

Friend Ships

December 2023 Activities Report

1019 N. 1st Ave. Lake Charles, LA. 70601 337 433 5022. www.friendships.org portmercy@friendships.org

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for all you do each month, each year to help us carry on the work the Lord has assigned to us. It is invaluable!

This month has been productive with StoreHouse One, the food outreaches from Lake Charles, Louisiana and in the South Bay of Los Angeles, California. Every day beautiful, healthy food is donated by local businesses and is distributed right away to people in need.



In California, ministries and churches receive regular deliveries of a wide range of food items that they utilize to help the homeless, those recovering from addictions and impoverished families.

In Lake Charles, StoreHouse One sources continue to increase and as they do we are able to add additional

recipients. In addition to food, we also have a regular stream of beautiful new clothing and household goods to offer as needed. This month, a new homeless feeding center and a local church helping families in their community joined the program.



Friend Ships



We'd like to give special thanks this month to our StoreHouse One donors, including Trader Joes, Market Basket, Brown's, Little Caesar's and Walmart. Their consistent generosity makes this effective program possible.

At right is our precious crew as they ministered with song, prayer and cookies at an assisted living facility on Christmas Eve.



The team in Israel continues to help provide food and supplies to the security forces in Northern Israel as we start the groundwork for a new work in the Middle East. Friend Ships Director Teri Shields is traveling to Israel to find us a facility in the village of Sderot, in the south of the country and to meet with authorities there. Sderot is less than a mile from the Gaza Strip and was our home for two years while we established a medical camp in Gaza in 2019-2021. For years, our village of Sderot has been the target of regular rocket fire from Hamas as alarms sound sometimes daily or even hourly and people run for shelter. Then on October 7th, it became the site of brutal attacks by hundreds of terrorists. Many people were murdered or kidnapped along with twenty police officers as the terrorists violently overtook the police station. Since then, the village has continued to be the constant target of rocket fire. Most of its population were forced to evacuate. The Lord is leading us to re-establish a base in Sderot and work with local authorities to prepare for the return of its residents, helping them through this most difficult time. As opportunities arise, we also hope to provide medical, food and other aid to Gazans in near-by communities as they return to their homes. This will be a time of recovery from tremendous heartbreak on both sides of the border. We are ready to do whatever we can to help, in the Name of Jesus.