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Wishing You a Very Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!

Dear Families,

As another year comes to an end and as we look forward to 2014, our thoughts go out to those affected by the marathon bombings. We also acknowledge our servicemen and servicewomen who are away from home and all those who are struggling with the loss of loved ones or that have unfulfilled needs.

2013 has been a busy year for our organization including:

- Hosting group events: Boston Marathon attack reflection dinner, Dept. of Defense visit, Red Sox game, Patriots practice and a "Wicked" theater event.
- Assisting in a promotional campaign for the "United We Stand" license plates at Big E - the Massachusetts State Fair.
- Supporting community service programs which have become a hallmark for our Fund: Catholic Charities turkey drive and Saturday/Sunday Bread.
- Updating the video montage to include photographs of MA loved ones not previously included.
- Tribute to Mayor Tom Menino at the 12th Commemoration reception.
- Continuing to coordinate commemoration and remembrance events around September 11th, including the involvement of high school student volunteers.

Next year some of our goals and projects include:

- Launching our educational program for Massachusetts school children and teachers.
- Working with the Attorney General's office to make sure that the chronicles of those loved ones lost on September 11th are preserved through various historical archives.
- Coordinating with the administrative team of Battleship Cove in Fall River to restore a memorial that was taken down by the state due to a construction project.
- Supporting our community and being of service to others in need.

Always remember that our Fund is here to support you. Also, if you have some free time and would like to become more involved with any of the programs listed here or if you have other ideas, please reach out to us.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Eric A. Lowrey
President

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In Memoriam

Senator Edward M.
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12th Anniversary Commemoration

A Day to Reflect and Remember

The 12th anniversary of the tragic day that brought us all together has come and gone. As in the past, family members came together at the Public Garden, the State House steps and Chambers, and the Ritz Carlton for the 12th Anniversary Commemoration of September 11.

Following the annual reading of the names on the State House steps, the families were addressed by Boston Police Commissioner Edward Davis. Juliette Candela sang the song, "I will Remember You" by Sarah McLachlan at the State House Commemoration Observance. She is a Freshman at the Berklee College of Music. She sang in memory of her father, John Candela, who worked at Cantor Fitzgerald. Her father inspired her love for music.

We were honored to have Bill Richard join us at this year's commemoration. The Richard family was devastated by the Boston Marathon bombings. His son Martin was killed, his wife Denise was severely injured, and his daughter Jane lost part of her leg. During the ceremony, Bill read the following poem to the families and friends in attendance.

"We sit beneath the night sky by the whisper of the wind's song and the quiet of darkness and they are never far. Those we have loved and cherished, those who have changed our lives in some small or profound way are closer than we know because it is their light that shines on our world. It is the brilliance of their souls that makes our night sky glow."



9/11 Garden of Remembrance



Sally White, Juliette Candela and Leslie Blair in the State House Chambers

We are so grateful for the participation of all the wonderful volunteers from Boston Cares, Catholic Charities and others in our community of care who volunteer each year. They not only help guide families throughout the morning, but they are also a comforting presence and a friendly familiar face.

This year, we would like to acknowledge the help of the special volunteers from Sacred Heart High School in Kingston and Life Teen from St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hanover.



Sacred Heart High School Volunteers



**Life Teen Volunteers from St. Mary's
Catholic Church in Hanover**

As we begin to plan the 13th Commemoration, we take to heart the comments family members provided in the October survey and the feedback received from the survey handed out at the commemoration reception. We are happy to hear that the families were pleased with this year's event.

2013 Madeline Amy Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery

The Madeline Amy Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery is presented each year on September 11 during the ceremony in the State House. Recipients of the award must be a Massachusetts resident and demonstrate exceptional bravery, without regard for personal safety, in an effort to save the life or lives of another or others in actual imminent danger. Given the tragic Boston Marathon bombings which resulted in the death of 4 people and injured more than 200, the friends and families of the Mass 9/11 Fund felt that it was especially fitting that the award recipient was Carlos Arrendondo.



**Carlos Arrendondo accepts the Madeline Amy Sweeney Award
for Civilian Bravery**



**Jeffrey Bauman greets Carlos Arrendondo
at the State House**

Carlos, a Gold-Star dad having lost his son Alex in Iraq, received the award for his bravery in aiding Boston Marathon bombing victims. He was at the marathon finish line on April 15th when the bombs went off and helped rush Jeffrey Bauman, who lost both of his legs in the blast, to an ambulance.

