



## Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

William Shelby, our Intensive Case Management Services Specialist, told us this story about a gentleman the team has been working with - a story which had a wonderful outcome.

John is a 33-year-old man who found himself partying way too much in his youth, and the days of having "fun" turned into addiction. He found himself alone, suffering from depression, substance abuse, and homelessness. Thankfully, he was able to get into a drug and alcohol program here in Pasadena.

After spending several months in rehab, he completed the program, was able to get a job and a car, and is now doing much better in some regards. In early 2023, John was able to secure a spot at the safe parking program in Pasadena. From there, after a meeting with an outreach worker from Friends In Deed in early 2024, the process to permanent housing began. He gathered all the needed documents. He was able to do a housing plan, as well as figure out a budget. He did this all while still living in his car, experiencing homelessness, and working. Our Street Outreach and Housing team started the process of finding a housing situation that would work for John.

The team was able to secure a voucher, and the hunt for a unit in Pasadena began. They found a unit two weeks ago, and John is now in a one-bedroom apartment. William repeatedly told me that during the process, John was always grateful, understanding and very kind. Following being given this new start in his unit, John likes to keep a journal and write poetry. Here is the first poem he wrote:

*May the weapons formed against you Fail...  
May your light rise in Obscurity...  
May your dusk be turned into day...*

*Sorrow filled my heart until I saw your sky sparkling to me  
Painted in the brilliance of your love.  
You washed down in the wave of your grace*

*You gave my heart a reason to hope  
And in the Oblivion where I make my home  
I heard you say "you are not Alone."*

We are thrilled for John, and so grateful that he shared these heartfelt and profound words with us. William will continue to meet with him and help him stay on track as he settles into this new chapter in his life.



John in his new home.

And now: the weekly reminder about [Cooking for a Cause](#)! Sponsors are rolling in, tickets are being sold, and the excitement is building. We are just over three weeks away, and you won't want to miss it! We have wonderful aspiring chefs ready to compete, we have local chefs ready to judge, and Agnes Restaurant and Cheesery is ready to host. Now, we need YOU to join us! You can find all the information on our [website](#), social media, and in your good old home mailboxes. Join us on the evening of June 24th – Cooking for a Cause 2024!

Finally, as we kick off Pride Month tomorrow, we are proud to affirm that everyone is welcome at Friends In Deed. We pride ourselves on being a safe space for all to receive compassion and dignity. Happy Pride!

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,

Rabbi Joshua



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

**Donate today**

**Forever Friends Legacy Society**

**Get Social**



### **The Gooden School**

Tim welcomed The Gooden School kindergarten class to our Food Pantry for a tour and visit. This marks the final class from Gooden School to visit this year, with students from K through 8th grade all having made one visit during the school year. We are thrilled to have had the opportunity to introduce our pantry to these young minds...[Read more.](#)

### **Street Outreach Donation**

Thank you, Johanna, for your donation of duvets, blankets, and sleeping bags for our Street Outreach and Housing team to provide to clients. We are grateful for your support...[Read more.](#)



## News and Events

### Emerging Professionals Council

Calling all Emerging Professionals: Looking for your next leadership opportunity? This is your chance to join a like-minded group of people who want to support the mission of Friends In Deed. For any questions, please email [jeffsalcido@gmail.com](mailto:jeffsalcido@gmail.com).

Join us on **Thursday, June 6th from 5:30-7:30pm** at We Olive (□32 E. Colorado Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91105). Hope to see you there!

### Cooking for a Cause

Join us for an epic culinary showdown, presented in partnership with the incredible Agnes Restaurant and Cheesery. Taking place on Monday, June 24th, 5:30-7:30pm, it promises to be a super evening of premier cooking competition, camaraderie, and flavorful fun. [Full details here.](#)

MIXER AT WE OLIVE

Please join us to discuss next steps in forming an Emerging Professionals Council in Support of Friends in Deed

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Contact Jeff Salcido with questions  
626-665-6321 | [jeffsalcido@gmail.com](mailto:jeffsalcido@gmail.com)

[FRIENDSINDEEDPAS.ORG](http://FRIENDSINDEEDPAS.ORG)

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## Farm Fresh to You

Revitalize your plate with organic goodness! Our partnership with Farm Fresh To You lets you enjoy fresh, organic produce delivered to your door, and 10% goes back to supporting Friends In Deed. It's a win-win for healthy living and community support! Just visit [Farm Fresh to You to sign up](#).

If you are a current customer, [use this link to automatically add the fundraising code](#):  
FRIENDSINDEED



**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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