Friends In Deed, but I am sure glad they did. The Friends In Deed motto of "doing together what we cannot do alone" rings true in our relationship. We have been able to provide so much more food to our community because they have been here to help us. I am honored to know them, work alongside them in the fight against hunger, and to be able to call them my friends. Scott and Lisa Nelson are some of the finest people I've ever met."



*Scott and Lisa Nelson, among a few of our wonderful volunteers,
at the Food Pantry*

With these two incredible stories, I hope you are even more inspired to contribute to our fundraiser! We are just about \$15,000 away from our goal, so if you haven't become a sponsor or donated to *Jazz, Encore!* yet, now is a great time! [Click here](#) and join the fun—every dollar counts! And let's put it this way about reaching our goal: the easiest math would be one person giving \$15,000, or perhaps two people giving \$7,500, which would of course be amazing, and several people have already done that. But, the larger community math is this: **if 100 people give \$150, we reach our goal.** Can you be one of them?

My congregational tour continues this weekend and includes two stops: I am filling in to lead services at my home synagogue, Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center, on Saturday morning at 9:30am; and I will be the guest speaker at Throop Church on Sunday morning at 11am. Join me for one ... or both!

Blessings, stay cool, and have a lovely weekend,
Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Join the Legacy Society

Get Social



Art Day in The Women's Room!

Another Ardella's Art day! This is Ardella's third month of providing art to The Women's Room, and last week the grantor agreed to extend her grant to another three months! She gave this art piece, done with glow-in-the-dark acrylic paint, to a TWR volunteer. [Read more...](#)

News and Events

Jazz Encore!

We are just a few days away from this year's summer fundraising event: Jazz, Encore! On Tuesday, August 23, there will be a Live Virtual Kickoff at 7pm, hosted by Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater. This is our largest fundraiser each year. Proceeds support all of our programs and services, and more details can be

found at bidpal.net/fidjazz2022



**FRIENDS
IN
DEED***
PRESENTS

JAZZ ENCORE!

"All Jazzed Up to Serve"

**Introducing
Jazz, Encore!**

Tuesday, August 23rd –
Thursday, August 25th, 2022
www.bidpal.net/fidjazz2022

HONOREES
Richard S. Cheung, D.C.
Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center
Villa Gardens Retirement Community

Special Volunteer Recognition
Lisa and Scott Nelson

For information, sponsorship opportunities,
or to make a donation, please email
office@friendsindeedpas.org or call 626.797.2402 ext. 201.
www.friendsindeedpas.org

*Doing together what we cannot do alone

Help Stock the Food Pantry!

Our shelves are looking quite empty these days and we could really use your help to re-stock and meet the need in our local community. We are open Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 3pm for donation drop-offs, or you can also purchase and send to us directly from our Amazon wish list: [Amazon Wish List](#)
Thank you for the support!





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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