

Family Newsletter

June 2005

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund



President
Faith Arter

Vice President
Mary J. Kakas

Treasurer
Eric Lowrey

Board of Directors

Candy B. Altman

Daniel Bakinowski

John H. Curtis

Peter Dimond

Daniel England

James D. Fisher

Stephen J. Kerrigan

Lawrence E. Klaff

Molly H. Sherden

Susan I. Pederzoli

Faith Weiner

President Emeritus

Roderick MacLeish, Jr.

Family Advisory
Committee

Teresa Mathai, Chair

Christie Coombs, Co-Chair

Cindy McGinty, Co-Chair

Honorary Board

Senator Edward M.
Kennedy

Senator John Kerry

Congressman Marty
Meehan

Barry Tatelman

Eliot Tatelman

In memoriam

Loretta W. Kowal

Featured Article:

Memorial Day

Dedication of

Southborough Sports

Field to the Loved Ones

- pages three + four

Progress Reports on Priority Projects

The families, board and staff members have been busy these last few weeks, putting in efforts on a variety of projects. Let's get right to the updates!

Scholarship America

We have joined together with Voices of September 11 - a very proactive organization based in Connecticut. Their issues and ours are shared. Both believe that Scholarship America can and must do a better job of addressing what the donors to the 9/11 scholarships desired - to support the education of those affected. Our Board President and Executive Director have both had conversations with individuals there, and most recently David participated in a conference call on June 9 to plan the strategy going forward as a united front representing the families. The issues on which we are concentrating are the policies regarding not recognizing 100% of the unmet educational expense needs, the stated intention of allocating unused balances to non 9/11 affected persons, and the need to recognize educational expenses beyond those of post-secondary schooling.

Child and Adolescent Program

The Fund and Children's Charter held a meeting on Saturday, June 4th for children interested in learning more information about participating in a series of therapeutic workshops using innovative technology, such as Computer Programming of 3D Art, TV Production, Audio Broadcasting and Music Video Production. Several families have expressed interest in these workshops, but were unable to attend the meeting on the 4th. As such, we are inviting all those still interested to contact the director of Children's Charter, Paula Stahl at 781-894-4325, ext. 19 as soon as possible so scheduling can begin.

Remembrance Book - "we remember"

The Remembrance Book Project is moving full steam ahead!! The volume, titled, "we remember" is comprised of three parts. The first is an introductory book containing words from family and board members, some signatures provided of loved ones lost on 9/11, and a listing of family foundations and scholarships. The other two parts are the two volumes of bound individual layouts, thirty-eight in each volume. Together, the three parts are assembled in a memory box, which can be placed on a flat surface, or standing on a bookshelf. We have made every effort to contact the family members that chose to participate in the project with the intent of providing an opportunity to review their individual submission. If you participated in the project, but have not heard from us, please contact LaNitra immediately at (617) 572-3416.

*Board and Family Meeting
June 20*

*Distribution of Remembrance
Book Project tentatively
planned for a weekday during
August 8-12*

*September 10, 2005 - Private
Dedication of a Memorial at
Battleship Cove - Fall River, MA
<http://www.battleshipcove.org/memorials-911.htm>*

*September 11, 2005
Commemorative activities of the
MA 9/11 Fund Families*

Staff Contact Information

David Hastings

*Executive Director
dhastings@hhcc.com
617-572-3415*

Diane Nealon

*Social Work Coordinator
dnealon@hhcc.com
617-572-3513*

LaNitra Webb

*Program Coordinator
lwebb@hhcc.com
617-572-3416*

*Toll-Free Phone: 1-(866) FUND-
911
1-866-386-3911*

*Mailing Address UNTIL JUNE 30,
2005 ONLY*

*The MA 9/11 Fund, Inc.
c/o Hill|Holliday
John Hancock Tower
41st Floor
200 Clarendon Street
Boston, MA 02116
July 1, 2005 on:
75 Kneeland Street
Sixth Floor
Boston, MA 02111*

The Remembrance Book is on schedule to be distributed in early August at a ceremony planned to take place at the John F. Kennedy Library. We will provide you with exact details once the complete logistics have been finalized.

Each family contributing a layout to the book will receive two full volumes at no charge. Additional copies will be made available for purchase.

Also, families will be able to purchase additional copies of the introductory book together with their individual layout contribution.

The Health Insurance Project

A proposal has been developed for Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts to consider that offers a cost-sharing plan for monthly health insurance expenses with BC/BS and the MA 9/11 Fund co-paying a significant percentage. As soon as specifics are agreed upon by all parties we will distribute the information. We are planning to make this opportunity available during the summer of 2005.

The Fund is Moving

As previously announced, the generous corporate donation of office space by Hill | Holliday unfortunately is ending on June 30, 2005. The Fund will be relocating its office to 75 Kneeland Street, Sixth Floor in Boston's Chinatown Neighborhood. We will send out our new telephone and email information as soon as it is available. As always, family members are encouraged to drop by our offices to share any questions or concerns. Please be assured that our current phone numbers and email contact information will be available through August 15, 2005 - though we encourage using the new contact information as soon as we provide it to you. Although our new direct dial phone numbers will change, our existing toll-free phone number will remain: 1-(866) FUND-911 (1-866-386-3911).

June Board Meeting - and inexpensive parking!

