



## Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Fiona had been sharing a house with a friend and helping her run her business. But they also had two other roommates, and Fiona found her things started to go missing. After confronting the roommates, Fiona says, "things got weird" and the relationships started to break down. Eventually it got so bad that Fiona lost her job and her accommodation all at the same time.

Fiona first heard about Friends In Deed when she was getting a meal at one of Pasadena's local churches. The pastor announced the details of our Bad Weather Supplies program, including the information that motel vouchers would be available. Fiona says it was perfectly timed, as she was able to get shelter during some of the wettest weather of the winter.

Then, at the motel, the Friends In Deed staff member doing Fiona's intake told her about The Women's Room (TWR). Fiona says her immediate response was "Oh my gosh, I can't believe this!" She has used TWR extensively since, for showers, laundry, and food.

Friends In Deed assigned a case manager to Fiona, but then she decided to try living with her grandmother. However, Fiona's abusive father was also living there, and he reverted to his old patterns of behavior. Fiona left the house and started riding the trains and buses at night for safety. She called Friends In Deed and asked to be reconnected with her case manager.

After that, things moved fast. We were able to get Fiona a place in a shared room in Long Beach - somewhere where she feels safe and can get enough sleep. She told us how grateful she is to no longer have to carry all her belongings with her, and how she is now looking forward to getting back into the workplace.

On another note, last weekend brought Hurricane Hilary to our area, with continual rain throughout Sunday and into Monday. I am grateful to members of our staff, who jumped into action, with other street outreach teams, went out onto the streets and assisted many

people into the emergency shelter that the city set up. It was a wonderful collaboration between agencies and city officials, ensuring that our most vulnerable neighbors had a warm, safe and dry place to be during the worst of the storm.



Staff members Lindsey and William at the Villa Parke emergency shelter.



Staff members Tish and Ryan passing out supplies and informing individuals of emergency shelters.

Finally, I am excited to be joining Neighborhood UU Church this Sunday to share about FID, and receive their "Pass the Plate" offering to benefit our work. I hope to join as many congregations as I can in the coming months, so if your community is interested in having me (tell the pastor I can give the sermon!) please let me know!

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,  
Rabbi Joshua

P.S. You should have received the Save the Date email for our awesome fundraiser, [Stories from the Street](#), coming up on October 14th. Please consider being a sponsor, and start telling your family and friends!



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

**Donate today**

**Forever Friends Legacy Society**

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# Podcast

## 2023-13 "It's Like Heaven" A Personal Story of a Guest in The Women's Room in Her Own Words

In this episode, Rabbi Joshua talks with Ondina, a guest in The Women's Room who worked with our staff first to find a domestic violence shelter for safety, and then locate permanent housing. Ondina is an inspiring and energetic woman who shares her story with passion, emotion and immense gratitude. You can't help but be moved listening to her share her journey in her own words, telling us that TWR is "like heaven." [Listen now.](#)



## Get Social



### Farewell to Emelin

Farewell to Emelin, our Food Pantry Associate! We extend our warmest wishes as Emelin embarks on a new journey in the marriage and family therapy field. Her dedication and hard work at FID have left a lasting impact. Thank you, Emelin, for all you've contributed, and may your future endeavors be as fulfilling as your time with us... [Read more.](#)

### New Library at TWR

From Storage to Sanctuary - introducing our new library at The Women's Room! Thanks to a grant from the Pasadena Community Foundation, and the hard work of this year's Leadership Pasadena participants, this once-empty office has transformed into a peaceful haven for reading,





puzzles, meetings, and computer use. A space for empowerment and connection... [Read more.](#)



### Dog Crate Donation

A generous supporter recently gifted a large dog crate to our Street Outreach and Housing program. Staff member and Family Specialist, Michael, identified a family that was in need of a dog crate and quickly coordinated the drop-off. FID is assisting with the family's permanent housing search and move-in needs while also ensuring their furry family member is welcomed too...

[Read more.](#)

## News and Events

### Volunteer Appreciation BBQ

We want to celebrate YOU as an integral part of our community. Please join us for our Friends In Deed Volunteer Appreciation BBQ on Thursday, September 14th from 4-6pm at Farnsworth Park in Altadena for a casual afternoon of activities, music, tasty BBQ courtesy of the Knights of Columbus, and community!

Please [RSVP Here!](#)



## Leave a Lasting Legacy

Thank you to those who were able to attend our Leaving a Lasting Legacy event! We hope you enjoyed the presentation on planned giving by Certified Financial Planner Juan C. Ros. For those not able to attend live, please click below to listen/watch at your own convenience:

[Recording Available Here!](#)



## Water Bottles Needed!

Summertime heat is especially dangerous for people experiencing homelessness. Please consider purchasing an extra case of water bottles next time you are at the market. On-site donations are appreciated Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 3pm at 444 E. Washington Blvd.



**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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