



## Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Juanita is no stranger to trauma - over the space of only a few years all her family died, leaving her alone. She found it hard to cope without the support system of a family, and eventually fell into homelessness.

She was sleeping in a car when the back window got kicked in, leaving her with nowhere safe to sleep. She started looking for other resources and, fortunately, found Friends In Deed where she was able to get food and a shower in The Women's Room. Jane, The Women's Room Manager and Case Counselor, also put her in touch with the Street Outreach and Housing team, and Najwa began working to get her into housing.

In the meantime, Juanita was still sleeping wherever she could. She moved away from Pasadena and found a place in transitional housing for a little while, but found she couldn't live there - too much drug use and too many disruptive people. Sometimes she would sleep in a park but, after her shoes were stolen off her feet while she was asleep, often she would walk all night instead. When Najwa called her about a possible housing match, Juanita returned to Pasadena as fast as she could.

Juanita now has a place in permanent housing - an apartment for herself! She tells us she is looking forward to first getting some rest, and then working on some new goals for her life - she "can't just sit around."



Street Outreach and Housing team members Najwa and Michael with Juanita.

We are so grateful for our team that is able, day in and day out, to work together to help people in their most difficult times of life. This is a great example of two programs collaborating, supporting each other with their own programmatic focus. We are seeing more and more of this at FID, and it is rewarding and a sign of our ongoing growth and sophistication as an organization.

Finally, as we head into the heat of summer, the weather once again becomes a danger for our neighbors on the streets. There is a cooling center at the Jackie Robinson Center on Fair Oaks, and libraries are also available. We are in need of WATER, so if you are able, please donate on Fridays and Saturdays at FID House between 9am-3pm. You can also pass out water yourselves to anyone you see on the streets.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend (stay cool and safe!),  
Rabbi Joshua



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

**Donate today**

## Get Social



### Leadership Pasadena

Director of The Women's Room, Lindsey Reed, is a new graduate of the Leadership Pasadena Class of 2023! Leadership Pasadena is a six-month-long intensive professional leadership development program... [Read more.](#)



### Aveson Food Pantry Donation

Thank you to the students at Aveson Schools for their efforts in organizing a food drive for our Food Pantry. We are grateful for your support and commitment to serving the community... [Read more.](#)



### Building Bridges Task Force Dinner

Rabbi Joshua was honored to speak at the annual interfaith Building Bridges Task Force dinner at Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church. The project aims to forge interfaith relationships through joint service projects and social events. Through these we can learn to understand, support,

and stand up with each other better, build relationships to bridge separations and differences, and work to build a diverse, multicultural interfaith community in the Pasadena area... [Read more.](#)

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## News and Events

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### Back to School Drive

As 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 | 444 E. Washington Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91104

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