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**Table of Contents**

Letter From The President	1
Events	2
Snow Tubing	2
Upcoming Events for Families	2
MassFund Information Day	2
Cirque de la Symphonie	3
Red Sox Game	3
MOVA (Mass Office of Victims' Assistance)	3
Family Service Projects	4
Camp Harbor View	4
Memorial Day Service Project	4
Youth and Young Adult Corner	4
Tuesday's Children Programs	4
Battleship Cove	5
FAC Housekeeping Notes	6
Do You Have Something to Share?	6
Help Us Go Greener!	6
2014 Commemoration Planning	6

## Letter From The President

Before reviewing what our organization's plans are for 2014 I would like to offer a big "Thank You" to two people, David Hastings and Christie Coombs.

David has had a huge impact on the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund. The Fund flourished under his leadership as Executive Director and he has continued to be very active on the board including being one the past Presidents. David has indicated that he will be stepping off the board as of July 1st. The good news is that he is going to stay involved with our education curriculum initiative. Please join me in thanking him the next time you see him. He is a talented individual and we have been so fortunate to have him be a part of the Fund.

Christie has been a member of the Family Advisory Committee for close to a decade and a co-chair for the last three years. She has decided to step down from the co-chair position this year. She has spent countless hours volunteering her time for the committee in support of our organization. So many of us have been impacted by her kindness and resolve. Please join me in thanking her for all that she has done. Christie will remain a member of the committee and I know will be helping all of us in many ways. Thanks Christie!

In 2014 we are going to move forward with our education curriculum project for Massachusetts public schools. We are in the process of sending out Requests For Proposal to various consultants and web-designers. We hope to have resources in place by May to assist with a launch late this year. More to come on this very important project.

We are going to continue coordinating a historic book detailing information about Massachusetts's family members that died during the September 11th terrorist attacks including working with The City of Boston Archives, the District Attorneys office and the Commission of Massachusetts Libraries. If you would like to know more about this project or volunteer please contact John Curtis or me.

With the success of past trips to New York City, we will be putting together at least one more trip in 2014 to travel to the National September 11th Memorial. Details will be coming out soon. Additionally we are planning a number of fun activities for families throughout the year. If you have any ideas for future events, please let Alyse Mazerolle, Director of Operations and Programs, know.

We are going to be changing the venue of our lunch on September 11th to the Taj, which is right across from the memorial in the Boston Public Garden. We hope the location and the banquet room will better suit our needs.

It is a privilege to serve as the President of the Mass 9/11 Fund. If we can be assisting you in any way, please let us know. We are always open to new ideas.

**Eric Lowrey, President**

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**In Memoriam**

Senator Edward M. Kennedy

Loretta W. Kowal

## Events

### Snow Tubing

With all the cold weather and snow we've had this winter, we decided to have some fun snow tubing at Amesbury Sports Park. Featuring the steepest, fastest snow tubing hill in New England, five families came out on February 9th for this exciting event. All of us, young and old, latched our tubes to the pulley that brought us to the top of the hill, to then be spun or pushed down the hill at dizzying speeds. The laughter and excitement could be heard throughout the park, with kids begging to go again!

A special thank you to Alyse Mazerolle for setting up this event and to the Mass 9/11 Fund for providing lunch and a much needed hot chocolate to warm up and take a break to rest our tired bodies. We're all looking forward to going again next year. Hope you'll join us!



Amelia, Olivia and Victoria Charles

## Upcoming Events For Families

Thank you so much for your responses to our recent survey to gauge interest in various events for 2014. We were glad to get your input and look forward to organizing the events that garnered the most interest. Here are details of the first few planned. We will continue to update you as we plan future events.

### Free! MassFund Information Day Saturday, March 29, 10:30 am – 3 pm

The MassFund is hosting an information day on Saturday, March 29, to provide you with updates on various 9/11 issues. Representatives from New York will come to Boston to speak about the latest developments on the Museum opening, identification of remains, the trials at Guantanamo, and personal affects. You will hear from The 9/11 Museum staff, the New York Medical Examiner's Office, NYPD Property Clerk, and the Office of the Chief Prosecutor of Military Commissions. You will also have an opportunity to submit photos and personal keepsakes of your loved ones for the Museum displays. The event will be held at BC High on Morrissey Blvd in Dorchester (near UMASS Boston and the Kennedy Library) from 10:30 am - 3 pm. Parking is free, and a light lunch will be served.

