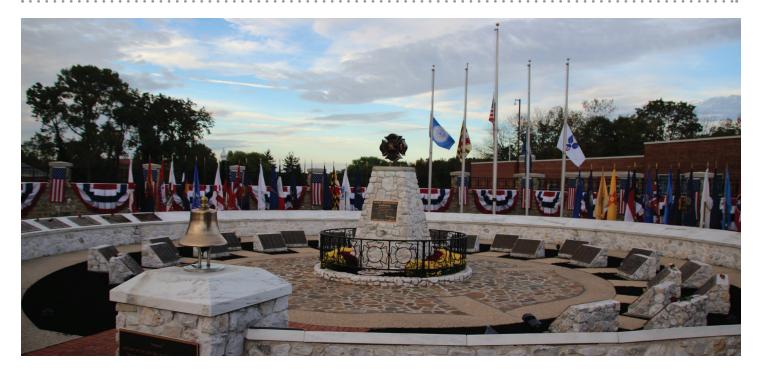
### **ABOUT THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION**



The United States Congress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) in 1992 to lead a nationwide effort to honor the memories of all U.S. firefighters who died in the line of duty and to provide support to their loved ones. As part of this mission, each October the Foundation hosts the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, the official national tribute, in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Through activities offered during the weekend the families of the fallen will find reassurance that their loved ones will not be forgotten, and they have a place to find comfort and compassion.

Beyond the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, the NFFF helps families with similar experiences and interests find each other through the Fire Hero Family Network. We provide college scholarships for spouses and children, and coordinate conferences and workshops for parents, spouses, children and co-workers.

Furthermore, the NFFF established Local Assistance State Teams to support fire departments when a line-of-duty death occurs. These teams also help families who may be eligible to file paperwork for the Public Safety Officers' Benefits program administered by the Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance. Over the years, the Foundation recognized that another way to honor the fallen and support their families is to work with all branches of the fire service to reduce line-of-duty deaths and injuries.

In 2004, the first Firefighter Life Safety Summit was held to address a need to reduce the number of preventable line-ofduty deaths. More than 200 fire service and industry leaders worked together to develop the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives. Out of those initiatives, the NFFF created Everyone Goes Home<sup>®</sup>. This program provides free resources and training opportunities to our nation's firefighters that underscore accepting responsibility for our health and safety.

In addition, the Foundation has provided funding for research that examines coronary heart disease, stroke, and diabetes prevention. The NFFF also sponsors meetings to address evolving needs of the fire service community such as cancer prevention and behavioral health issues.

These are just a few examples of the services and programs offered by the Foundation. A Board of Directors and Advisory Committee guide the Foundation's activities. Members represent the private sector, fire and emergency services, fire hero families, and government. With their input, the NFFF will always be ready to fulfill its mission to honor the fallen, assist their families, and prevent line-of-duty deaths.



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It's an honor to work alongside of such dedicated and giving people. Without the understanding and support of our sponsors, it would be impossible to support our fallen firefighters' families and co-workers.

> - Chief Dennis Compton Chairman of the Board, NFFF

### **About Us**

ongress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in 1992 to lead a nationwide effort to honor America's fallen firefighters. Our mission is to honor and remember America's fallen fire heroes, assist their families in re-building their lives, and reduce firefighter deaths and injuries.

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is the only fire service organization that represents every facet of the American fire service—career, contractor, military, volunteer, and wildland.

The Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, located in Emmitsburg, Maryland. It is registered as a corporation in the State of Maryland. When Congress created the Foundation, it did not provide funding or financial assistance, so the Foundation relies on funding through private donations from caring individuals, organizations, corporations, federal grants, and other foundations.



### **Our Programs**

#### Fire Hero Family Programs

- Fire Hero Family Network
- Grief Resources/Publications
- Wellness Conference
- Memorial Weekend
- Hal Bruno Camps for Children of Fallen Firefighters
- Young Adult Programs
- Scholarships

#### Fire Service Programs

- Everyone Goes Home<sup>®</sup>
- Local Assistance State Teams
- Vulnerability Assessment Program
- Fire Service Training/ Fire Hero Learning Network
- Taking Care of Our Own<sup>®</sup>
- Behavioral Health Support
- Chief-to-Chief Network

#### **Fire Hero Family Network**

Families of fallen firefighters can provide a unique kind of support to one another. Simply connecting with someone else who has lost a firefighter can offer a sense of hope and understanding.

Members of our Fire Hero Family Network volunteer to provide peer support to newly bereaved families. The Foundation matches members of the Network with family members who face similar circumstances.

