



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

I hope that everyone had a meaningful and happy Thanksgiving. This past Sunday, we held our annual Operation Gobbler, providing turkeys and the fixings to hundreds of families in our Food Pantry community. It is always a wonderful and joyous day, seeing the smiles on the faces of those receiving and those giving. As they have for the past 40 years, the Pasadena Jaycees donated the majority of the turkeys and came out in force to give of their time, energy, and big hearts for the event. A huge thank you to all of the Jaycees that made the day possible! We also want to thank folks who gave turkeys: Congresswoman Judy Chu, LA Regional Food Bank, the Philoptochos Society, and a generous woman named Kathleen who stepped up and donated 52 turkeys to fill out the need. And of course, kudos to our amazing Food Pantry team: Tim, Eva, and Kristina.

I want to share the following story with you, as it moved me so much, and I think speaks to the heart of what we do at FID, especially at this time of year.

When Lottie first arrived at The Women's Room, she was carrying the weight of the world on her shoulders. Her husband's recent illness had shaken their family to its core, culminating in a life-altering amputation. Although temporary motel housing offered her family a roof over their heads, Lottie was left searching for more—a place to feel safe, supported, and seen.

The Women's Room became her sanctuary. More than just a daytime refuge, it was a space where she could exhale the stresses of caregiving, medical bills, and uncertainty.



One day, TWR Program Manager, Jenny, noticed Lottie intently working on a puzzle, her focus set on finding the right pieces. Inspired by this simple yet profound way of coping, the TWR team sprang into action. The next time Lottie came in, she was greeted by a brand-new puzzle table, complete with glue and several puzzles of varying difficulties.

"It's just a puzzle," some might say, but to Lottie, it was so much more.

Day after day, the puzzles became a shared activity. Volunteers and other guests joined in, turning what started as a personal coping mechanism into a communal act of support. Bit by bit, puzzle pieces came together—just as the TWR team helped Lottie piece together a sense of calm amid the chaos.

At The Women's Room, acts of care go beyond providing food or shelter. It's about noticing the small things that matter, taking the time to listen, and showing every guest that they are valued. For Lottie, the puzzle table wasn't just an object; it was a reminder that even in her hardest moments, she wasn't alone.

Because at The Women's Room, no piece is ever left behind.

In this season of gratitude, I would encourage you to divert some of your Black Friday spending and consider a [gift to FID](#). You can do it today, or be a part of Giving Tuesday in a few days. Either way, we are grateful for your support, helping us to provide as much as we can to our most vulnerable neighbors.

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

Get Social



Omega Psi Phi fraternity brothers come through for FID again

For the 4th year in a row, they've come by with a food drive and monetary donation to help us serve our community during the holidays...[Read more.](#)

Tim Nistler, Director of the Food



Pantry, attended Pasadena Community Foundation's 25th Annual Local Heroes Luncheon

More than 200 nonprofit leaders, community partners, and generous donors gathered at the University Club for an inspiring afternoon...[Read more.](#)



For 40 incredible years, the Pasadena Jaycees and Friends In Deed have teamed up to bring Thanksgiving joy to our Food Pantry community

This past Sunday, thanks to your generosity, an amazing 320 turkeys were distributed to neighbors in need...[Read more.](#)



We are so happy to announce that the Foundation of San Marino Community Church has awarded us \$5,436

The grant will allow us to fix our front pavement, add some electrical outlets, and purchase a defibrillator--all much-needed upgrades!...[Read more.](#)

News and Events

Tuesday, December 3rd is Giving Tuesday!

Stop by [Lavender & Honey Espresso Bar](#) (1383 E. Washington Blvd, Pasadena). 50% of every coffee, tea, or treat you purchase will directly support our programs!



Watch the replay of the 4th annual State of FID Address

For those of you who couldn't attend the State of FID Address, the recording is now available on YouTube...[Watch Now.](#)



November is Native American Heritage Month

It is a time to honor the rich history, culture, and contributions of Native American communities. Let's celebrate and uplift Indigenous voices and reflect on the resilience and enduring strength of Native peoples.





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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