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Remembering September 11

The Mass 9/11 Fund has worked through the years to provide its families with a respectful day of commemorative events. This year for the 13th Anniversary, we are fortunate, as in previous years, to have tremendous support from the offices of Governor Deval Patrick and Mayor Martin Walsh. In addition to the wreath laying with the Mayor at the Public Garden Memorial and the State House Commemoration with the Governor, cities and towns across the Commonwealth are planning events and ways to acknowledge the day. Please check our website for Mass 9/11 Fund official events happening around the 13th Commemoration. [Mass 9/11 Fund Thirteenth Anniversary Commemoration Events](#)

7:30 a.m., Wreath Laying Ceremony, Boston Public Garden, 9/11 Garden of Remembrance. For those needing assistance, a trolley service will be available from the Memorial Garden to the State House.

8:30 a.m., Flag Lowering, Moment of Silence and Reading of Names, Front Steps of Mass. State House.

9:30 a.m., Commemoration Observance & Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery, Mass. State House Chambers of the House of Representatives. R.S.V.P. required. A trolley service will be available from the State House to the reception for families at the Taj Hotel.

11:00 a.m., Reception for families R.S.V.P. required.

Please Note: The Commemoration at the House Chambers and the Reception are by invitation.

Family members with mobility issues, please note that we can only accommodate those who have specifically requested this service in advance.

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Service Opportunities on 9/11

The Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund is hosting its annual Care Package project on the Rose Kennedy Greenway from 11 a.m. to 2 pm. Volunteers will help build 500 military care packages for our service men and women overseas and 500 packages for our local veterans in need, and write letters of support to our troops. For more information, go to: [MMHF 9/11 Service Project Care Packages](#)

The American Red Cross Blood Services will host the 12th Annual Drive to Remember Blood Drive from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fenway Park on September 11. Family member donors are considered "VIPs", so let them know at check in that you are a 9/11 family member. The World Series trophies will be on display for photos. [Red Cross Day of Remembrance Blood Drive](#)

Some 9/11 family foundations are hosting events in September in memory of their loved ones killed on 9/11. Here are a few that were sent to us by the newsletter print date. Others will be updated online as we get them.

The 10th Annual Michael G. McGinty Family Fun Day in Foxboro will be held on the Foxboro Common on September 13, 2014, from 11:30 a.m. to 3p.m. and will include music, raffles, food, children's entertainment and games. There are lots of surprises in store, and Maria Stephanos will be a special guest. Call Cindy at 617-270-5155 for more information.

The 13th Annual Jeff Coombs Memorial 5K Road Race, Walk and Family Day will be held on September 14, 2014 beginning at 9 a.m., with registration at 7:30 a.m. Pre-registration is available now on www.racewire.com or on the foundation website, www.jeffcoombsfund.org. The Family Day includes a short children's run, many children's activities, music, tributes, awards, raffles, and lots of free food! For more information, call Christie at 781-982-1608 or email mccoombs@comcast.net.

The 13th Annual Jay Corcoran Memorial Scholarship Foundation Golf Tournament will be held on September 19, 2014, at the Easton Country Club, 265 Purchase Street. Registration for the shotgun format begins at 11 am, with a dinner, raffle and auction following at 6 p.m. Call Diann Corcoran DuBois at 781-659-7710 for further details.

Other service projects and events are being organized by various family foundations and groups across the Commonwealth. Refer to the Massfund website or click on this link, [Other MA Events](#), for a complete listing. Our website will be updated as we become aware of more events and we receive information from families or organizations.

Keynote Speaker

We are most fortunate to welcome our friend Beth Chambers as our keynote speaker this year. Since 1990, Beth has grown from volunteering at a CCAB soup kitchen to, in 2012, becoming the Director of Catholic Charities South. Her other roles have included leading the Intensive Family Intervention



Commemoration Speaker Beth Chambers
Director of Catholic Charities South
Archdiocese of Boston (CCAB)

program for Haitian Families at Catholic Charities and stints as the community services director for food pantries in Somerville, Dorchester, El Centro, Natick and Brockton. In addition to managing CCAB's South region, Beth serves as administrator of Sunset Point Camp in Hull.