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to ask questions and be informed about these important issues. The Family Advisory Committee is grateful to the agencies in New York for taking their Saturday to be here in Boston for our families. We also thank the Board of Directors for funding this meeting. For more information, call Christie at (781) 982-1608. To RSVP, email Alyse Mazerolle at [alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org](mailto:alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org).

**Cirque de la Symphonie at Symphony Hall, Boston, MA  
Saturday, May 17 at 3 pm**

We were able to purchase 25 floor seats for our MA 9/11 families to this sold out show. The cost is \$34 per ticket. Attendees may also order food and drinks 'table-side' at their own expense. *"Aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen are among the talented artists who will take the stage. Thrill to the musical acrobatics of the outstanding Boston Pops musicians as they synchronize their performance of spectacular classical music to the astounding feats of the circus performers."*

**Red Sox take on the Cleveland Indians  
Sunday, June 15 at 1:35 pm**

This game is on Father's Day, which is generally a 'sell-out' at Fenway, so buy your tickets early! We have 30 seats; tickets can be purchased at \$32 each. You may reserve up to 6 per family. Should demand exceed our supply of tickets, we will do our best to add to our block of tickets. Tickets will be made available on a first come/first served basis upon receipt of your payment and reservation request. Please indicate how many of you are interested in attending a reception and how many in your group are children. The MA 9/11 Fund will provide a pre-game reception if at least 25 people are interested in attending the reception.

**Ticket sales were brisk and there are only 7 tickets left for each of the above two events, so please call Alyse to make your reservations, if you have not already done so!**

Family Members may reserve up to 6 tickets per family on a first come first served basis. Email your reservation request to: [alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org](mailto:alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org). Please note, however, reservations will only be confirmed upon receipt of payment. Family members meeting certain financial 'needs' criteria may be eligible to purchase tickets at a lower cost. Please contact Alyse Mazerolle at (617) 482-2911 for additional information.

**MOVA Forums**

On January 30, Alyse Mazerolle of the Mass 9/11 Fund attended a Continuum of Care Meeting held at the Attorney General's Office by MOVA (Mass Office of Victims' Assistance) to discuss the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Award funding of over \$8 Million that they received for: Victims that were physically killed or injured, their immediate family members, and those persons who physically or mentally experienced the event or its immediate aftermath, including those in the immediate vicinity of the bombing, those surrounding the scene, those professionals and non-professionals who tended to the wounded, those who were involved in the subsequent apprehension of suspects, or any other individual who, by virtue of their unique experience of prior trauma history, would be triggered or impacted by the Boston Marathon Attack. (This includes Mass 9/11 families.)

With this grant, MOVA has approached the Mass 9/11 Fund to see if families would like to attend a forum to talk about their experiences with how emergency services were handled for them in MA in the aftermath of the 9/11 attack and also help "The Continuum of Care" with ongoing procedures that they would like to put into place with advice from our family members on what worked and what didn't.

If you are interested in attending such a forum to share your experiences and lessons learned with victims of the Boston Marathon attack, please contact Alyse Mazerolle at (617) 482-2911, or email her at [alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org](mailto:alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org) and she will put you on a list to attend one of these events once a date has been set. You may also wish to contact Alyse if you are experiencing retriggered trauma as a result of the Boston Marathon attack and would like to be connected with the free mental health services MOVA is offering.

## Family Service Projects

### Winter Service Project Benefit Camp Harbor View

On December 19, a group of 13 family members joined staff members of the Camp Harbor View program in Boston to wrap holiday gifts for children participating in the program. Toys, art supplies, winter coats, and other clothing items were among the gifts packaged for delivery to more than 125 children in 51 families living in at-risk neighborhoods of Boston. Participation in this service project had special meaning to the 9/11 families since it was part of our gift to honor retiring Mayor Thomas Menino, who initiated the Camp Harbor View program in 2007 and continues to be its ardent supporter.

During the service project, 9/11 family members had an opportunity to meet program staff and learn about the summer camp program, which provides services to more than 800 children ranging in age from 11 to 14. Camp Harbor View also operates a Leadership In Training program throughout the year for older teens to help them develop leadership skills, and prepare for college and career training after high school.

We hope to repeat this service project in the future and perhaps participate in other volunteer activities initiated by Camp Harbor View during the year.