Members of this special network of friends remind each other that they are not alone.

#### **Grief Resources/Publications**

*The Journey* is a bi-monthly publication for fire hero families that focuses on issues related to loss and healing and includes the reflections and memories of fire hero family members in their own words.

Our website, *www.firehero.org*, provides information for fire hero families, line-of-duty death related resources, benefits, and programs and events.

Grief brochures for families of fallen firefighters are provided for free. The Foundation also has a Lending Library for our fire hero families. Many of the books are written by family members who know firsthand what it is like to lose a loved one.



#### Fire Hero Family Wellness Conference

When a firefighter dies in the line of duty, his or her loved ones are left with unique challenges as they begin to rebuild their lives. Fortunately, families of fallen firefighters have a place to go to find the support, comfort, and resources they need. They also make connections and memories that last a lifetime.

This event gives spouses, parents, children, and siblings of fallen firefighters an opportunity to attend workshops related to grief and loss, physical and emotional wellness. The focus is on action steps and daily practices that increase quality of life after loss. Participants build support with others who have experienced similar losses.



#### **Memorial Weekend**

Every October, the Foundation sponsors the official national tribute to all firefighters who died in the line of duty during the previous year. The Memorial Weekend offers private activities for families of fallen firefighters and co-workers, along with public ceremonies. Thousands attend the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend in Emmitsburg, Maryland.





#### Hal Bruno Camps for Children of Fallen Firefighters



Hal Bruno served as Chairman of the NFFF Board of Directors and was dedicated to helping the families of fallen firefighters. In his memory, the Foundation offers camps for ages 4-6 and 7-17 for children and stepchildren of firefighters honored

at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

Structured camp activities give children from around the country a chance to meet others their own age with similar experiences. This interaction helps them feel less alone, talk with others who understand, and find ways to cope with their loss.

Camps provide a therapeutic component in combination with a dynamic camp setting, allowing

campers to process their grief in a fun and safe environment.

The camp is free, and the Foundation helps with travel/lodging expenses for campers and parents/ guardians.



#### **Programs for Young Adults**

For a child, losing a parent changes life forever, even into adulthood. It shakes the foundation and sense of safety that every child relies on, and it changes the family structure. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has established a retreat for young adults, ages 18-24, whose firefighter parent died in the line of duty. Many did not receive counseling as children.

This retreat provides skills to deal with grief, developing increased independence, selfexpression, and individual growth. Attendees have an opportunity to meet with others their age who have had similar experiences.



#### **Outward Bound**

The Foundation partners with Outward Bound for this exciting life-changing adventure, which is specifically designed for youth coping with the death of a loved one. Outward Bound encourages self-expression in a safe environment and helps participants find healing. It is a course that challenges you to discover your inner strength. Those who have completed the course have reported increased selfconfidence, self-esteem, and teamwork skills.

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and Outward Bound have partnered to provide tuition for the program. Lodging costs are covered, and Foundation assists with travel.



#### **Scholarships**

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation offers financial assistance for post-secondary education and training to spouses, life partners, children and stepchildren of firefighters honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. Scholarships are awarded for undergraduate, graduate studies, vocational-technical training, and certification and job training programs. They may be used at in-state, out-of-state public and private schools.

Since the program began in 1997, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and its partners have awarded over \$3,741,000 to spouses, life partners, children, and stepchildren of fallen firefighters.













#### Taking Care of Our Own®

*Taking Care of Our Own®* training provides senior fire officers specific information about being prepared for a line-of-duty death.

The course includes information about Public Safety Officer Benefits (PSOB) and gives guidance on the resources that should be made available when dealing with a lineof-duty death and what elements should be included when developing a LODD policy.

Each training team includes a chief, members of fallen firefighters' families, and a behavioral health professional.

#### Local Assistance State Teams (LAST)

Everything that happens immediately after a line-of-duty death effects the way the family, the department, and the community recover from the loss. The Foundation thinks the best place for a department to turn for support is within its own state or region. The primary

III (III), III)

www.firehero.org

objective of the Local Assistance State Teams is to assist families and departments after a line-of-duty death and to help with filing for federal, state and local benefits.

#### **Everyone Goes Home**<sup>®</sup>

The Everyone Goes Home® Program provides free training, resources, and programs to champion and implement the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives.

The 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives were jointly developed by representatives of major fire service constituencies during the 2004 Firefighter Life Safety Summit. The initiatives serve as a blueprint to reduce firefighter line-of-duty deaths and injuries.



