

## Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

With the holiday season practically here and many of us preparing to get together with our loved ones, I wanted to share a story of a family sticking together through tumultuous times.

Michael and his mom, Kimberly, were living in Michael's car along with their Chihuahua, Honey. During what Michael refers to as the "lowest point in his decision making," he wound up serving a brief jail sentence, leaving his mom on her own with the dog. By the time he was released, their car had broken down and they had no money to get it fixed.

With great foresight, Kimberly had parked the car near a Salvation Army facility, where they were able to get some daily resources and food. There they also made contact with Friends In Deed. They remained in their car throughout the hot weather, living on food stamps, buying buckets of ice daily, and praying the end of the summer heat wouldn't kill their beloved pet.

Fortunately, Najwa, a Friends In Deed housing navigator, became involved. Najwa worked for months to get Michael and Kimberly the particular housing they needed, somewhere that had open beds for both a male and a female, and a place that accepted dogs as well. Staying together as a family was very important to them from the beginning. Michael also spoke about keeping hope alive through all the "zig-zagging" process of escaping homelessness.



Well, we're happy to report that Michael and Kimberly have now moved into their new home and are thrilled and relieved to be living in much greater comfort and safety, with three meals a day and even a dog park for Honey!

The resilience we see when people come together never ceases to amaze us. The same thing can be said of the collective effort of our supporters who have been stepping forward to keep our Food Pantry stocked ahead of the holidays. Thank you to all who are holding food drives on our behalf, have <u>ordered us non-perishable items</u>, or have stopped by with donations the past couple weeks!

With Thanksgiving happening next week, our annual Operation Gobbler event, hosted by the Pasadena Jaycees, is taking place this Sunday. We are still accepting turkeys tomorrow between 9am and 3pm if you'd like to stop by to donate. As always, you can also <u>donate on our website</u> to enable all of our work as we gear up for our busiest season of the year. We appreciate your support!

Finally, we hope you were able to join us for our 2nd Annual State of FID Address this past Tuesday evening. If you missed it and would like to hear updates from Executive Director Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater, you can watch/listen to the <u>recording here</u>.

Have a beautiful weekend,

Merria Velasco



## We can only operate with your help!

**Donate today** 

## Join the Legacy Society

# Get Social



## Pasadena Community Foundation

We're honored to have attended Pasadena Community Foundation's 23rd Annual Local Heroes Celebration. It was great to connect with nonprofit organizations across our city and hear from local elected officials. Thank you, Pasadena Community Foundation, for having us! <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>



## First United Methodist Church

First through third graders at First United Methodist Church, Pasadena, got an early start to their holiday preparations by decorating Christmas tree bags to fill with weekend survival treats for clients of The Women's Room. They filled the bags with water, crackers, canned meat, cookies, breakfast bars and some holiday treats. <u>Read more...</u>

#### **Pasadena-Foothills Realtors**

Pasadena-Foothills Realtors (PFAR) gathered and donated 644 pairs of socks throughout their Socktober Drive. Thank you for your support in keeping our clients warm this winter! <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>





### Thank You Congresswoman Judy Chu

Thank you Congresswoman Judy Chu for Congress for donating 10 turkeys to Operation Gobbler! Last day to donate is this Saturday, 11/19, 9am - 3pm. Please grab an extra turkey when doing your own Thanksgiving shopping to help us meet the need. Thank you! <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>

## **News and Events**

## **Vroman's: Holiday Food Drive**

We're pleased to partner with Vroman's Bookstore this holiday season! You can donate to the food drive now through November 20th. Here are the items needed most, but any nonperishable food is appreciated. Both Vroman's locations (695 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91101 or 3729 E Foothill Blvd. Pasadena, CA 91107) are accepting donations!

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY

In partnership with Friends in Deed Food Pantry

#### **NOVEMBER 12 - NOVEMBER 20**

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:	OTHER USEFUL ITEMS:	TOILETRIES:
Peanut butter	Coffee	Soap (bars)
Canned tuna or	Dried beans	Toothbrushes
chicken	Pasta	Toothpaste
Cereal	Spaghetti sauce	Shampoo &
Rice	Oats	conditioner
Cooking oil	Sliced bread	Deodorant
Sugar - Flour	Jelly & jam	Lotion
Can openers	Shelf stable/powdered	Disposable razors &
Canned soup, chili,	milk	shaving cream
stew	Tomato sauce	Feminine hygiene
	Pet food	Toilet paper

All non-perishable and shelf-stable foods are welcome

## Will Hike for Food 2022

The 7th annual Will Hike for Food hike/food drive will take place November 27th at Cherry Canyon. This event will help people enjoy nature, get exercise, meet other hikers, and give back to those less fortunate. Hikers are requested to bring non-perishable food items to donate to Friends In Deed. <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>

## **Vroman's: The Giving Tree**

Vroman's continues its partnership with Friends In Deed Pasadena this holiday season to help provide toys and gifts to disadvantaged kids! Stop by the Children's Department on Colorado Blvd or in Hastings Ranch to choose the name of a child from the tree for whom to buy a gift. Once you make your purchase you will be able to leave it with Vroman's to be delivered to Friends In Deed on a date closer to the holiday.



#### FRIENDS IN DEED GIVING TREE

EVERY GIVING TREE PURCHASE WILL RECEIVE A 20% DISCOUNT



Help us bring joy to a disadvantaged child this holiday season by stopping by either store and purchasing a gift to donate to a child in need.

November 12 - December 9





**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*.

## Having trouble seeing this message? View as Webpage

Friends In Deed | 444 E. Washington Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91104

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