

2024-2025 Back-to-School Backpack & School Supply Drive

Dear Friends,

Summer is right around the corner and we are preparing for the upcoming school year. Our annual "Back-To-School" event is our most important Food Pantry event of the year. Making sure that the young students in our community can start the year on an equal footing with their classmates is critical.

Like so many of us, our FID families face many financial challenges but unlike many of us, they have a higher degree of difficulty in overcoming these challenges. Economic instability is still a major hurdle for our families and this makes it even more difficult for families for big events, like the start of a new school year. This is why we consider our annual "Back-To-School" event such an important one.

Last year, you, our Friends In Deed family, helped us to provide almost 400 backpacks and school supply bags to the young students in our Food Pantry community. It was a huge success and everyone that came for a backpack and school supplies, received them.

This year, your participation is more important than ever. We expect to see as many students come for backpacks as last year, if not more. Your help and support are imperative to the success of this special event. We cannot do it without you. We hope that you will join us in this effort!

On two consecutive Saturdays, August 3 & 10, we will be distributing backpacks and supplies to families in our community. We ask you to help us by dropping off donations to the Friends In Deed house, located at 444 E. Washington Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91104 (on the corner of Washington Blvd. and Los Robles Ave.).

Donations will be accepted starting Saturday, July 6. Please plan to bring the donations on one of the following days:

Thursday – July 11, 18, & 25, from 1:30p to 4:30p
Friday – July 12, 19, & 26, from 9:00a to 3:00p
Saturday – July 6, 13, 20, & 27, from 9:00a to 3:00p

If you are unable to bring the donations on one of the above days, please reach out to Tim, timn@friendsindeedpas.org, Eva, evan@friendsindeedpas.org, or Kristina, kristinam@friendsindeedpas.org via email or give them a call at 626-797-6072 to arrange a drop-off outside those dates and times.

We have also set up an Amazon "[FID School Supply Drive Wish List](#)" if you prefer to order online and have purchases sent directly to Friends In Deed: [click here](#) or copy/paste this link into your browser:
www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3DGFRX5F9MXJW

If you would like to support this event, here are some things to consider:

1. Please avoid all red and all blue backpacks. This is very important to our schools.
2. Backpacks should be sturdy enough to handle the rigors of a student's day and the tremendous supply of books students heft around, especially high school students.
3. The school supplies needed are recommended by the Pasadena/Altadena area schools and the list is included below.
4. Empty backpacks and school supplies must be delivered to Friends In Deed by Friday, July 21, 2023 at the latest, in order to be included in the distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact our Food Pantry team. Thank you for helping us ensure that the students in our community have a great start to the upcoming school year.

In service and with gratitude,



Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater
Executive Director



Tim Nistler
Director of the Food Pantry