#### **Fire Service Training**

The Foundation offers training programs to departments to assist and to reduce risk of a fatality or serious injury, prepare for a potential LODD or serious injury, to assist firefighters with behavioral health support, and to reduce risks in the community.

#### Fire Hero Learning Network Online Training

The Fire Hero Learning Network serves as a central hub and allows registered users to access free, multimedia training modules that can all be done on your own time, at your convenience.

The following courses and more are available at <u>www.fireherolearningnetwork.com</u>:

- Courage to Be Safe<sup>®</sup>
- Leadership, Accountability, Culture and Knowledge
- After Action Review
- Creating Change in the Fire Service
- Curbside Manner—Stress First Aid for the Streets
- Stress First Aid for Fire and EMS Personnel
- Taking Care of Our Own<sup>®</sup>
- Communication & Mentoring for Company Officers
- Company Officer's Health & Safety Responsibilities
- Saving Lives: Inspiring Stories in Community Risk Reduction
- 3D Fire Attack Scenario
- Automatic Fire Sprinklers and Alarm Systems



#### Vulnerability Assessment Program (VAP)

Now, every department has a free online tool to help assess their risk of losing or injuring a firefighter. The Vulnerability Assessment Program looks at everything from fireground operations to daily activities in the station such as assessing station organization, resource allocation and management. It begins with the chief or other department officials answering a series of questions based on the six root causes of firefighter line-of-duty deaths and injuries. Based on those answers, the program identifies potential risks within the department or individual stations. Guidance is provided to take corrective steps to reduce those risks.

This tool can also help department leaders justify budget requests, by offering the resources needed to address identified risks.

#### Wildland Fire Service Initiative

NFFF has been honoring wildland firefighters since its inception. Through a series of listening sessions, we discovered many members of the wildland community did not consider themselves part of the fire service because of their primary function as land managers. This inspired the Foundation to develop a comprehensive plan to include the wildland fire service community. The Foundation is forging relationships with the wildland firefighting community and identifying opportunities for program outreach. Existing Fire Service Programs are being reviewed and modified to include content relatable to wildland firefighters. Additionally, the NFFF has partnered with the Wildland Firefighter Foundation (WFF) in an effort to mutually support each other.

Fire Service Programs transcends whether a firefighter is a structural "blue shirt" or wildland "yellow shirt." "Everyone Goes Home" is equally applicable to every firefighter regardless of what protective clothing they wear.

#### **Chief-to-Chief Network**

The Chief-to-Chief Network grew out of a need expressed by chiefs who had lost firefighters in the line of duty. The Foundation has established a network of senior fire officers who have one thing in common: They have all experienced the death of a firefighter in the line of duty and understand what



a department goes through. Network members share information on issues such as:

- Incident follow-up and investigations
- Support for the fallen firefighter's family and co-workers
- Funeral and memorial service arrangements
- Requests for information from media and community
- Personal feelings of loss

#### **Seatbelt Pledge**

To help encourage more individuals and departments to use their seatbelts at all times, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has revamped the International First Responder Seatbelt Pledge website, making it easier than ever to use. The system is completely automated for those who wish to begin a seatbelt campaign in their departments. You can take the pledge at www.seatbeltpledge.com.



# First Responder Center for Excellence for Reducing Occupational Illness, Injuries and Deaths, Inc. (FRCE)

Our nation's first responders answer their call to duty without hesitation. While they train and prepare tactically for their daily responses, they must also be physically and mentally prepared for those calls.

In 2016, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation created the First Responder Center for Excellence to provide increased awareness, training and research to ensure that first responders have the correct tools and information to build and maintain a healthy foundation to reduce injuries and fatalities related to behavioral health, cardiac and cancer, as well as improve overall health and wellness. The First Responder Center for Excellence is committed to promoting quality educational awareness and research in five main programmatic areas: Cancer Prevention and Awareness, Behavioral Health, Firefighter Physical Initiative, Cardiac and Health and Wellness.



FIRST RESPONDER Center for Excellence

#### **Cancer Prevention and Awareness**

- Firefighting is inherently dangerous work. There
  is an unseen, and less recognized, danger
  firefighter's face the risk of developing cancer.
  Building materials introduced over the last 40
  years, such as engineered thermoplastics and
  laminated veneer lumber, significantly contribute
  to the release of cancer-causing agents during
  structure fires.
- Firefighters have a greater number of certain types of cancer diagnoses than the general U.S. population.
- Cancer is a leading cause of firefighter deaths in the United States.
- Studies have shown that firefighters have increased risk of certain cancers the longer they spend working in the fire service.

#### Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance

THE FRCE manages the activities of the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance and develops resources for cancer awareness and prevention, such as the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Toolkit. Alliance members include representatives from fire service



organizations, government partners and other like-minded entities. The Alliance focuses on key topics including awareness and prevention, presumptive legislation, research, and recognition of firefighter cancer deaths as LODDs.

#### **Behavioral Health Support for First Responders**

First responders are faced with a myriad of stressors that go beyond what the general population may experience. The phrase "fit for duty" for first responders has historically only accounted for good physical health for the duties related to one's job. However, recent evidence-based research indicates that maintaining one's behavioral health is equally important. The effects of first responder stress events can factor into behavioral health issues such as post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse and depression. Resources available today, like Stress First Aid, address the unique stressors related to first responders and build on the strengths of first responders, including a sense of belonging, support from one another and a strong sense of purpose.

#### Fire Dynamics Boot Camp

Fire Dynamics Boot Camp is a train-the-trainer, intensive three day program designed to empower and prepare fire service leaders and instructors to incorporate the most current research findings about fire behavior and firefighting tactics into their training programs. Participants gain an improved understanding of fire dynamics and a digital tool kit to support their training efforts at home. Students also develop a network of instructional support from instructors who are implementing this material at their fire training academies.

#### Cardiac Awareness, Research, and Resources for First Responders

Cardiovascular disease is a leading cause of line-of-duty deaths among U.S. firefighters and an important and costly cause of morbidity. Firefighter cardiovascular events are largely due to Coronary Heart Disease (CHD), with Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) accounting for most line-ofduty fatalities. The FRCE develops resources to educate first responders on the cardiac risks, as well as strategies to reduce the probability of a cardiac event.

#### Firefighter Physical Program Implementation Tools

The best way to diminish the effects of any diseases, illnesses or injuries is to detect them as early as possible. This is especially true for firefighters who, in many cases, are at greater risk for certain diseases, illnesses, and injuries than the general population. Annual physicals, based upon testing criteria for the increased health risks faced by firefighters, have proven to lead to early detection and prevention of long term illnesses. In conjunction with the International Association of Fire Chiefs the FRCE provides resources to firefighters and clinicians on the types of physicals and how to best implement a physical program.



#### National Fallen Firefighters Memorial

Constructed in 1981, the seven-foot stone monument features a sculpted Maltese Cross, the traditional symbol of the fire service. At the base of the monument an eternal flame symbolizes the spirit of all firefighters—past, present and future. Plaques encircling the monument list the names of the men and women of the fire service who have died in the line of duty since 1981.

Each year, America honors its fallen fire heroes during a National Memorial Service at the monument site. The ceremony includes the placing of a Presidential Wreath at the monument and dedication of a plaque honoring those who died in the line-of-duty during the previous year.

#### Walk of Honor®

The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park features a *Walk of Honor®* that connects the monument, the historic Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel, and memorial plazas. Each brick on the walkway bears a personal inscription. Separate sections in the crosswalks also recognize the Foundation's major donors. These special sections include corporations, organizations, and individuals for their support. Proceeds from the sale of these bricks help to finance construction of the Memorial Park.

#### **Pre-1981 Section**

Project Roll Call identifies and honors firefighters who died in the line of duty prior to the creation of

the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in 1981. A special section of bricks on the Walk of Honor<sup>®</sup> has been created so that departments and loved ones can remember these firefighters.



#### National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel

The National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel is special to America's firefighters and our fire hero families. A Chapel Vigil is held, during the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, so families can light a candle and place a rose in honor of their loved ones. During the holidays, the Chapel is decorated with trees bearing ornaments sent by our families.

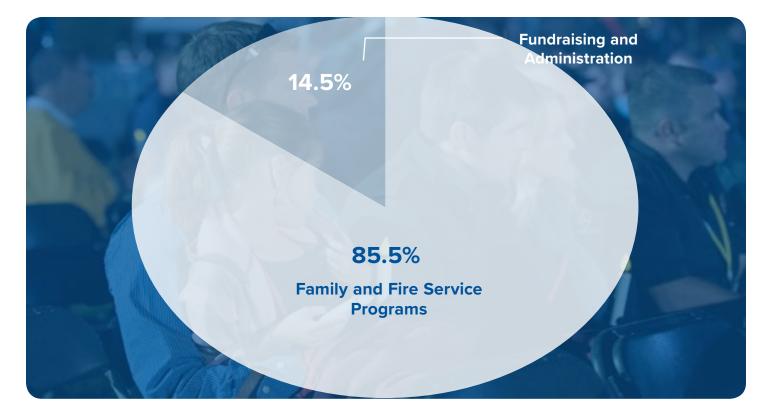
The Chapel was built in 1839 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1997, it was designated as the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel and formally dedicated in 1998 in memory of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons. Chief Gibbons was instrumental in building the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. In 2006, the Chapel was restored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the offices of the Foundation are located there.

