

## **Weekly Message**

### Dear Friend,

Daisy W. moved to Pasadena one year ago hoping to find new housing and work in the area. Much to her surprise it was the housing element that proved most difficult, as she struggled to find something affordable for her and her 16-year-old son with special needs. After repeated rejections and failed attempts to find a unit that would accept her housing voucher in Pasadena, she found herself and her son living in their Suburban. When her car caught on fire, the fire department contacted us to see if we had a motel. Our Senior Intensive Case Management Specialist, William Shelby, took on her case, and we placed them in a motel for nearly six months as Daisy's son continued to attend high school and William worked hard to find a place for them to rent.

Eventually Daisy decided to throw in the towel and move back to Las Vegas. With her voucher about to expire, and no way to move, her options were looking bleak. William decided a bit more help would be needed to get her over the finish line and back into safe housing, so he made some calls and was able to get her voucher renewed and ported back to Las Vegas. Because she has a choice voucher, it can be transferred to another location that has available housing. He then loaded up his truck with her and her son's belongings and buckled up for a road trip to get them reunited with their extended family back in Nevada. In just a few weeks she was able to find housing with her voucher, get her son enrolled into school, and begin working in the area.

This story illustrates two points for me. First, I am so proud of William for not only working to figure out how to find this family a place to live, out of state, but that he was willing to drive them all the way to Nevada. The dedication of our staff continues to amaze and inspire me. Second, it illustrates just how expensive and near impossible it is to find low-income housing in our city. Statistics show that in the state of California, for every 100 families seeking affordable housing, there are only 26 units available at any given time. And the number of units that will take Section 8 vouchers is even less than that. This is untenable, and homelessness will

continue to rise if we don't solve this problem.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has donated water bottles, we appreciate it! We will need a constant supply of water throughout the summer, so please continue to bring them to FID House on Fridays and Saturdays, 9am-3pm, or have them delivered to us directly.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend, Rabbi Joshua



## We can only operate with your help!

**Donate today** 

Join the Legacy Society

## **Get Social**









# Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine

Tim and staff and interns from the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine got together for a tour and talk about the Food Pantry. Everyone had a great time and we look forward to building on this new partnership... Read more.

### **Smoothies in TWR**

Lindsey, Director of The



Women's Room, has been serving up fresh fruit smoothies to beat the heat! A very generous former client, who has been housed and employed, wanted to give back to TWR for all of the help we gave her. She purchased and donated a brand new blender and bought lots of fresh fruit to make morning smoothies for the ladies. They've been enjoying them every day during the week... Read more.



### First United Methodist Chruch

FUMC's Sunday School children delivered survival bags decorated in stars and stripes for The Women's Room clients so they have nourishment on the weekends. The 52-person cast of the church's annual summer musical, 42nd Street, collected school supplies and had a bake sale to support both FID's back-to-school program and FID's services for our unhoused neighbors... Read more.

## **News and Events**

#### Water bottles needed!

This heat wave is especially dangerous for people experiencing homelessness. Please consider purchasing an extra case of water bottles next time you are at the market. Onsite donations are appreciated Friday & Saturday from 9am to 3pm at 444 E Washington Blvd.





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