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2010 Commemoration Services

9th Anniversary events held at the Public Garden, State House

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund hosted the 9th anniversary commemoration services in Boston, in coordination with the offices of Governor Deval Patrick, Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray and Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo, on September 11, 2010.

The Commonwealth awarded the Madeline Amy Sweeney award to David Bianco, Peter Chenevert, Jessica L. Genest and Michael A. Genest. The four recipients responded to a vehicle that crashed into a telephone pole, calling 911, calming the passenger and eventually extinguishing flames as the car caught on fire. They were able to successfully cut the passenger free out of her seat belt as well as helped keep the vehicle from overturning onto its roof until firefighters arrived.



The sun peeks through the trees as family member Tracy Griffin prepares for the wreath laying ceremony with Mayor Thomas M. Menino in the Boston Public Garden.

The Fund was also able to host a private reception for families at the Ritz Carlton Boston Common. This event gave families a chance to reconnect with one another as well as reflect on the morning's events.

For those who attended, we hope that the day's events honored your loved ones' memories with the utmost care and respect.

We recently sent out a survey requesting feedback regarding this year's Commemoration. If you missed it, please feel free to share your thoughts with us at 617-482-8153 or via email at info@massfund.org. **Your feedback is important** and helps us plan such an important event.

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In memoriam

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Notice Regarding Your Contact Information

Family Advisory Committee to manage Central Database

With the downsizing of staff for 2011, the Family Advisory Committee will be managing several duties originally held by the staff. This includes both paper and email mailings. Your contact information is housed in our database which will be utilized by the Family Advisory Committee beginning next year. Financial and mental health data is **not** included in the address database and when the offices of the MA 9/11 Fund close, this information will be archived and/or destroyed in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations.

If you do not wish to have your contact information passed on to the Family Advisory Committee for mailings, please let us know by December 1, 2010. If we do not hear from you by that date, we will assume you do not have a concern with the FAC having your mailing information. As you know, the majority of the mailings include updates from the organization including the newsletter, but the most important mailing is the paper mailing invitation to the anniversary commemoration services. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 617-482-8153 or via email at info@massfund.org.

Holiday Pops 2010

Annual Holiday on Friday, December 17, 2010

We are pleased to host our 5th annual winter event with the Boston Pops on **Friday, December 17, 2010** at Boston Symphony Hall. Reduced ticket prices are available at a limit of two per household for \$50.00 each; if this cost is difficult for you and your family, please do not hesitate to let us know so we can make the event affordable for you.

You can request tickets either by contacting us, preferably by email at info@massfund.org or via telephone at 617-482-8153 beginning Saturday, October 9, 2010 at 10:00 am. If family members need more than two tickets per household, please let us know at the time you request your tickets and we'll put you on a wait list. We'll let you know as soon as we can if we can honor your request. **As in years past, we will also offer a private reception for family members before the concert at 6:30 pm. This concert will begin at 8:00 pm.** Tickets will be distributed at the reception; we will announce the details of this reception by email next month.

Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Volunteer Event

Third Quarter Day of Service continues the theme of giving back

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund is proud to assist the family community in their continued volunteer work throughout the year since the inception of September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance in September, 2009. The MA 9/11 Fund Family Advisory Committee continues to provide Service events each quarter. Our next event will be with Catholic Charities, who is hosting a Thanksgiving food drive with the United Way, distributing food from their pantry to families in need. **Food distribution will be held on Saturday, November 20, 2010 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Yawkey Center, 185 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02121.**

If you would like to join in assisting Catholic Charities, please contact us at 617-482-8153 or via email at info@massfund.org.

For information on other events in the community, please visit our website at www.massfund.org for a listing of events.

Health Care Support Program Closed

Four Year Program ended in Summer, 2010

Beginning in early 2006, The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund offered a Health Care Support Program which assisted family members with out-of-pocket health care costs, including health care premiums. The Program changed slightly from year to year but still kept it's initial goal of providing financial assistance to eligible families with rising health care costs. The Program was available to many relatives of lost loved ones: spouses, children, parents, siblings and partners, resulting in a large number of participants and funds provided.

Originally slated as a two-year program, the Health Care support Program doubled into a four-year program, assisting over 150 family members and providing almost \$550,000.00 in assistance in four years. We hope that these funds were helpful to all those who participated.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 617-482-8153 or via email at info@massfund.org.

Family Advisory Committee

Upcoming Meeting to be held Wednesday, October 20

Beginning in 2011, after the downsizing of the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund staff, the Family Advisory Committee will take on several duties to continue keeping the Fund open and accessible. Activities such as planning the annual Commemoration services and providing feedback to the Board of Directors will continue as it has been in the past. Duties such as keeping connected with the families, organizing events like the Days of Service and maintaining the website are new roles that the Family Advisory Committee will undertake.

The Family Advisory Committee welcomes any family members who are interested in joining this very important group. **The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 2010 from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm.** Part of this meeting will be a review of the 2010 Commemoration ceremonies as well as a planning meeting for the year ahead. Meetings have been held on a monthly basis during Commemoration planning from March – October and every other month during the remainder of the year. The Family Advisory Committee faces many changes in the upcoming year and welcomes family members who want to commit to continuing the work of the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund.

If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact us at 617-482-8153 or via email at info@massfund.org.