The next meeting of the Board of Directors, Families and Friends of the MA 9/11 Fund will be held on Monday, June 20, 2005 at the office of Arter Financial Strategies (125 Summer Street, 14th Floor) in Downtown Boston. The Board will meet at 6:00 PM, joined by families and friends beginning at 7:30 PM. Parking is available at this building at a rate of \$12 for one hour, \$19 for one and a half hours and a flat rate of \$31 for two hours or more. However, there are some less expensive options:

Post Office Square Parking Garage: Enter after 4:00, \$7.00
<http://www.posquare.com/rates.html>. Map of area:
<http://www.posquare.com/maps.html>

Boston Common Parking Garage: Enter after 4:00, \$10.00
<http://www.mccahome.com/garage/rates.aspx>
Directions: <http://www.mccahome.com/garage/directions.aspx>

Message from Bill Doyle of the WTC UNITED FAMILY GROUP

The WTC United Family Group has recently started a bimonthly newsletter. Anyone interested in learning more about this organization can check out their web site at www.wtcufg.org. If you would like to receive their newsletter, please contact Bill Doyle by email at WDoyle5615@aol.com or by phone at 718-948-2538. As many of you know, Bill also sends out daily emails about 9/11 issues through a list serve. Anyone interested in being added to this list serve should feel free to contact him with this request.

FAST ACTION TO SECURE EXCELLENT SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITY!

Exploration Summer Camps has made it possible for children who lost a parent on 9-11 to attend their summer camp sessions free of charge through the generosity of their Foundation Scholarship Program. Exploration is not your typical camp. They offer courses in Moviemaking, Martial Arts, Break Dancing, Lego Engineering and

REMINDER: New Look Planned for www.massfund.org

We invite all of you to offer suggestions for content on our website. The website will be refreshed in the coming months, and this would be an excellent time for you to tell us the kind of material you would like to see on the site. In its next iteration, we expect the website to become an important two-way communication vehicle for all of us, and provide a way to make the latest information available to you, our families.



Improvational Comedy just to name a few. With campuses located in Southborough and Wellesley, Massachusetts and New Haven, Connecticut they will even provide free transportation. If you have a child in the 4th through 12th grade that may be interested in attending this summer, please contact Conor O'Rourke at Exploration as soon as possible at (781) 762-7400 or corourke@explo.org, and please be sure to specify that you are a potential Foundation applicant. Spaces are filling fast so act quickly!!

Expansion of Newsletter Distribution

As you may recall, the Community of Care is a group of local agencies and wellness/recovery providers who meet regularly to share information about program needs in the 9/11 family community. Currently, the Community consists of representatives from the American Red Cross, the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, Boston Medical Center, Senator Kennedy's Office, the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance, Catholic Charities, Cambridge Health Alliance, Brockton Family and Community Resources, Adam Lesser, LICSW, Children's Charter and the U.S. Attorney's Office. The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund has invited the Community of Care to share items of interest in this newsletter and we will provide copies of our newsletter to them on a regular basis.

Sports Field Dedicated in Honor of Massachusetts 9/11 Loved Ones

David had the honor of representing the families at a dedication for a truly wonderful sports field available to all those in Massachusetts. In a testimony to perseverance, dedication of local and state government officials, and multiple individual citizens and small businesses, this project

came to fruition after more than eight years of hard work. The total cost of donated services exceeded \$2,000,000 and has resulted in a twelve-month artificial turf football/soccer/lacrosse field complete with grandstands.

Halfway through the creation of this field the events of 9/11/01 occurred. Joe Kacevich, the inspiration for and creator of this significant effort, declared that it should continue and go forward in the names of Massachusetts victims of 9/11. Working with Senator Ted Kennedy's office, he obtained the full listing of names as they appear on the Living Memorial in the Boston Public Garden. Lovingly, a memorial stone listing those overlooks this field. Together with an American Flag, it will be lit through all hours of the night thanks to a solar powered lighting system. In these ways the field is sustainable into the future - not requiring watering, mowing or pesticides to control weeds, and not using fossil fuels to power the lights for the memorial. There is also a handicapped-accessible walkway all the way from the parking area to the memorial, the work of a Southborough, Massachusetts Eagle Scout. A letter written by Mr. Kacevich to two of our family members, who were able to attend the dedication, follows. I invite you to take him up on his offer of not only viewing the field, but of using it. Once the final pieces are completed (the signage and the solar lighting), we will invite all of you - the families - to attend a special ceremony dedicating the field in honor of your loved ones. Here is Joe's letter. It speaks for itself. I've deleted the names of the folks to whom Joe wrote:

Dear ...,

It was a privilege to meet you on Memorial Day at the dedication ceremony. Although it was not under ideal conditions, hopefully you have an idea of how much our community supported the wonderful facility that 9-11 Memorial Field has become. It truly is a state-wide facility. Under the terms of the Agreement with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the property owners, Southborough receives 75% of the available playing time (in return for maintaining the facility) and literally any town in the Commonwealth can apply to use the remaining 25% time allotment. On any given week, you will see kids and adults from all over Central Massachusetts using the Field. Now that the monument has been unveiled, we will make it a point to have all users of 9-11 to take the time to observe the monument.

All of the speakers did a wonderful job in articulating that the facility stands for the future of our kids. While the terrorists broke the hearts of many families and caused untold billions of dollars of property damage, they did not succeed in breaking our will to carry on. That is what the Field stands for.

It honors the past but looks forward to the future. Hopefully, it meets your expectations. The number of individuals, companies and foundations who contributed to 9-11 Memorial Field over the course of 8 years is simply amazing.

I hope you will visit us often.

Best regards,

Joe Kacevich
9-11 Memorial Field, Acre Bridge Road
Southborough, MA