Community Service Projects

Mass 9/11 Fund Holiday Service Project in Honor of Mayor Menino



Board Members Diane Corcoran, Peg Hatch and Rita DiGiovanni present Mayor Menino with a plaque thanking him for his support at the 12th Commemoration luncheon

We are looking for volunteers for a winter service project in honor of Mayor Menino. On December 19, we will wrap gifts for the children of Camp Harbor View, one of the mayor's favorite charities. The project can accommodate up to 20 volunteers to wrap more than 100 gifts for inner city children. This project is our gift to the mayor for all the support he has given Mass 9/11 Fund families through the years. Supplies will be provided.

The service project will run from 10 AM to 2 PM at 2 Dearborn Street, Roxbury, MA in the Orchard Gardens Community Center. Parking is limited, so carpooling and public transportation is encouraged. If you would like to contribute to the gift drive, Visa, MasterCard or grocery store gift cards will be accepted that day.

Upcoming Family Events

Tickets Are Still Available for the Holiday Show at the Reagle Music Theatre

The Mass 9/11 Fund has made arrangements for an exciting holiday show to be performed at the Reagle Music Theatre on December 7 at 1:00 PM at Waltham High School located at 617 Lexington Street. The MassFund will host a reception prior to the performance at the Chateau Restaurant located at 195 School St, Waltham just 15 minutes away. Guests should arrive at the restaurant at 10:30 AM with lunch being served by 11:00 AM. Departure from the Chateau will be 12:15 PM so that everyone will be seated by the beginning of this delightful production.



Ticket reservations began on November 20 on a first come first serve basis. Though the original deadline was November 25, ticket sales will continue until all tickets are sold. We have also increased the maximum number of tickets per family. To reserve tickets or increase the number of tickets previously requested, please e-mail at Alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org. The prices of the tickets are \$36.00 for adults and \$25.00 for children ages 5-18. The tickets will be distributed at the Chateau Restaurant. This holiday production is a heartwarming and memorable experience. The show runs each year and always sells out. So come be a part of this fun-filled day and make memories with your loved ones.

What Family Members are Doing

"United We Stand" License Promotion at the Big E

On September 19, the Mass 9/11 Fund was invited by the Mass Department of Motor Vehicles to promote our specialty plate, "United We Stand," at the Big E (New England State Fair) in Springfield, MA. Family Advisory Committee members manned the RMV booth to garner more interest in our specialty plates. United We Stand plates commemorate the loss of lives from the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. We continue to unite and combat issues of terrorism in a unified common goal, while never forgetting what happened on 9/11. The revenue earned from the sale of these specially designated plates is invaluable to the support and continuance of this mission, WE WILL NEVER FORGET.

Family members interested in the "United We Stand" plates may call 857-368-8031. When you call, you will be assigned a numbered plate between 1000 and 1200. This series is reserved for 9/11 family members only and comes with a "Remember" sticker. Anyone who is not a family member and would like to show his/her support may call 857-368-8000. The initial cost of the plate is \$90.00 and is renewable for two years for \$90.00. If the "Remember" sticker on your license plate has worn off, call the family number above to request a replacement.

MA Family Member Visit GTMO

My daughter Dale and I had the opportunity to travel to GTMO (Guantanamo Bay, Cuba) last week to observe the hearings being held there by the Military Commission that has been convened to try the charges against Khalid Shaikh Mohammad and the four other terrorists who were responsible for killing 3,000 innocent people on 9/11. Due to the limited and incorrect press coverage about GTMO and the trial, we would like to share our end of the week press conference with you. Please click on the link below and play the videos. It was an amazing and educational week but we're still very tired.

Pat DeConto
MA 9/11 Family Member

Victim Family Members Press conference video:
<http://www.dvidshub.net/video/304884/victim-families-commissions-remarks>

Information for Families

Mass 9/11 Video Montage

This summer, in preparation for the 12th commemoration, we updated our video montage, which is shown annually at the State House, by editing it to include the new photographs of our Massachusetts loved ones which were sent to us after the original video was produced. We currently have 106 photographs in our montage, and we would love to get photos of those family members who are not included as yet. Our aim is to complete our collection of photographs and make sure all 206 Massachusetts's loved ones lost are represented in our montage. If your loved one's photograph is not included, please send it to alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org

Update Your Personal Information

When we send out communication to families via group e-mail, we notice at least 50 e-mails bounce. If you are not receiving e-mail information from us, please check to see if our mail is going automatically into your spam folder, and put info@massfund.org back in your "inbox."

