



Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Seeking safety and stability, Alyssa fled a domestic violence situation with her three young children. With no place to go and desperate to avoid the streets, she found temporary refuge in a tiny studio apartment, where she shared a single room with her children and her mother. It wasn't ideal, but at least they had a roof over their heads.

After trying unsuccessfully to secure a spot at a local shelter, Alyssa caught the attention of the management company where she was living. She spoke to them about getting on the waitlist for the next available unit for herself and her children. The space was small, but it was affordable and gave them housing stability.

Alyssa worked part-time as a waitress. When the restaurant she worked at shut down for nearly three weeks due to a pest issue, her already fragile financial stability took a turn for the worse. With no paycheck coming in, she quickly fell behind on rent. Even with the help of tips and CalWORKS benefits, it wasn't enough to catch up. She feared losing the only place her children had to call home.

Understanding the severity of her situation, Friends In Deed's Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance program (EPRA) provided Alyssa with assistance to cover the arrears owed, ensuring she wouldn't be evicted. We also committed to helping her with rent for the next few months, carrying her family through the holidays.

Though their living situation remains far from ideal, Alyssa knows that keeping her family housed is the most important thing right now. Maintaining permanent housing in their current unit, although small, avoids the harsh possibility of this family living in their car or ending up in a temporary shelter.

For Alyssa and her family, the help from Friends In Deed has meant more than just financial relief. We have given her the security to begin rebuilding her life, step by step, knowing that her children have a place to come home to.

It is only with your [support](#) that we can continue to help families like Alyssa's and the hundreds of others that seek our assistance on a regular basis. In speaking with our Street Outreach and Housing team this week, they told me that more and more families, living in their cars or on the street, are reaching out for help. Some have children as young as two. As we enter this holiday season, a time of joy and celebration for many of us, please know that these can also be the hardest and most desperate times for our vulnerable families. I hope you might consider making a [gift](#) now, and I thank you for your support!

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



A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who made this Giving Tuesday so special!

Whether you donated, grabbed a coffee at Lavender & Honey Espresso Bar, or shared our mission with others, your support means the world to us...[Read more.](#)

THANK
for joining us!
YOU

GIVINGTUESDAY



The Pasadena Community Foundation has come through in support of the Friends In Deed Food Pantry

This time with a \$50,000 grant to make sure that FID continues to feed those in our community who are experiencing food insecurity...[Read more.](#)

Top Podcast Episodes

1. ANTHONY AND HIS 7 YEAR-OLD CHESS CHAMPION SON GET HOUSED!
2. MENTAL ILLNESS IS REAL AND NEEDS OUR ATTENTION: CONVERSATION WITH DR. JULIE MOORE
3. OLDER AMERICANS FACING EVICTION IS ON THE RISE
4. MY DOG IS MY HOME: EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS SAVE LIVES
5. PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND ESTEVEZ FILM 'THE PUBLIC': INTERVIEW WITH TIM McDONALD, LIBRARY DIRECTOR FOR CITY OF PASADENA

Here are our top 5 podcast episodes in 2024:

1. Anthony and His 7-year-old Chess Champion Son Get Housed! [Listen Here.](#)
2. Mental Illness is Real and Needs Our Attention: Conversation with Dr. Julie Moore. [Listen Here.](#)
3. Older Americans Facing Eviction is on the Rise. [Listen Here.](#)
4. My Dog is My Home: Emotional Support Animals Save Lives. [Listen Here.](#)
5. Public Libraries and Estevez film 'The Public': Interview with Tim McDonald, Library Director for City of Pasadena. [Listen Here.](#)

News and Events

Volunteers Needed!

We had a last-minute cancellation by a volunteer group and are in urgent need of volunteers for our campus beautification day tomorrow, Saturday, December 7th...[Learn More.](#)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Campus beautification day tomorrow!

Work with our landscaper to level out tripping hazards in the front patio, and planting daffodil bulbs.



12/7/24

9 a.m. at 444 E Washington Blvd
Coffee and donuts provided!

New Podcast Episode!

Rabbi Joshua sits down with Tunisia Offray, Co-Director of Shepherd's Door, a domestic violence resource center in Pasadena. In a wide-ranging conversation, they discuss how domestic violence affects homelessness...[Listen Now.](#)



Intersection Between Homelessness & Domestic Violence

Interview with Tunisia Offray,
Co-Director of Shepherd's Door



The December calendar of activities for The Women's Room is available!

See what's happening this month...[View Calendar.](#)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
1:30-Mental Wellness with Dr. Julie B: Our Friend, Pam L: TWR	11:00 Movie & Groovin' with Dawn L: TWR	Movie Wednesday B: Our friend, Carla L: Shakespeare Club	TWR CLOSURES AT 2PM B: Our Party Friends L: Our friend, Jeanette
1:30-Mental Wellness with Dr. Julie B: Our Friend, Pam L: Women's Community of All Sizes	11:00 Movie & Groovin' with Dawn SweetFas Holiday Party L: Villa Gardens	Monthly Birthdays B: Our Friends, Barbara & Nancy L: Shakespeare Club	1:00 Writing Group with Lisa B: Our Party Friends L: TWR
1:30-Mental Wellness with Dr. Julie B: Our friend, Jochen L: The Cookies	1:30-Movie & Groovin' with Dawn L: TWR	10:30 Therapy Dog visit with Cody B: Our friend, Carla L: Shakespeare Club	Loteria with Celia! B: Our Party Friends L: FYTC

TWR CLOSED FOR WINTER BREAK

SEE YOU BACK ON JANUARY 6TH, 2025

The Women's Room
444 E Washington Blvd, Pasadena, CA, 91104



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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