



Key Messages

- Next month, the nation will mark the 15th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The anniversary of September 11 is a day of history, emotion, and reflection for most Americans. This day has also come to symbolize the resilience, kindness, and unity of the American people.
- Since 9/11, millions of Americans have engaged in service on the 9/11 anniversary as a productive and respectful way to commemorate the tragedy and create a legacy of compassion and action to help meet the challenges we face today.
- We encourage you to honor those who were lost and those who responded in service in response by participating in the [September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance](#).

Background on the 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. Their efforts inspired a tradition of engaging in charitable service as an annual tribute to 9/11.
- The September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance is the culmination of efforts originally launched by the nonprofit 9/11 Day with wide support by the 9/11 community and leading national service organizations. Their efforts inspired a tradition of engaging in charitable service as an annual tribute to 9/11.
- 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 9/11 Day and hundreds of other organizations across the country to make the anniversary of 9/11 a lasting tribute.
- In 2011, President Obama asked Americans to remember the lives of those lost, pay tribute to those who rose up in service, and honor those who serve our country today by engaging in service on the 9/11 weekend.



- 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.

Opportunities to Unite in Service in 2016

- This year, Americans of all ages and backgrounds will serve in their communities in honor of 9/11. Projects will range from food drives and home repairs to neighborhood cleanups, and disaster preparation activities. In many areas, volunteers will honor veterans, soldiers, or first responders by collecting donations, assembling care packages, and writing thank you letters.
- We know that many of you are also planning to host an event, and we strongly encourage you to post your opportunity at Serve.gov. Doing so will bring attention to your project and connect you to the many others seeking to give back on a day that has already tied so many of us together.
- With the combined efforts of individuals and organizations across the country, we will remember the solemn occasion by uniting Americans in a renewed commitment to service.
- This year, 9/11 Day will call on Americans and the nation's political leadership to put aside their differences and pledge to work together to help solve some of our country's most pressing challenges through the "[Tomorrow Together](#)" initiative. Through "Together Tomorrow," nonprofit organizations will organize service projects, help teach empathy and unity to America's youth, and bring generations together in volunteer service to address hunger in America and other important societal issues.

What Organizations Can Do

- Post your volunteer opportunities on Serve.gov.
- Follow [Serve.gov on Twitter](#) and use the "#911day" hashtags in your tweets.

What Individuals Can Do

- Find a September 11th volunteer opportunity near you by visiting Serve.gov.
- Share your story of service on the [Serve.gov Facebook page](#).