

Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

In the Food Pantry, we have almost 100 regular volunteers. They come from a variety of backgrounds and most of them don't know any other volunteers when they start. Friendships grow out of the different volunteer shifts. One Tuesday afternoon, there was a bit of crossover between an afternoon volunteer, Claudia, and a mid-shift volunteer, Keith. Claudia has been volunteering since 2015 when she was in college. Keith is a retired pediatrician, who has only been volunteering a few months. It was a busy Tuesday and Claudia was checking clients in at the front door. Keith was bringing produce in and restocking the tables. Their paths didn't cross directly, but Claudia asked Tim, our Program Director, "was that Dr. Keith? A pediatrician?" Tim said, "yes," and Claudia responded, "he was my pediatrician!" Tim yelled out to Keith and brought these two people together- two adults that knew each other from when Claudia was just a small girl and Keith was still a doctor. There were hugs, smiles, and a lot of laughter. Tim said, "I guess the world can be a small place." I love stories like this!



Food Pantry Volunteer Claudia

On a more somber note, last week we lost an amazing woman, Dorothy Edwards. After years of experiencing homelessness - living on the streets or in her truck with her trusted canine companion, battling addiction and mental illness, and experiencing physical decline - Dorothy found her way back. Thanks to amazing outreach workers, time in The Women's Room, and caring individuals, she got housing, got sober, got teeth, and became a leading advocate for others. She was employed at Housing Works, was a national spokesperson, received awards from elected officials, and was a beloved member of our Pasadena community. Sadly, after a battle with cancer, Dorothy passed away at the age of 65. I hope you will read the piece about her in Pasadena Now. I had the pleasure of knowing Dorothy, talking with her, and seeing her wonderful smile on many occasions, especially when she was walking her dog. May Dorothy's soul be with God in peace, and may her memory and life's story be a blessing. She will be sorely missed.



Dorothy Edwards [From a photo by Bridge Projects]

With dedicated volunteers, committed advocates, and amazing humans like Dorothy, we are bringing sparks of light and love to what can often seem like a very dark world, especially in times like those we are experiencing right now. We are very grateful to have you as part of our FID community, helping us all fulfill our motto 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

Get Social







Día de los Muertos at TWR

The Women's Room created this beautiful ofrenda in celebration of Día de los Muertos □ □□□□□□□□□□ Jenny explained the history, meaning, and traditions connected with the holiday to TWR guests and volunteers.





Halloween at TWR

Spooky fun and pumpkinpalooza! The Women's Room Halloween party brought out the ghouls and giggles as our wonderful guests enjoyed games, a festive cake, and pumpkin decorating. Fang-tastic times were had by all...Read more.



HARC Award

Friends In Deed received the HARC award at the Judicial Review and Fiduciary Awards Dinner. Thank you to the Fiduciary Round Table of the San Gabriel Valley for this honor...Read more.

News and Events

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).



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. □ Place your tree order today (or by November 13th at the latest!) and have it delivered locally or pick it up yourself on December 2nd.





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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