



The Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund 2011 Annual Report



2011 Tunnel to Towers Run- Detroit on Belle Isle, September 11, 2011
-David Coates, AP

Meaningful and helpful projects

- 120 participants in 1st annual 5k run on Belle Isle.
- Two Michigan first - responders sponsored in New York City Tunnel to Towers Run.
- A one-stop list of 2011 9-11 anniversary events in Michigan on MichiganRemembers.org.
- 1st Annual Michigan Remembers 9-11 Scholarship contest for high school juniors and seniors.
- Opened an office and contracted an Executive Director.

The Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund

The mission of the Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund is to remember those from Michigan who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and to honor the heroic men and women who risked, and in many cases

lost, their lives to save many more. The Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund was founded by survivors of 9/11, who know that without the selfless actions of strangers, they too may have perished that day.

An Anniversary for Reflection

The tenth anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks was an event marked by memorials and commemorations throughout the nation. In Michigan, with the help of sponsors and friends, the Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund provided the public with a one-stop list of anniversary events throughout the state.

From faith-based commemorations to art shows, flag displays to scholarly lectures, runs and races to dinners and luncheons, the Michigan Remembers 9-11 website provided the place, time, and description for over 100 events. Our website also tracked numerous press articles, providing a single place where the public could read about events memorializing the anniversary.

Our Board and staff were instrumental in providing the context for Michigan's

experiences on 9/11. Although we recognize the importance of hearing from the families and loved ones of those we lost in the terrorist attacks, we know that anniversaries can be especially hard for the bereaved. Thus Michigan Remembers 9-11 provided an important source of remembrance and reflection, along with heart-felt gratitude for the sacrifices made by first responders in New York, Shanksville, and Washington, DC.

Several press releases and media appearances by our board and staff members helped the public remember that the events of September 11, 2001 impacted Michigan lives and families deeply. Patrick Anderson's remarks to the Michigan House of Representatives were a capstone to their commemoration of the lives Michigan lost in the attacks.

"The enemy that attacked us tried not just to destroy our buildings, but also to demoralize us as a people and detach us from our roots. As we stand here today, we know, and the world knows, that they have failed."

-Patrick Anderson, Michigan Remembers

9-11 Fund founder at the Michigan House of Representatives September 11 Remembrance Ceremony, September 8, 2011.

Running to Remember



Detective Brian Salenik's photo of Tunnel to Towers participants in the Brooklyn Tunnel, New York City, Sept. 25, 2011.

Michigan's Youth Reflect on 9-11

In September we issued our first call for scholarship essays from Michigan high school juniors and seniors. Encouraging the state's youth to research and reflect on the September 11 attacks, the aftermath, and societies' reactions to the events promotes our mission by providing an opportunity for creative scholarship among people who may not remember the events, but will surely be impacted by them as adults. We plan to eventually make their essays available to the public as a collection of work by young researchers. Thus, remembering the September 11 attacks will continue through the coming years, as a means to paying for college for some, and as a source of emerging reflections for others.

The Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund

1555 Watertower Place, Suite 100

East Lansing, MI 48823

Phone: (517) 333-6984

E-Mail: michiganremembers@gmail.com

Web Site: www.michiganremembers.org

The Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, registered in the State of Michigan. The Board of Directors has pledged that through 2012 all administrative costs will be borne by direct contributions from the Board of Directors members, thereby allowing donations from the public to solely support our programs.

A fortuitous e-mail opened a door to what we hope will be a long tradition of reaching out to Michiganders on September 11 with healthful and meaningful events for entire families. Jam for Vets, a veterans' organization in the Detroit-metro area, was looking for a partner to host a 5k run on Belle Isle in conjunction with the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation and USA Cares. The Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund was pleased to join the effort, providing staff help and fiduciary oversight.

One hundred and twenty runners attended our first Tunnel to Towers Run - Detroit, and over twenty volunteers helped make it so successful. Such a success, in fact, that we were able to sponsor the costs for two first responders from Michigan to participate in the New York City Tunnel to Towers Run on September 25th.

Deputy Brian Salenik, of the Oakland Sheriff's Department is retired from the Army National Guard, having served in Desert Storm. After 9-11 he served at the National Security Agency, investigating the attacks. Deputy Shawn Wilson is a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps Reserves

and also with the Oakland Sheriff's Department. He has completed two tours in Iraq and he traveled to New York City to help with the rescue efforts at ground zero in 2001.

Our Detroit run raised funds to cover Brian and Shawn's flights to New York City, two nights in the Park South Hotel, tickets to 9/11 commemorative events, and other travel expenses.

On Sunday, September 25th, over 30,000 people attended the race - to run, walk, and cheer. Deputy Wilson ripped past most of them, finishing 166 out of 11,405 finishers, putting him in the top 1.5%. You made Michigan proud, Shawn! Deputy Salenik took a more relaxed route, finishing in the middle of the pack, and getting some great pictures of the event. Many thanks to them both.

Proceeds from the Detroit run helped not only Michigan Remembers 9-11 Fund, but also Jam for Vets with its housing, employment, and counseling programs for Michigan veterans; USA Cares with its comprehensive services for veterans and their families; and the Stephen Siller Foundation with its pediatric burn centers and other programs.

We appreciate all our **2011 Donors, Sponsors, and Contributors**

Anderson Economic Group, LLC

Patrick & Madhu Anderson

Blue Care Network of Michigan

Mary & Michael Burck

Dickinson Wright PLLC

King Media

Meijer, Inc.

RetroDuck.com Inc.

David & Janet Ronk

Tom Sheehan

Silverman & Associates, LLC

Simply Gooder Catering

Thomas Stuart

Tuttle's Select Cigars, LLC

Tunnel to Towers - Detroit Runners and Volunteers

Wealth Management Partners, LLC

Web Ascender