



Key Messages

- In September, the nation will mark the 13th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. We encourage you to honor those who were lost and those who responded in service in the immediate aftermath and continue to serve by participating in the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.
- We will never forget that tragic day. The innocent lives lost, the bravery of those who responded, and the remarkable spirit of unity and compassion that swept the country in the aftermath.
- The anniversary of September 11 is a day of history, emotion, and reflection for most Americans. Over the last 13 years, this day has also come to symbolize the resilience, kindness, and unity of the American people.
- Service is a strong component in the fabric of our nation, strengthening our communities and unifying our country. The September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance and the enduring power of AmeriCorps and Senior Corps demonstrate what is possible when citizens join together to address our most pressing needs.
- AmeriCorps and Senior Corps were critical in responding to the September 11th terrorist attacks. These programs join thousands of other organizations and individuals to remember victims, first responders, and their families through the annual September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance. This year, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members will join community volunteers in participating in service projects across all 50 states on 9/11.
- On the day after 9/11, AmeriCorps will mark its 20th anniversary in a nationwide pledge ceremony. Since its inception 20 years ago, more than 900,000 men and women have taken the AmeriCorps pledge, serving more than 1.2 billion hours and improving the lives of millions of Americans. On September 12, new AmeriCorps members across all 50 states will take the pledge to advance their service to the next level. Many will also participate in service that honors the memory of September 11.
- To join in the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance visit Serve.gov to find local volunteer opportunities.

Background on the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance

- Beginning in 2002, family members who lost loved ones in the 9/11 attacks began to seek a forward-looking tribute to honor the sacrifice of those lost and pay tribute to those who rose up in service. They believed that engaging in service on the 9/11 anniversary was a productive and respectful way to honor those who died and create a legacy of compassion and action to help meet the challenges we face today.
- Thanks to the leadership of the families, the bipartisan 2009 Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act designated the day as the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance, and charged the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) with supporting this effort across the country. Every year, CNCS works with MyGoodDeed and hundreds of other organizations across the country to make the anniversary of 9/11 a lasting tribute.
- President Obama has said, “There are so many ways to get involved, and every American can do something. Even the smallest act of service, the simplest act of kindness, is a way to honor those we lost; a way to reclaim that spirit of unity that followed 9/11.”
- We are calling on organizations of all kinds – nonprofit and national service, community and faith-based, educational and business – to heed that call and organize or participate in service and remembrance activities.