



## Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Kelly was a friend of someone we were able to previously get into housing. Kelly had been experiencing homelessness for a while - he had been in and out of prison, and had struggled to get his life back on track. He managed to get sober for a time, but then relapsed and ended up on the street.

However, by the time Kelly approached us he had begun making steps to get his life under control. He was in the process of applying for Social Security, and had also begun to use some strategies to moderate his substance use. More importantly, perhaps, he had reached a point where he knew he needed to get into housing to continue his recovery, and was ready to ask for help.

As Kelly was prepared to accept any housing available (namely, not just in Pasadena), we were able to find him a placement within only a few days! He is now looking forward to going back to 12-step meetings, being able to make it to appointments, and easily getting his mail. Kelly is a classic example of how housing can be a "harm reduction" strategy for many people, and a step on the path towards wellness.



The Street Outreach and Housing team told me how lovely Kelly has been to work with - a kind and positive man, a real "gentle giant." Najwa said "I didn't even know how to hug him, he's so tall!"

And while this was happening: in addition to the regular 530+ households using the Food Pantry, last Saturday 180 families got school supplies and backpacks for their kids, and many more will get supplies tomorrow. Furthermore, The Women's Room had one of its busiest weeks since before COVID-19, and we were awarded Nonprofit of the Year by Rep. Judy Chu for the 28th Congressional District!

Together, we are 'doing together what we cannot do alone.' As always, in order to ensure we can continue our work, and perhaps in honor of our award, please consider [a donation to support us](#) in our efforts to help those most in need with compassion, connection and dignity.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,  
Rabbi Joshua



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

**Donate today**

**Join the Legacy Society**

## Get Social



### Nonprofit of the Year!

Congresswoman Judy Chu's 28th Congressional District announced Congressional Leadership of the Year Awards on July 29, 2023. We are honored and humbled to have received the recognition of Nonprofit of the Year.

The Congressional Leadership of the Year Awards is an annual event recognizing the diverse leadership and volunteerism in the cities making up California's 28th Congressional District...

[Read more.](#)



### School Supplies Weekend 1!

Backpacks and school supplies were given out on the first of two Saturday distributions to our Food Pantry families. We even had some clothing for the moms that came with their kids, courtesy of longtime volunteer, Adrienne Shanley. Donations and support from so many including FCC, Assistance League of Flintridge, SMCC, Food Pantry volunteers, and more.

### Cynthia Cohn Good Neighbor Award

We are immensely grateful to Cynthia Cohn & Associates, Inc.



for her ongoing support of FID. She was nominated to receive the Good Neighbor Award from PFARIA, the non-profit division and charitable foundation of PFAR (Pasadena Foothill Association of Realtors). This award recognizes PFAR members who are making waves in the community through acts of service. Congratulations, Cynthia... [Read more.](#)

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## News and Events

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### Leave a Lasting Legacy

We are hosting a meeting about Leaving a Lasting Legacy with a Certified Financial Planner at no cost to you! [RSVP here](#) to learn more about establishing a will or trust, planning for your legacy, and considering financial options that might be best for you. All are welcome, but please RSVP no later than Monday, August 7th. We hope you will join us!



### 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. On-site donations are appreciated Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 3pm at 444 E Washington Blvd.







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

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