#### To Lift a Nation 9/11 Memorial

This 40-foot-tall bronze monument recreates the famous photo taken by Bergen Record photographer, Thomas E. Franklin, of three FDNY firefighters raising the American flag at Ground Zero. The monument stands 40 feet high, six feet deep and eight feet wide. Each of the three firefighter's statues weigh more than 5,000 pounds and were formed from approximately 160 bronze sections weighing between 60 to 80 pounds each. The monument sits beside a brick plaza that connects it to the Walk of Honor® in the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park.



### **Program Expenditures**



Caring for the families of those who died in the line of duty is the least we can do for those who have given so much.

> — Chief Ron Siarnicki Executive Director NFFF

#### Recognizing Those Who Care for the Fire Service Family

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has established awards to honor individuals and organizations that support the mission of the Foundation and for those who show a commitment to the health and safety of firefighters throughout the country.

- Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award
- Arthur J. Glatfelter Distinguished Service Award
- Seal of Excellence Award



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# STAYING RESILIENT 2021 Annual Impact Report





# From Our Chairman of the Board



This year we mark 30 years of service honoring our nation's fallen firefighters and supporting their families. Congress established the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) in 1992, and since then the Foundation has expanded its mission to reduce and prevent firefighter deaths and injuries.

I am proud to present our 2021 Annual Impact Report, which makes clear that our commitment to these causes has not wavered even in the face of a second year of the Covid-19 pandemic. The report demonstrates that we have remained resilient in overcoming challenges and achieving our goals.

Memorial Weekend brought together, at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, families of honored firefighters, including honorees from 2019 and 2020. Though in-person attendance was limited for health and safety reasons, Fire Hero Families were able to watch via a livestream broadcast, allowing them to hear tributes from a nation grateful for the sacrifice of their loved ones.

The Foundation relied on technology to keep our communities connected as the pandemic continued to limit in-person gatherings. Despite the disruptions, we remained undeterred in bringing high-quality programs and services to those who needed them.

We hosted virtual camps for Fire Hero Family members, including young adults and children. And when the Foundation could not host its annual Wellness Conference in person, the NFFF Family Programs team created a weeklong virtual event. This year marked a milestone – the 100th issue of our bi-monthly newsletter, "The Journey," and we also launched a new podcast, "Grief in Progress," which seeks to inspire listeners with stories of hope and healing.

All of these efforts are reminders that, though we may have been separated by conditions beyond our control, we remained together in our dedication to honor America's fallen firefighters and to assist their families.

The Foundation remains committed to promoting the health, safety and educational initiatives that support all members of the fire service. Important research continues into preventing on-the-job health issues faced by firefighters and other first responders.

I cannot write this message describing the Foundation's achievements in 2021 without thanking everyone involved. From staff members to volunteers, affiliates and partners, your extra efforts set a new level of excellence and dedication to the NFFF's mission. Thank you for all of your hard work, perseverance and belief in our mission.

As you read this Impact Report, remember that you are an integral part of our progress. I look forward to continuing to serve with you in the years to come.

Sincerely,

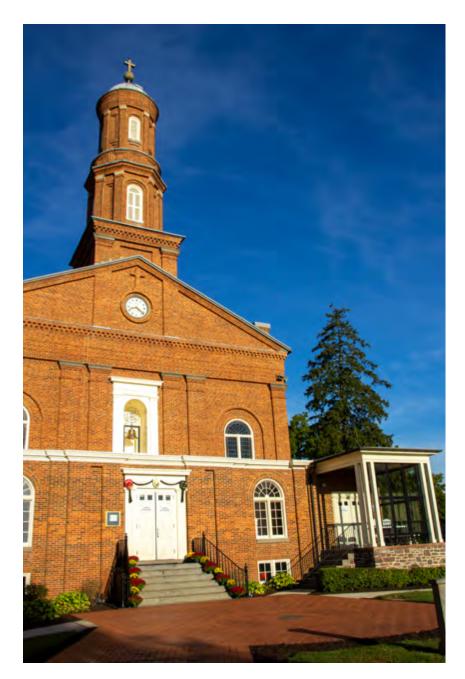
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Troy Markel Chairman of the Board

#### STAYING RESILIENT

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Our mission is to honor and remember America's fallen firefighters, provide assistance to their families and co-workers, and work to prevent firefighter deaths and injuries.

