



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Here is a wonderful story that our Food Pantry Program Associate, Kristina Martin, shared with us.

One of our clients, George, has recently been coming in because he has fallen on hard times. He confessed he's had his personal items stolen multiple times and has a hard time keeping track of his things and making appointments, but has been very thankful we exist. He came in today and told me he is relocating to Santa Monica, and while there a couple days ago, ran into a lady who was wheelchair bound and had a bad case of elephantiasis. Her wheelchair is manual and she was having to scoot along with her bad foot to get anywhere. He said she didn't have a phone and that he was hoping to help her in any way he could. He called LAHop to get an intake coordinator to start that process for her but was wondering if we had any information about how/where to get a motorized scooter/wheelchair to help.

After looking through our various resource lists, I asked Eva, our Food Pantry Manager. She mentioned the Convalescent Aid Society, which is a group that takes donated medical equipment and loans it out for free to anyone who needs it. Like motorized wheelchairs! In addition, I have a friend who won a phone in a raffle that came with \$30 of prepaid minutes and it's been sitting on my desk waiting for the right person.

I was able to come back to George and give him the name and phone of the Aid Society and the prepaid phone. He was extremely thankful and very excited to follow up with the Aid Society and also give this phone to the woman he met. I thought it was a great example of how even if someone is down on their luck, they still can (and want) to help others just by asking for help. The community continues!

As we know in life, sometimes, and oftentimes, it is the small gestures that can make the biggest difference. It is people like George that make us feel proud of what we do and the spirit we seek

to engender each and every day.

This past Monday, as we have been talking about for weeks, we had our 2nd annual Cooking for a Cause fundraiser—it was a great success! Over 100 people joined us at Agnes Restaurant & Cheesery, enjoying the evening together as the three aspiring chefs competed. A huge thank you to Thomas and Vanessa, owners of Agnes, for their generosity, as well as to all of our sponsors, to the local chef judges, and to the three aspiring chefs. I also want to give a huge shout out to our Senior Director of Development, Merria Velasco, and our Development Associate, Elyse Reed, for their hard work and dedication to make this event so wonderful for everyone.



Aspiring chefs cooking in the Agnes kitchen



Agnes Restaurant & Cheesery dining room

Finally, as we have done for the past several years, we are going to have a week-long summer break to give the staff a chance to rest and recharge. All FID programs and offices will be closed June 29th-July 7th. We look forward to being back to serve the community on Monday, July 8th.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend and a happy 4th of July!

Rabbi Joshua





We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

Forever Friends Legacy Society

Podcast

2024-7 Homeless Count, Initial Thoughts from the Report

In this episode, Rabbi Joshua shares the highlights and findings from the recently released Pasadena 2024 Homeless Count report. In the next episode, he will bring on other folks to discuss the report and talk about what it means for the state of homelessness in our city. [Read the full report here.](#)

[Listen now.](#)



Get Social





Cooking for a Cause

Cooking for a Cause was such a special evening! ? The event raised over \$100,000 for Friends In Deed's programs, while showcasing the culinary talents of our aspiring chefs and highlighting the pressing issue of food insecurity in our local community. Here is a glimpse of the fun...[Read more.](#)



TWR Supplies

The Women's Room team is making sure our clients are well-prepared for our upcoming week off! Guests had the opportunity to pick out brand new backpacks and bags, which they then stocked with snack bags and extra toiletries...[Read more.](#)



Lionsheart Club

Shoutout to the amazing Lionsheart Club members for their incredible volunteer work at our Food Pantry! ? We are grateful for your help with sorting donations and restocking the shelves...[Read more.](#)

News and Events

Cooking for a Cause

We hope you enjoyed following

along as the aspiring chef competitors created nutritionally balanced, economical entrées from kitchen pantry staples and “mystery” ingredients chosen directly from our Food Pantry’s shelves. [Watch the livestream recording here.](#)



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



Summer Break

JUNE 29 – JULY 5,
2024



CELEBRATING

130

Years of Service

* EST. 1894

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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