



Elizabeth Lanski
Chair, Outreach Grants Committee
First Congregational Church, Pasadena
500 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91101

Dear Elizabeth and Friends at First Congregational Church, Pasadena,

Door of Hope extends its deepest gratitude to you for the generous \$10,000 Outreach Grant we received in 2025. This funding has been instrumental in aiding families in our Transitional Housing Program, and this six-month grant report covers the period between January 1, 2025 and June 30, 2025.

Transitional Housing Program (THP) Enrollment:

In the first six months of 2025, we served 52 unhoused families at our four transitional shelters. This represents 56 parents and 102 children.

Services Provided:

With your support, families in the THP received the following services:

- Food & housing in their own private units
- Therapy for parents
- Therapy for children (with the approval of parents)
- Weekly case management sessions
- Financial literacy education
- Job and career services support
- Children and Youth Programming
- Optional spiritual support and prayer

Our case managers work diligently with THP families to leverage all available public, private, and community resources, employing every possible intervention to keep families housed after they “graduate” and ensure their long-term self-sufficiency.

Outcomes include:

- 15 families “graduated” from Door of Hope and moved into homes of their own
- 788 Case management sessions
- 329 Adult therapy sessions
- 346 Child therapy sessions
- 57% of families increased their income
- 86% increased their savings
- 92% of parents improved their mental health
- 94% of children improved their social outcomes

One Family's Story:

Jessica knew the uncertainty of shelter life all too well. As a single mom to her son, Nehemiah, she bounced from one emergency shelter to another, each move a reminder of how far she was from the stability and safety she longed for. What she wanted most wasn't just a roof over their heads—it was a real home. A place where they could stop surviving and start building a future.

She found that place at Door of Hope.



From the moment she walked through our doors, Jessica felt something different. She was welcomed with open arms, not judged or dismissed. "This is my home... this has been the family I never had," she says. "I lost my mom. I lost my dad. I'm an only child, and this is the first time I've ever felt loved."

At Door of Hope, Jessica wasn't just given shelter—she was given a fresh start. Through our Transitional Housing Program, she received personalized support, encouragement, and the space to heal and dream again. She worked tirelessly toward her goals, determined to give Nehemiah the stable life he deserved.

And just a few months later, Jessica reached a milestone she once thought was out of reach: she graduated from the Transitional Housing Program and signed the lease to her very own apartment. What once seemed impossible became real—because Door of Hope believed in her, and because she never gave up.

Emerging Needs and Challenges

While 2025 has brought many successes, we have also faced new challenges that have expanded our scope of work and deepened our community impact:

1. Fear of ICE and Immigration Enforcement

Some families living in our shelters are undocumented and living in fear of detainment. In response, we have implemented:

- Staff training on how to respond to potential ICE raids
- Enhanced legal referrals and trauma-informed support
- Ongoing efforts to create a safe, welcoming environment for all families regardless of documentation status

- 2. Eaton Fire Response:** The Eaton Fire left many low-income families without housing. As a result, Door of Hope established the Eaton Fire Housing Assistance Program (EFHAP) within two weeks of the fire in order to deliver both urgent relief and long-term housing stability to low-income families devastated by the fire. With over 600 applications already submitted, the program is on track to support up to 150 families. To date, 96 families have been enrolled.

The EFHAP helps families secure immediate and permanent housing, furnish their homes, access disaster-related aid and community resources, and connect with therapy, healthcare, and job support. Direct financial assistance helps fill critical gaps not covered by FEMA or insurance, including security deposits, up to two months' rent, utility bills, and replacement of essential work supplies.

In addition, we will be sheltering at least 12 families who lost their homes in the fire through our Transitional Housing Program, and we will prevent eviction for up to 20 fire impacted families (such as those who lost their jobs in Altadena).

Due to EFHAP, our overall caseload for 2025 has increased from **512 to 662 families served**—an unprecedented expansion of our mission.

Looking Ahead

We are committed to continued partnership and transparency. A comprehensive year-end report will be provided in early 2026, detailing the full impact of the grant across the entire year. In the meantime, please know that your support is helping transform lives—one family at a time.

Final Words of Thanks

Thank you again, First Congregational Church of Pasadena, for standing with us. Your generous Outreach Grant is not only helping families escape homelessness—it is helping them flourish. Together, we are building a community where every family has a place to belong and a future filled with hope.

If you would like a site visit, updated stories, or more information before the next report, we would be delighted to connect.

With Heartfelt Appreciation,



Emily Abbott

Associate Director of Development