However, it is through Beth's ongoing work with the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund and our families that many of us have come to know and love her. Beth came to us days after September 11, 2001, assigned to the Boston region by CCAB. She immediately started vetting requests for help, calling families, and engaging with survivors with the greatest of sensitivity and expertise. Beth listened with compassion. She helped with obtaining financial assistance and navigating countless details of our unprecedented situation, and also attended to the needs of workers whose livelihoods were impacted by the effects of 9/11 on the local economy.

As critical needs began to abate, we started advancing to the next phase of this journey. Beth became and remains a fixture of our annual commemoration in Boston, where the CCAB team provides much appreciated emotional support. She continues to be a healing presence when triggering events are in the news, spearheads service projects, and even traveled with busloads of family members to New York and back for the opening of the 9/11 National Memorial Museum twice in the span of three days. She has walked and grown with us, and is truly an honorary family member.

On a personal note, Beth is from Albany, NY where she and her four siblings were born and raised. She holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from The College at Brockport SUNY and an MSW from the University at Albany SUNY. Her husband, Meyer Chambers, is a campus minister at Boston College. They are blessed with two sons, Severin and Zachary.

Commemoration Notes

State House Simulcast for Events in the House Chambers on 9/11

Please see below the simulcast link for the Commemoration Observation & Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery Presentation in the House Chambers. Please feel free to forward this to family or friends who might be interested in viewing this event. It is a nice way, for those who cannot attend or are outside Boston, to view the service and be with us in spirit. [Simulcast Link to Commemoration Service in House Chambers](#)

Volunteers at Our Commemorations

Our Commemoration Committee has been reaching out to high school students, our future generation, not only to volunteer on the day, but also to perform at the events on 9/11. This is a very moving experience and also a great opportunity for students to learn about the day and feel part of the remembrance program. If you would like to recommend a school group to volunteer on 9/11, a school choir, student performers, or adults whose music you have enjoyed and who would be interested in volunteering for our commemorations, please send us their details as we start planning commemorations very early in the new year.

We also have many talented family members who participate in our events every year and we look forward to hearing from more of you if you are performers; soloists, duets, choirs, or musicians, and are willing to volunteer your time and talents on 9/11. We are all set for this year, but our Family Advisory Committee reviews and selects from all the choices we have, starting around February of each year. We have had tremendous feedback, that though the video montage and reading of the names of our loved ones are the focal points of our program, the music performances are inspiring, life affirming, and uplifting. They greatly enhance our program, so we are always in search of new talent.

As usual, during the first quarter of the year, you will also receive an electronic letter from us enumerating all the other opportunities available to participate in our next commemoration; name reading, etc.

Your Feedback is Important to Us

Every year, we love to hear from those of you who have attended our Boston commemoration events on September 11. As usual, we will again be providing feedback questionnaires at our reception at the Taj Hotel, so please remember to take a moment to tell us what you liked about the events of the day and what suggestions you have for the future. In addition, we will be sending out an electronic survey, in case you did not get a chance to jot down your feedback at the reception, prefer to do it from home, or have something further to add. Your feedback and the data from these surveys are analyzed to help us figure out what we did right and what we can do better.

Our Family Advisory Committee carefully plans each commemoration around the needs of the families, so we look forward to hearing from you even if you have attended a commemoration in another city and have some suggestions you feel we could incorporate into our future events. We would love to hear from youngsters too as they offer a unique perspective! Thank you, in advance, for your thoughtful suggestions and feedback!

New This Year

New Event Production and Public Relations Partner

Earlier this spring, we partnered with Altus Marketing and Management (amm) to produce this year's commemoration ceremony and provide media support. amm is a full-service marketing, events, and communications agency based in Boston with clients all over North America, ranging from large financial institutions to celebrity non-profit organizations and start-up businesses. Leading the team are, Valerie Salvatore, Senior Director of Events, and Amelia Sutton, Director of Communication. Amelia has offered to do media training if any of you would like some coaching before speaking to the press. If interested, please get in touch with us.