> Since its creation by Congress in 1992, the non-profit National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) has developed many programs to fulfill its Congressional mandate. Federal grants and donations from individuals, organizations, corporations, and foundations fund the Foundation's programs.

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

# **Fire Hero Family Programs**

"There are five words that make up the most important message we have for those who are grieving after the loss of a firefighter: We are here for you."

We created new ways to connect our community when we could not be together in person. As the pandemic continued in 2021, we expanded our virtual options to bridge the gaps and promote resilience and growth in our Fire Hero Families.

# **Scholarship Programs**

In the 2021-2022 academic year, the Foundation and our partners awarded scholarships that covered 100% of the tuition, academic fees, and book expenses for 18 students, 50-59% of the tuition, academic fees, and book expenses for four students, and 40-49% of the tuition, academic fees, and book expenses of three students — each of whom demonstrated pressing financial need and stellar academic performance. Thirty-one other applicants also received meaningful support. In total, we awarded \$478,229 to the students in our Fire Hero Family!

These scholarship awards were made through generous donations from Motorola Solutions Foundation, Inc., the Alan Patrick Sondej Scholarship Fund, and partnerships with MissionSquare Retirement, Burton A. Zipser and Sandra D. Zipser Foundation, National Association of State Fire Marshals, Presto, Global Health & Safety, and the Steel Family's Engine Company 5 Foundation and countless other donations made to the NFFF Sarbanes Scholarship Program.

I am so excited to say that this year I will be taking the MCAT and applying to medical school. This scholarship means so much to me! I could say thank you 1,000 times. I deeply appreciate the support.



The scholarship helped to cover the majority of this year's tuition and fees and will do the same for the Spring of 2022. It has also given me the opportunity to focus on my academics and not have to worry about finding a job to be able to afford my college education. Without this scholarship I am uncertain where I would be in my education path, and I am very grateful to all who make this scholarship available.



for Children of

**Fallen Firefighters** 

ZC

COMFORT ZONE CAMP

# Hal Bruno Camps for Children of Fallen Firefighters

The CZC/NFFF partnership is unique. It stands out. And, it stands UP for each and every camper. When I asked my campers what their Big Buddies meant to them, they replied, 'I don't know where I would be without my Big Buddy.' 'My Big Buddy is always available to talk to me.' 'My Big Buddy is like a father to me.' 'My Big Buddy came to my graduation.'

26 CAMPERS AGES 7-17 ZOOMED TO COMFORT ZONE CAMP WITH 26 BIG BUDDY VOLUNTEERS **100%** OF THE CAMPERS SAID THAT THIS CAMP HELPED THEM WITH THEIR GRIEF

**95%** FELT THAT THEIR GRIEF FEELS MORE MANAGEABLE AND THEY HOPE TO HELP OTHERS WITH THEIR GRIEF

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

### STAYING RESILIENT



In 2021, Camp HAL went digital, connecting children from over 10 states. In mini-camp sessions, they made calming jars, participated in a scavenger hunt that memorialized their firefighter, and connected over shared experiences in their grief.



Amazing experience for younger kids. It helps them in so many ways to understand their feelings along with what is going on with the loss of their parent. Miss Stephanie and her helpers always bring something new and wonderful to the kids.

# CAMPERS AGES 4-6 ZOOMED TO CAMP HAL

**100%** OF PARENTS FELT THAT CAMP GAVE THEIR CHILDREN STRATEGIES AND TOOLS TO EXPRESS THEIR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS



### NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

# **Through a New Lens**

57 FIRE HERO FAMILY MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THROUGH A NEW LENS

**100%** ATTENDEES AGREED THAT THE EVENT HELPED THEM FEEL CONNECTED TO THE FIRE HERO FAMILY COMMUNITY

not alone

at peace

Although the 2021 Wellness Conference could not be held in person, the NFFF created *Through a New Lens*—a weeklong virtual event provided a vision for the way forward and included sessions like:

> Grief Through The Years: What Changes and What Stays The Same

**Building Resilience Through Self-Care** 

The Impact of Trauma and Grief

Navigating the Circles of Life and Grief

Men, Grief, and a Checklist

Self-Care : It's Not Just a Theory

### After Attending Through A New Lens Participants Felt

connected

stronger in control reassured

hopeful informed

supported empowered

better able to look at my grief differently

not the only one

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .





# **Grief in Progress Podcast**

In December, we launched Season 1 of our new podcast. Created to inspire listeners with messages of hope and healing, *Grief in Progress* aims to help families gain coping skills by hearing from peers who have experienced tragic events.