If you have recently moved or changed any of your personal information, please keep us informed of these changes so we can update our databases. Please send these changes to alyse.mazerolle@massfund.org

Letter from 9/11 Memorial Museum Call to Remember Initiative

Dear Family Members,

At this juncture, we are encouraging the participation of families in our **CALL TO REMEMBER** initiative, which will allow them to use their personal phones to record a story or memory of a loved one from the comfort and privacy of their homes. These sessions enable contributors to leave a remembrance of up to 10 minutes in length. They can opt to re-record, if they prefer, prior to releasing it to our archive.

In order to associate the recording with the correct individual being remembered, families are encouraged to be in touch with Jenny Pachucki, our oral historian (jpachucki@911memorial.org ; 212-312-8785) who can provide them with the **unique identification number** of their loved one, which will be entered after a recorded voice prompt requests it.

CALL TO REMEMBER INSTRUCTIONS

Each step is completed after you have spoken by pressing the * key (Star Key)

- 1) Please dial (866) 582-5613 (Toll Free) or (646) 248-6225 (Local).
- 2) When connected, you will hear a recorded voice welcoming you to the service and explaining the recording process. You will then be asked to enter a 4-digit identification code for the person you are intending to remember. **The 4-digit code for Jenny is 1594.**
- 3) Your recording may be as simple as your name and your relationship to the person you are calling to remember.
- 4) You will be prompted to leave your name. Please say your full name clearly and then press star.
- 5) You will be prompted to leave your loved one's name and your relationship to him/her, then press star. Stating your relationship following the format of the examples below will ensure that the museum team will be better suited to include it as part of the remembrance collage at the gallery threshold of the memorial exhibition.
 - My name is Jane Smith - my beloved husband, John Smith
 - My name is Robert Jones - my friend, Rebecca Dawson
 - My name is Albert Thomas - my father, Benjamin Thomas
- 6) If you wish to record a longer remembrance you are welcome to at this point. It might be helpful to imagine that you are talking with a friend. We invite you to share whatever you'd like: favorite stories about your loved one, personality traits, hobbies and anything that will help others to understand why he or she was special to you.
- 7) You can press the star key to skip the longer remembrance option and proceed to the permissions section of the recording.
- 8) When you have completed your recording and pressed the star key you will be asked to give permission to incorporate your recording into our archive and exhibition. Please state clearly "I agree" and press the star key. You may hang up after you hear the prompt thanking you for your participation.

If you have any questions, please contact Jan or Jenny.

Jan Seidler Ramirez

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Jenny Pachucki

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Also, please find this helpful link explicating the range of materials we are seeking to collect for the Memorial Exhibition: <http://www.911memorial.org/contribute-memorial-exhibition>. Small, personal items are always welcome, as are between 3-10 photographs depicting loved ones in the many dimensions of his or her life. We are able to scan original photographs and will return them to families. We also welcome receipt of these images in digital form, as electronic attachments. All contributors will be asked to provide caption information relevant to the images (i.e. who is depicted, when, where, and the occasion, if known). They will also receive, for review and signature, an official Deed of Gift form which will enable donors to determine the scope of "rights" they wish to grant to the Museum for various potential uses of these images beyond the Memorial Exhibition, such as in various educational programs or on-line interpretive presentations.

Do You Have Something to Share with Other Families?

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. 2014 submission deadlines are: February 1, June 1, August 1 and November 1.

Family Advisory Committee is Looking for New Members

The FAC is always open to welcoming new members. We usually meet for two hours, from 12 noon-2:00 PM on the second Thursday of every month. We also arrange a conference call number for those who prefer to call in.

Besides planning the annual commemoration, we have smaller committees that organize days of service and other social events for our 9/11 families. Additionally, we keep our family members and community of care informed by creating and mailing quarterly newsletters. If you would like to find out more about the FAC or attend our meetings, please contact teresa.mathai@massfund.org