For Immediate Release

“9/11 DAY” RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT FROM THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

Funding will be used by 9/11 Day to organize large scale volunteer service projects in cities across the nation in observance of the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 in 2021

Irvine, CA, August 24, 2020 -- 9/11 Day, the nonprofit which founded and leads the September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance, now known as the “9/11 Day” observance, has been awarded a federal grant of $513,220 from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to help mobilize Americans in service and remembrance activities in observance of the 20th anniversary of 9/11 in 2021.

MyGoodDeed is expected to use a portion of the grant to organize as many as 10 major volunteer service projects that will mobilize thousands of volunteers on 9/11 Day in cities across the nation.

Although the locations of these projects are still to be finalized, 9/11 Day anticipates staging projects in locations such as New York City; Washington, DC; Boston; Chicago; Atlanta; Dallas; St. Louis; Houston; Los Angeles and San Francisco. With non-federal funding, 9/11 Day plans to organize at least 10 additional projects in other cities for the 20th anniversary of 9/11. Volunteers at these hunger relief projects will collectively pack millions of non-perishable meals for Americans in need. Those meals will then be provided to community food banks and pantries for distribution.

“We know that volunteerism creates a sense of unity that allows our differences to fall away as we work together to address a common goal. This sense of service is woven into the fabric of our nation,” said Barbara Stewart, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. “I’m proud to award this grant to 9/11 Day. Working together, we will create opportunities for more Americans to turn this day of tragedy into a day of doing good.”

The 9/11 Day observance was co-founded in 2002 by David Paine and Jay Winuk, brother of attorney and volunteer firefighter/EMT Glenn J. Winuk, who died in the line of duty as a rescuer in the WTC South Tower. In 2009, the U.S. Congress officially established the anniversary of September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance (“9/11 Day”) under federal law.
Today, tens of millions of Americans annually mark the anniversary by doing good deeds and other forms of charitable service in honor of those lost and injured from the attacks, as well as those who rose in service in the aftermath of the tragedy.

This year for 9/11 Day, due to the ongoing pandemic, the organization is planning a nationwide day of virtual volunteering, called 9/11 Day At Home, expected to launch officially on September 1, 2020. “With so many organizations unable to engage volunteers physically due to COVID-19, we will be providing a comprehensive and virtual alternative for 9/11 Day this year that will feature on our website an outstanding list of suggested good deeds and service projects that people can do safely from their homes,” said David Paine, president of and co-founder of 9/11 Day. Organizations interested in learning more can request a free toolkit at 911DayAtHome.org.

“Our goal from the outset was to establish a lasting ritual in this nation that ensures we ‘Never Forget’ the tragedy itself or the way good people responded by coming together with acts of kindness, large and small, for the common good,” said Winuk. “Especially now, and for the foreseeable future, we need to rekindle that spirit as a nation and all pitch in. This generous grant from CNCS allows us to continue our work helping to inspire millions of good deeds in observance of the 20th anniversary.”

9/11 Day is one of 29 organizations nationwide that received a Days of Service grant from CNCS in support of the nation’s two annual days of service, designated as such under federal law, one that recognizes the anniversary of 9/11 and the other honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CNCS is the federal agency for volunteering, service and civic engagement, including through its AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs. For more information about CNCS visit www.nationalservice.gov.

For more information about 9/11 Day, visit www.911day.org.

Media Contact:
Jay Winuk
jay.winuk@911day.org
845-277-1160 (w)
914-523-3227 (m)