Our Office Has Moved!

On June 20th the Mass 9/11 Fund office moved to the Independence Wharf building, 470 Atlantic Ave., 4th floor. It is situated next to the Intercontinental Hotel in downtown Boston, at the corner of Atlantic Avenue and Seaport Blvd., just a couple of blocks walk from South Station. There is parking available in the building for those of you who wish to visit. Alyse Mazerolle's office is there and our Family Advisory Committee meetings will be held in the conference room. [Directions to Massfund office.](#)

Mayor Walsh Presiding Over the Wreath Laying

This year, Mayor Martin Walsh will be presiding over the wreath laying and saying a few words to our families at the Boston 9/11 Memorial in the Public Gardens.

9/11 Survivor Tree Sapling

If you are planning to join us at the wreath laying at 7:30 a.m. on September 11th or can do so at another time, please take a moment to admire the new sapling that was gifted to us by the 9/11 Memorial Museum and the City of NY. For More information or to view the dedication by Mayor Walsh on May 19, 2014, please visit the Mass 9/11 Fund website by clicking on this link: [Boston September-11th-survivor-tree.](#)

Family Reception to be Held at Taj Boston on September 11

For many years, on September 11, we have enjoyed the family luncheon at the Ritz-Carlton on Avery Street. However, to better accommodate our needs, we have decided to move back to our original venue at the Taj Boston Hotel at 15 Arlington Street. This is located right across the street from our Boston 9/11 Memorial. [Directions to Reception at Taj Boston.](#)

Events

Father's Day Outing



Dennis & Ethan Charles



Haley, Will & Daniel Hunt



Haley & Will Hunt

Could there be a better way to celebrate Father's Day than with the 9/11 memorial group and an afternoon in the sunshine at Fenway Park watching the Red Sox? On June 15, families spent a very special Sunday cheering on their favorite team, the Red Sox, in their American League game against the Cleveland Indians.

We had to rub our eyes and make sure that we were not dreaming as we were led up the stairs behind the press boxes and into the Press room for our lunch! After a delicious lunch, we were led down to our seats that were so close; it nearly felt like we were on the field!

A special thank you to Alyse Mazerolle for setting up this event and acquiring that fabulous Press Room, and to the Mass 9/11 Fund for providing lunch and subsidizing such fantastic tickets! Alas, the Sox did not win, but even the 2-3 extra inning loss could not dampen our spirits on what was truly a memorable Father's Day.



Katie, Mike and Mikey Cardamone & Claudia Jacobs



Claudia Jacobs & Mike Cardamone

Coming Soon

9/11 Museum Director to Speak at Harvard University

Alice M. Greenwald, Director of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center, will speak at Memorial Church, Harvard University on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 4 p.m. Ms. Greenwald will be introduced by Reverend Jonathan Lee Walton, the Memorial Church Professor of Religion and Society. Her talk is sponsored by the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement.

The National 9/11 Memorial Museum opened in May, 2014. Ms. Greenwald will talk about how museums as specific kinds of educational institutions can be a platform for increased public awareness, deeper understanding and engagement. She will discuss the process of creating the 9/11 Museum, describe some of the unusual challenges faced, and explore how the Museum makes use of various forms of new media to bring history into immediate focus. "Through the core mission of remembrance, the Museum strives to connect visitors to the shared human impact of the 9/11 terrorist attacks which claimed the lives of people from more than 90 nations," Ms. Greenwald has said.

Ms. Greenwald has held key leadership positions in national museums for over three decades. In April 2006 she joined the National September 11 Memorial and Museum as Executive Vice President for Programs and Director of Memorial Museum.

For the prior five years, she served as Associate Museum Director of Museum Programs at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

From 1986-2001 Ms. Greenwald was the principal of Alice M. Greenwald/Museum Services providing consulting expertise to clients including the Baltimore Museum of History, the Pew Charitable Trusts and the National Museum of American Jewish History.

The Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement (HILR) offers lifelong learning opportunities to retired and semi-retired faculty, professionals, businesspersons, writers, artists and scientists.

The talk is open to the Harvard community and the general public. For more information, contact Steven Leon, Administrative Coordinator, HILR, 34 Concord Ave, Cambridge, Massachusetts (617-495-4072).

Upcoming Events on the Massfund Calendar

October: We are considering offering another bus trip to NYC for MA families to visit the 9/11 Memorial Museum on either October 11th or October 25th (both Saturdays). Preference will be given to those who were not able to avail of the spring bus trips. If you are interested, please send an email to alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org. If there is sufficient interest to fill a bus of 50, we will start planning for this trip.

November: Once again, by popular demand, we are planning our annual Turkey Drive with Beth Chambers at the Brockton, MA Catholic Charities location. Date TBD, but it is usually the Friday before Thanksgiving.

December: We are planning two events:

- **Camp Harborview Holiday Gift Wrapping Event** - Last year's event was a big success and we hope to make this an annual December happening. Exact date TBD.
- **Boston Holiday Pops** - We hope to purchase tickets for the Pops this year and we are trying to get an idea of how many would like to attend. This year we will be offering a variety of seats at different price ranges. If you are interested in this event, please contact Alyse so she can gauge interest in this event. alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org

9/11 Living Memorial Website

Since 2006, Voices of September 11th (VOICES) has been working with families to create remembrances of their loved ones in its 9/11 Living Memorial Project, an online tribute that commemorates the nearly 3,000 lives lost and preserves the stories of September 11, 2001. Over the years, they have visited MA several times and have collected photographs from family members. Today, the Living Memorial is an extensive collection of over 70,000 photographs and personal keepsakes, some of which can be seen on their website at www.9/11livingmemorial.org. The collection is also a core component of the In Memoriam exhibition at the 9/11 Memorial Museum in New York City.

The New Canaan, CT. based non-profit organization is announcing they are in the process of creating a new, interactive 9/11 Living Memorial website that will incorporate the full collection of photographs, and expand over time. The new website will be launched in November and family members will be welcome to contribute additional photographs after its introduction.

Voices of September 11th offers a wide range of support programs to promote resiliency in the lives of 9/11 families, responders, and survivors living in the U.S. and in the 90 countries that lost citizens. The services include case management, assessments, in-person and teleconference support groups, as well as referrals to mental health and service providers. It hosts speakers' series, trainings, and an annual information forum on September 10th in New York City. For more information visit their website www.voicesofseptember11.org or contact their office at 203-966-3911.

Early in 2015, Voices of September 11th staff plan to meet with families in Massachusetts. Please stay tuned for more details on the launch of their new interactive website in November, as well as their visit to MA, early next year.

FAC Notes

Interested in joining the FAC?

The family Advisory Committee (FAC) continues to be active with responsibilities including: planning the annual commemorations, keeping connected with families, organizing service, social, and informational events, and maintaining the Massfund website.

As always, all family members are welcome to attend our monthly FAC meetings. You may stop by and see what we are working on, or choose to be actively involved in a committee or a special project. Some family members cannot attend our meetings but volunteer their talents remotely. Our meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of each month from noon to 2:00 p.m. at our 470 Atlantic Avenue office in Boston.

If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact the FAC chair, Teresa Mathai at teresa.mathai@massfund.org.

Send us your updated information

We want to make sure we are reaching you via our email communications or the mail, so if you have recently moved or changed your phone or any other information, please send us any changes so you do not miss out on any important information or invitations to wonderful events. Some emails we send out bounce, so please check that emails from Massfund are not going into your spam folder. However, if you want to unsubscribe to our email communications or mail, please also let us know.

Do you have Something to Contribute?

Family members who wish to contribute a letter, article or news item for publication in an upcoming quarterly newsletter can do so by e-mailing it to 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. The last quarter submission deadline is October 20.

Note: The Mass 9/11 Fund does not promote or endorse individual or family foundations.