



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

We have had a truly full week of thanks and giving at Friends In Deed. Our staff, volunteers, and partner organizations really kicked into overdrive to ensure all our clients and guests experienced the holiday in a meaningful way.

The past couple weeks, we have been blessed to be inundated with food drives and turkey donations. This has helped provide food for about 500 families a week, and also helped Thanksgiving dreams come true for households that might be tight on budget this holiday season.

The turkey donations culminated this past weekend, when we held our annual partnership event Operation Gobbler with the Pasadena Jaycees. Made possible by community sponsors and generous individuals, FID Food Pantry clients were able to stop by Sunday for holiday meal essentials. Local Congresswoman Judy Chu, Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo with Ralphs/Food4Less, City Councilman Justin Jones, City Councilman Tyron Hampton, and the Philoptochos Society from St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church are just a few donors that joined in combating food insecurity this season. Lena L. Kennedy continued the legacy of her brother, the Hon. John J. Kennedy, by providing 100 turkeys to the event, and Assemblymember Chris Holden also made an impact through his donation of 100 turkeys and participation in the grocery distribution. This showed the true meaning of *doing together what we cannot do alone.



Then, on Tuesday, The Women's Room was filled with love, meaningful conversations, laughter, and, of course, delicious food for the annual TWR Thanksgiving celebration. Volunteer Celia helped make the room really shine with fall decorations. The meal was once again provided by the Church of the Ascension, who has been helping with this Thanksgiving feast for the past 14 years. We are so grateful to Nicole Hanson for organizing the feast. We had 28 TWR guests, 5 volunteers, and 4 staff on site, and still had food leftovers to send with our guests to ensure they stay well fed all week long. The Church of the Ascension also brought gifts, and Linda with the San Gabriel Panhellenic Society brought an abundance of beautiful presents for the women as well. One of the loveliest parts of the day was when a TWR guest led the group in a blessing and prayer, which inspired another guest to jump in with additional prayerful words. Love really was all around.



Thanksgiving is a time that allows us to be filled with feelings of togetherness and gratitude. In reality, many of us will spend this holiday weekend doing a lot of eating and shopping as well. But this weekend also culminates with Giving Tuesday on November 29th.

Giving Tuesday is an international day of giving back, and we hope you will [consider including Friends In Deed](#) in your year-end giving. We are so grateful for all of you, our wonderful supporters. But what you all support is the work we do to make the world a better place for the local community members who need our help. Thank you for choosing to partner with us in this critical work. We appreciate you.

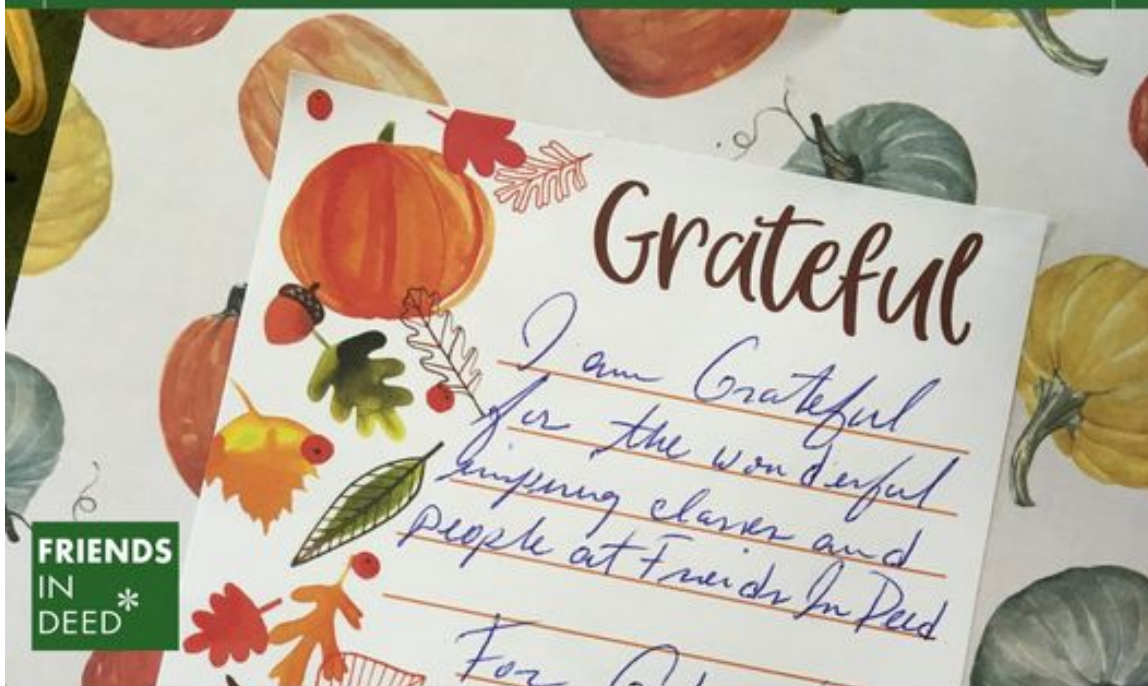
Have a beautiful weekend,

Merria Velasco



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Thursday 11/23 - Sunday 11/27:
FID OFFICES CLOSED



HAPPY GIVING TUESDAY!

DONATE \$100 OR MORE TO BE ENTERED
INTO AN OPPORTUNITY DRAWING TO WIN
THESE HAND-PAINTED WINTER COOKIES
BY @CRAFTSMANCOOKIES!



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Join the Legacy Society

Get Social



The Maya Salon

The Maya Salon owner, Azelle, collected, assembled, and donated 560 care packages for our Women's Room guests. We are so grateful for her



support and generosity. [Read more...](#)



The Women's Room Writing Group

Despite the many challenges they face in their daily lives, guests in The Women's Room have taken the Thanksgiving season to heart to reflect on what they're grateful for, from God's presence in their lives to their own inner strength and optimism. Participants put their thoughts on paper this month to create some inspiring affirmations. [Read more...](#)

News and Events

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. [Read more...](#)



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.

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.

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

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