Mike Casey and Sally White



9/11 Family Members and Camp Harbor View Staff

### Memorial Day Service Project

Each year over Memorial Day weekend, the Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund plants more than 30,000 flags on the Boston Common. Each flag represents a Massachusetts service member who died in service to the country since the Civil War. On the Wednesday before Memorial Day, May 21, MassFund families and friends are invited to join a large group of volunteers to help with the flag planting, beginning at 1 pm. This is a great opportunity to help remind the public what the true meaning of Memorial Day is. The flag display will remain until Memorial Day at 5 pm when MMHF will again call on volunteers to help remove and bundle the flags. Please refer to [www.massmilitaryheroes.org](http://www.massmilitaryheroes.org) for information and to sign up.

## Youth and Young Adult Corner

### Upcoming Tuesday's Children Programs

**March 22, 2014:** Outward Bound Retreat for ages 10-15 in Fishkill, NY

**April 24, 2014:** Take our Children to Work Day and Adult Enrichment Workshops

**July 20-30, 2014:** Project Common Bond in Spain! Apply now for early bird rates – [ProjectCommonBond.org](http://ProjectCommonBond.org)

RSVP to Jennifer at [Jennifer@tuesdayschildren.org](mailto:Jennifer@tuesdayschildren.org) or call (516) 734-6624.

## Battleship Cove

Battleship Cove is the home of Massachusetts' Memorials to those from the Commonwealth who were killed in service to their country including the World War II Memorial, The Korean War Memorial, The Vietnam War Memorial, and The Memorial dedicated to the memory of the victims of the 9/11 attacks.

More than five years ago, the Fund helped finance the Battleship Cove's 9/11 Memorial area including a kiosk for visitors to learn more about lost Family Members. Shortly after the kiosk was dedicated construction on the highway bridge above Battleship Cove made it necessary to move the kiosk, plaques, pavers, etc. from their location inside the museum gates to storage. After construction of the bridge was substantially complete, the plaques and pavers were installed in front of the entrance, which significantly improved this area and prominently reminds visitors of the events of September 11, 2001. Battleship Cove held their 2012 and 2013 Commemoration ceremonies in this area.



The kiosk has not been put back on display; in fact the hardware is un-useable. To the left is a current photo of the area where the Kiosk had been previously displayed.



Brad King, the Executive Director of Battleship Cove, proposed that the 9/11 Fund cooperate with Battleship Cove to acquire and install a new display in the "Memorial Room" of the Battleship Massachusetts which is currently configured as pictured to the left.

The Fund's board has approved the necessary financial support and Brad has informed us that the work is planned for completion by the end of winter. We will notify you when this new display is available and how you can arrange to visit the Battleship Massachusetts Memorial Room.

## FAC Housekeeping Notes

### Do You Have Something to Share?

Family members who wish to contribute a letter, article or news item for publication in an upcoming quarterly newsletter, can do so by emailing it to [alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org](mailto:alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org). Each piece submitted will be reviewed and, if approved by the Family Advisory Committee and the Board, will be published in an upcoming newsletter. Deadlines for your submission in 2014 are: May 20, July 20 and October 20, and in 2015, February 20.

### Help Us Go Greener!

The members of the FAC are always looking for ways to become more efficient, save money, and go greener. We post our quarterly newsletters on our website where you can access the latest one and also read archived issues! Last November, we started emailing newsletters to families.

To view our newsletters online, please go to our website: [www.massfund.org/News & Information/Family Newsletters](http://www.massfund.org/News%20&%20Information/Family%20Newsletters) or click on this link: <http://www.massfund.org/newsletters>. The site includes other useful information and we post regular updates, so do visit often.

We will continue mailing a newsletter to those of you who wish to receive hard copies. Please make sure to update us with changes to your address, email, or phone numbers.

**Note:** If you wish to be taken off the newsletter mailing list and receive only an email copy, contact Alyse at [alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org](mailto:alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org) or (617) 482-2911.

### 2014 Commemoration Planning

Planning will soon be underway for the 2014 Commemoration and we cannot do it without your input and participation. If you have any suggestions for the event or would like to join our FAC (Family Advisory Committee) to get involved with the planning, please contact Teresa Mathai at [teresa.mathai@massfund.org](mailto:teresa.mathai@massfund.org).

We will soon send out a letter about the Commemoration - Please watch for it as it contains important information about how you can participate. Invitations to the 13<sup>th</sup> Commemoration will be mailed in early July. It is important to RSVP by the deadline noted in the invitation.