



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

This week, I want to highlight another one of our honorees for the upcoming [*Stories from the Street*](#) event – First United Methodist Church, Pasadena. [FUMC](#) is one of our original supporting congregations and has been a stalwart part of our 130 years. In fact, they are celebrating *150* years in our community!



We have hosted many events at the church; they recently offered their space for our Bad Weather Supplies distribution during COVID; the church foundation has been very generous with grants for many years; and, most importantly, members of their church have been significant contributors to our success, either financially or by serving on our board of directors. Past board member Woody Hain, who recruited our immediate past president Richard Cheung; past board treasurer Mikala Rahn; and, of course, past board president and current president emerita Pam Marx - all have been key parts of our ability to sustain ourselves through challenging times, and help us get to the stable and successful place we are today. Thank you FUMC!



EPRA Team: Stacey McCarroll (left) and Marlene Martinez (right)

And now a story: For Jessica, life is a balancing act. As a single mother of two young children, one of whom has a disability requiring weekly medical attention, every day feels like a race against the clock. Between her full-time job, school drop-offs, and countless doctor's appointments, there's little room for error. But when her car — their transportation lifeline — broke down, everything came to a crashing halt.

Without her car, Jessica couldn't get to work, couldn't take her kids to school, and couldn't ensure her special needs child received the medical care they depended on. Faced with a tough decision, Jessica chose to pour what little savings she had into repairing the vehicle. But this choice came at a steep cost: rent. With no money left to cover the current month's rent, the possibility of losing their home weighed heavily on her.

Though she works full time, and her disabled child receives SSI, Jessica's income is still far below what is needed to sustain her family in today's economy. The pressure was overwhelming. That's when a friend stepped in to tell Jessica about Friends In Deed and their programs designed to support families in crisis. Desperate for help, Jessica reached out, hoping for a miracle. And she found one. Through the Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance (EPRA) program, Friends In Deed not only helped her catch up on the rent she had fallen behind on, but also covered the next two months, giving Jessica time to regain her footing. Friends In Deed gave her more than just financial relief; it restored her sense of security and hope for the future.

PSA: There is still time to [RSVP](#), donate to or become a sponsor for Stories from the Street. We are getting closer to our goal, and the number of attendees is growing – and we want YOU to be there, so sign up now!



Finally, today is a special day for The Women's Room (TWR). It is the program's 17th birthday and the birthday of one of the key founders, Jackie Knowles. The remodel is finished and it looks amazing! Besides this, it is the last day of work for our Director of The Women's Room, Lindsey Reed, as she begins her maternity leave and awaits her first child any day now! We will miss Lindsey, who will be back with us in January, but rest assured there is a fantastic team in place, led by TWR Program Manager Jenny Juarez, to continue the beautiful work of caring for the ladies each day. We wish Lindsey, and her husband James, all the best, and can't wait to meet the little one, may he come in good health.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend,
Rabbi Joshua



We can only operate with your help!

Donate today to be part of our story!

Forever Friends Legacy Society

Annual Impact Report

**FRIENDS
IN
DEED***

FY24

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

The FY 2024 Annual Impact Report is now available

Download your copy [here](#).



Get Social



The Women's Room remodel is now complete

Thank you to our volunteers and staff members for all your hard work. Our hearts are bursting with gratitude for the TWR Design Angels for donating their time and



expertise to revitalize this important space...[Read more.](#)

Stay tuned for a full reveal of the new space next week!



5

ways to participate in

**HUNGER
ACTION
MONTH**

September is Hunger Action Month

Together, we can make a difference in the fight against hunger. Here are 5 ways YOU can take action this month...[Read more.](#)

News and Events

The 2nd Annual Stories from the Street is on Saturday, September 28th

Experience an unforgettable night under the stars at Friends In Deed's outdoor movie night fundraiser...[Learn more.](#)



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



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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