Each monthly episode features members of our Fire Hero Family as we explore contemporary issues related to grief, healing, and perseverance—designed to spark new ways of seeing the world and connecting with others. In each podcast, the NFFF's grief specialist participates in the conversation and helps to facilitate the telling of each story.



This podcast was very helpful for me as the wife of a firefighter that passed away. I understood when Ms. Purdy talked about the anger—I have experienced that. I am always looking for help with coping with my husband's death.



STAYING RESILIENT

### NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION



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**Firefighters Four** 

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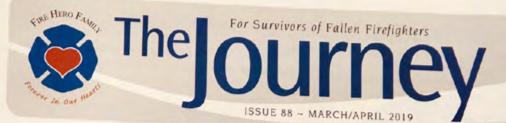
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The willingness to show up changes us. It makes us a little braver each time - Brené Brown

here is a pattern that often occurs in the wake of loss. Perhaps you are familiar with it. Some of the people who you thought would be there for you-close friends, family members, people from church, members of the fire department-seem to disappear just when you most need support. These additional losses can be incredibly hurtful and difficult to understand. It's hard to say why this happens, and the reasons may be different in each situation. Some people are terribly uncomfortable dealing with other people's sadness and grief. They don't know what to say or fear they will say or do the wrong thing. Perhaps your

On the other hand, people you never expected often show up in ways you never imagined. It might be an acquaintance you weren't that close to who ends up being your greatest source of support. In many cases, it's someone you meet only because of your loss, someone who has lived through something similar. An these are the people who walk with you through those darkest days. At NFFF family events, people often say, "If I hadn't lost my firefighter, I would never have met this wonderful group of friends who I now consider nart of my family " Like se much

# **Celebrating 100th Issue of The Journey**



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I love reading the stories. I laugh, cry, and smile with each edition. I look forward to receiving The Journey. I have kept almost every one.

The Journey is our bi-monthly publication written by and for the families of fallen heroes who have been honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

This beloved publication in our Fire Hero Family community was named for the way many Fire Hero Families view their own life after the loss of their firefighter. In its nearly two-decade history, the pages of The Journey have covered myriad issues related to loss and healing, showcasing the reflections and memories of Fire Hero Families in their own words. Through the years, more than 260 family members and friends of firefighters honored at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial have written pieces.

With every issue, the publication reaches thousands of Fire Hero Families. And for nearly two decades, readers have applauded its impact. Indeed, The Journey's quiet, longterm presence has made it a touchpoint for Fire Hero Family members across the country.

# **Keeping Fire Hero Families Connected**

"

Even though I am not close to anyone geographically, I still have the option to talk to others who really understand what I am going through.

Licensed psychologist Dr. Angela Moreland hosted weekly support groups via Zoom. These groups were helpful for those struggling with grief, isolation, or both—especially when there is no strong support system in place. Additional unfacilitated virtual sessions also enabled Fire Hero Family members to meet informally to share stories, struggles, and ideas.

Once again, the NFFF outdid themselves providing an opportunity for family members to just sit and share stories. No pressure...

Our *State Connections* program forges bonds between Fire Hero Families within each state/region. The monthly virtual meeting fosters conversation between families to help build local connections and find support "at home."

To help support family members around the anniversary of their firefighter's death, we host a virtual *Remembrance Group* each month for families whose firefighter died during that month. The group is facilitated by Vickie Taylor, a licensed clinical social worker who has served as a NFFF behavioral health consultant since 1992.

During the anniversary month of a firefighter's death, family members also receive special handwritten cards in honor of their firefighter. These cards are written by other Fire Hero Family members who truly understand the depth of that loss and volunteer their time to make sure families know they are not alone.

### **BY THE NUMBERS**

**42** PEER SUPPORT PARTICIPANTS

FACILITATED SUPPORT PARTICIPANTS

ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT CONSULTATIONS

**54** REMEMBRANCE GROUP PARTICIPANTS

**44** STATE CONNECTIONS PARTICIPANTS

FAMILY MEMBERS SENT 4,470 REMEMBRANCE CARDS TO FIRE HERO FAMILIES NEAR THE ANNIVERSARY DATE OF EACH FIREFIGHTER'S DEATH

### STAYING RESILIENT

## **Men Forging Ahead**

This casual support group "for men only" continued in 2021. It's open to all husbands, male life partners, fathers, brothers, and adult sons whose firefighter has been honored (or approved to be honored) at that National Fallen Firefighters Memorial. The monthly virtual gatherings provide camaraderie among the men in our community, allowing them to connect with others who have experienced a similar loss, discuss shared experiences, and support one another.

