

Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

This was a busy week in The Women's Room! Last Saturday, we had an art show at First United Methodist Church which displayed several pieces from our TWR guests. This followed a concert at the church, so many people were able to enjoy the art-including FID board members, volunteers and even a few of the ladies. Kudos to Lindsey, TWR Director, for setting up such a beautiful display. On Tuesday, we had the most guests ever in one day: 50! There was lots of activity, thankfully enough food, and a bit of good chaos. A huge shout out to Lindsey, Jane, Jenny and the volunteers for handling it with grace, as always. Yesterday there was a fun Halloween party with games, costumes, fun food and lots of laughter. We have been seeing many new guests, some coming with their friends, which shows how special and safe ladies feel.



Director of The Women's Room Lindsey Reed with volunteers at the TWR art show.

There are a few other significant numbers I would like to share with you from this week. The Food Pantry saw the most number of people ever: 626 households. The Street Outreach and Housing team reached 106 people transitioned off the streets into bridge or permanent housing for this year. And EPRA has had the most calls in one month of people seeking assistance: 90. We are constantly trying to understand why the numbers increase, and while I wish I can offer concrete answers, we honestly don't often know, save for the fact that food and gas prices remain high, rents remain high, housing remains scarce and people need help. That is why we are here, and we are doing our best to serve folks, always with compassion, connection and dignity.

Finally, another significant moment took place this week, one that will greatly increase our ability to help people in need. Supervisor Kathryn Barger came to FID House and presented us with a check for \$200,000! We are very grateful for the Supervisor's support, which she showed not only in providing funds, but staying for nearly an hour and a half, talking to staff, witnessing our programs in action, and perhaps most importantly, sitting with two of our TWR guests, listening to their stories and speaking personally with them. It was a good day!



Supervisor Kathryn Barger presenting FID with a check.

We are so grateful for all of your support, and appreciate all that you do to help us take care of the most vulnerable in our community. This was certainly a week of 'doing together what we cannot do alone.'

Blessings and have a lovely weekend, Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Forever Friends Legacy Society





TWR Art Show

Captivating creations at The Women's Room Art Show hosted at First United Methodist Church! Our talented guests from TWR showcased their incredible artistry. Grateful for the presence of FID board members, volunteers, and TWR guests...<u>Read more.</u>

Food Pantry Creations

Delicious creations made by one of our pantry community members using ingredients from our Food Pantry. The first dish is jalapeño corn bread with apples and blueberries made from corn bread mix and canned jalapeños. From pantry to plate, they're cooking up inspiration...<u>Read</u> <u>more.</u>





First United Methodist Church Care Kits

The Sunday School kids at First United Methodist Church had fun decorating bags to fill with crackers, tuna, breakfast bars, water, fruit and cookies so that The Women's Room clients will have nutrition and snacks for weekends when most services are closed. They enjoyed showing off their artwork...<u>Read</u> more.

News and Events

Operation Gobbler

We're looking forward to partnering with the Pasadena Jaycees for the annual Operation Gobbler food drive! This project supports approximately 300 Pasadena-area families in need. If you are interested in donating turkeys or other Thanksgiving food, email <u>Tim</u> or call 626.797.6072.

More information available <u>here</u>.



Christmas Tree Sale

The holidays will be here before we know it! Saint Mark's Episcopal Church is holding a Christmas tree fundraiser to benefit Friends In Deed again this year. <u>Place your tree</u> <u>order today</u> (or by November 13th at the latest!) and have it delivered locally or pick it up yourself on December 2nd.



State of FID Address

We hope you will join us for our annual State of FID Address to learn the latest on all our programs and ask questions directly to FID leadership. All Friends In Deed supporters are invited to attend online (Zoom link coming soon).





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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