

# **Weekly Message**

Dear Friend,

I am filling in for Rabbi Joshua this week, and extra proud to do so on Veterans Day. I would like to give a shout out to my sister, Major Rosella Iaccino, who currently serves our country from the Pentagon. But today, I'd like to tell you a story about a veteran, one who lives nearby.

For the past four months, FID Street Outreach Housing Navigator and Locator William has been working with a gentleman in Pasadena. For anonymity and story-telling purposes, we'll call him Mr. Vet. Through consistent and patient effort, and by bringing him needed items like hygiene supplies and food, William and the Street Outreach Team have won Mr. Vet's trust, and he is slowly opening up to them.

Mr. Vet has become more willing to engage and allow us to help find him sustainable housing options. During the intake process, we discovered that he was a United States Veteran, serving in the USMC PVT E1. After learning this, our Friends In Deed housing location team started the process of getting his DD214 (military talk for discharge papers). As with most of the veterans we serve, he was less than willing to interact with the Veterans Affairs office at first. But, due to the relationship and trust that William has been building, Mr. Vet came around a little and met with the local VA representative.



Mr. Vet's story isn't over just yet, as we are working to get him placed in housing – with high hopes for a one-bedroom Veterans' apartment in El Monte. Please keep positive thoughts for Mr. Vet this Veterans Day, and for all 28 veterans experiencing homelessness in Pasadena (according to the 2022 homeless count). We hope, pray, and work each day to help diminish this number and can only do so with <u>your continued support</u>.

Tomorrow our Food Pantry will be open for any donation drop-offs, including turkeys and Thanksgiving food ahead of our annual Operation Gobbler event with the Pasadena Jaycees. Check out our news and events below for more details on that, <u>buying a Christmas</u> tree by 11/14 with proceeds supporting Friends In Deed, and our annual State of FID Address taking place this Tuesday, 11/15 at 5:30pm.

Have a beautiful weekend,

Merria Velasco



## We can only operate with your help!

**Donate today** 

Join the Legacy Society

Get Social





### **Sunday Funday**

Thank you to all who came out to Sunday Funday! Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for the delicious food spread and to Farm Fresh To You for providing information about fresh produce and artisan farm product delivery! <u>Read more...</u>



#### **B'Not Mitzvah Projects**

Charly and Paige Jorban chose Friends In Deed as the recipients of their B'Not Mitzvah projects. <u>Read more...</u>



### **Cal Poly Pomona AIGA**

We're excited that Cal Poly Pomona's American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) has chosen us to benefit from their annual Design-a-thon! <u>Read more...</u>

#### **Community Support!**

We are blown away by the generosity of our incredible community and supporters. This



week we received over 100 boxes of groceries from Amazon and a multitude of in-person donations! <u>Read more...</u>

## **News and Events**

## **Operation Gobbler**

The annual Thanksgiving Operation Gobbler event is taking place in just a couple weeks, and we need your help! We are accepting turkey donations Fridays and Saturdays between 9am and 3pm for the next two weeks: 11/11, 11/12, 11/18, and 11/19. We are teaming up with the Pasadena Jaycees to collect at least 320 turkeys to give to families in our Food Pantry community.

## **Christmas Tree Sale**

The holidays will be here before we know it! Saint Mark's Episcopal Church is holding a Christmas tree fundraiser to benefit Friends In Deed again this year. Place your tree order by November 14th at <u>Saint</u> <u>Mark's Episcopal Church</u> <u>Christmas Tree Sale</u> and have it delivered locally or pick it up yourself on December 3rd. Thanksgiving Donation Opportunity



Operation Gobbler Event FID Food Pantry now accepting turkey donations in partnership with Pasadena Jaycees



### **State of FID Address**

We are proud to present our 2nd annual State of FID Address. This presentation will feature information about all of our programs and where the organization is headed in the coming years. All Friends In Deed supporters are invited to attend Tuesday, November 15th at 5:30pm.

Join online: State of FID Address





**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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