



## Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

One of the more special aspects of The Women's Room is the trust that the ladies feel with the staff and volunteers. This trust comes over time, with space given to be honest and share in a safe space, without judgment, but rather with love. From that trust, there are sometimes moments where raw emotions can be let out, shared from a wellspring of feelings that are often not able to emerge. This past week, an experience just like this happened. One of our regular guests, Denise, who you may remember from her beautiful flower arranging and centerpieces at the Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast, has been living in her car for some time. The staff has worked hard, and thankfully she is being housed in a brand new place, starting in July. Yesterday, FID staff members Lindsey, Jane, and Najwa were able to tell Denise that until she moves in, she will be in a motel for the next 2-3 weeks. "Last night was your last night being homeless, sleeping in your car." Upon hearing this, she began sobbing, and fell into their arms. I am very grateful to Denise for allowing me to share this personal moment in her life, and I am so proud to be part of a group of people that work to create space for this kind of moment to happen. We are so happy for Denise!



Tonight is a big night! [Cooking for a Cause](#) is happening, and we are so excited. Huge thank you to Barbara Levinson, our Executive Chef and presenting sponsor, and to all of you that have contributed so far. [It is not too late to donate!](#) The whole [event will be live](#)

[streamed](#), and there will be more opportunities to give during the competition. Our very own television personality and Director of the Food Pantry Tim Nistler will be the host, talking with the celebrity chef judges, the student teams, the audience, and everyone at home. Invite family and friends over, cook up a meal, and [watch](#)!

Finally, in order to give our staff a well-deserved break, all FID programs and offices will be closed next week, June 26th-30th. And this means there will be no weekly email next Friday (brace yourself!). Thanks for your understanding and support.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,  
Rabbi Joshua



**Watch Cooking for a Cause!**

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**We can only operate with your help!**

**Donate today**

**Join the Legacy Society**

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**Get Social**



### **Benjamin's Care Packages**

Thank you to Benjamin Regan from the Jewish Mitzvah club at South Pasadena High School! The club received a grant to buy items for those experiencing homelessness, and Benjamin spearheaded the effort to buy toiletries and make care packages for our Street Outreach



team to pass on to clients. Great work, Benjamin... [Read more.](#)



## Street Outreach and LAHSA

FID's Street Outreach and Housing team's collaborative outreach with Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Homeless Engagement Team (LAHSA HET). This month they hiked by the train tracks looking for folks that may need assistance... [Read more.](#)

# News and Events

## Cooking for a Cause

We're creating a culinary competition and keeping it local by partnering with the renowned [Institute of Culinary Education \(ICE\)](#) located on Green Street in Pasadena. Taking place on **Friday, June 23rd from 5-7pm**, this fun, lively, and *tasteful* evening will highlight the very real problem of food insecurity in our local community, while raising vital funding for all FID programs that serve greater Pasadena. [Watch Cooking for a Cause here.](#)



## Back to School Drive

As this current school year ends and summer begins, we are already looking forward to the upcoming school year and making sure the young students in our Food Pantry community can start the year on an equal footing with their classmates. Each year we come to you, our Friends In Deed community, to help us make the Back-to-School Backpack & School Supply Drive a success. We have set up an Amazon "[FID School Supply Drive Wish List](#)" if you prefer to order online and have purchases sent directly to Friends In Deed. You can also click the photo here for a PDF list to take shopping. Thank you!

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FRIENDS  
IN  
DEED \*



Summer Break

JUNE 24 – 30, 2023





**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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