# 15

MEN FROM THE FIRE HERO FAMILY COMMUNITY TOOK PART IN THE MEN FORGING AHEAD SESSIONS

It was so touching to hear the guys say that they felt so much more comfortable in this setting sharing their feelings, along with quite a few laughs. Please consider this effort a success. Some of our 2021 sessions included:

Chili Bowl

Reuben Round-Up

Bring Your Best Burger

What Will Your Firefighter's Legacy Be?

Focusing on the Positive

Holiday Memories and New Traditions

2021 Annual Impact Report

# **Young Adults Meet & Greet**

This virtual gathering for young adults ages 17-25 gave these Fire Hero Family members a chance to reconnect with friends and meet new ones. Together, they brainstormed ways for peers to engage with NFFF offerings and shared excitement for an upcoming Young Adult Retreat!

YOUNG ADULTS ATTENDED THE VIRTUAL MEET & GREET

### The Young Adult community discussion included:

Shared experiences at past retreats

Serving as a Big Buddy at the Hal Bruno Camps

Offering in-person opportunities to get to know peers

Exploring texting as an alternative for outreach

Opportunities within the NFFF

Leveraging social media (Instagram and Discord) as a messaging tool

# **Fire Hero Family Winter Retreat**

The holidays can be an especially challenging time of year. The Fire Hero Family Winter Retreat brought together family members of all ages for a three-day event focused on giving back to others at the holidays, self-care, reflection, and fellowship. Family members helped decorate the Fire Hero Family Trees for our annual tree lighting—and on Friday night, Santa Claus made a surprise visit!

The Winter Retreat is what my heart needed. Getting to meet people who truly understand my grief has been a life saver.

















# **Fire Hero Family Tree Lighting**



Each year the Memorial Chapel is decorated in memory of all fallen firefighters. Holiday trees are adorned with ornaments from families and departments around the country. This year's Holiday Tree Lighting was broadcast live and included music, remarks from U.S. Fire Administrator Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell, and a wreath laying ceremony at the National Memorial.



# **Fire Service Programs**

"There is no end to our commitment to preventing every preventable line-of-duty death."

We continued to offer support and resources to the fire service in spite of pandemic-imposed limitations. We used virtual models to provide courses and seminars, including for incident commanders, to help reduce preventable lineof-duty deaths and injuries. STAYING RESILIENT

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

### **Local Assistance State Teams**

The Local Assistance State Teams (LAST) are dedicated volunteers who are the first NFFF representatives to contact agencies and the families of the fallen when a tragedy occurs. In 2021, LAST assisted 271 agencies and families with filing for the Department of Justice's Public Safety Officers' Benefit. This critical assistance helps agencies and families deal with the physical and emotional impact of a fatality.

### IN 2021, LAST PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO AGENCIES WITH



All the members of your team treated our department family and the family of (the deceased firefighter) with dignity and respect... With the help of your team, we gave (the deceased) the Hero's funeral that he deserved.

Written in a letter to the Nebraska LAST, signed by 19 members of the affected fire department.

### STAYING RESILIENT

# **Uniformed Support Programs**

Our Uniformed Support programs for chiefs, incident commanders (IC), and company officers (CO), who had experienced a line-of-duty death continued to grow in 2021.

Our IC-to-IC webinar series continues to be very well received. These webinars feature incident commanders who tell the story of how the fatality occurred and its effect on them. These presentations are another tool that fire departments can use to develop risk dominance on the emergency scene and unintended outcome messaging for their commanders.



Here is what the fire service is saying about the IC-to-IC webinar series:

Thank you for sharing your experience with viewers on the NFFF IC-to-IC Discussion. I appreciate the insight and vulnerability shared.

The IC-to-IC is such a great idea! Everyone of your folks is doing such great work, and we're all extremely appreciative and proud.



# **Legacies in Leadership**



In 2021, the NFFF launched the Legacies in Leadership website, an inspiration for the next generation of leaders. This site contains a series of interviews capturing thoughts and advice from the past and present fire service leaders to the next generation of fire service influencers.

These trailblazers have shared their educational and entertaining "war stories" applicable to today's fire service, as well as any other industry. They are the front-runners of the American fire service that are paying it forward with what they have learned through their profession. Viewers will learn how these men and women began their careers and gain perspectives on how the fire service has changed, along with what they expect the future will hold.

Among the videos featured on the website are interviews with luminaries such as the late Chief Alan Brunacini, Chief Dennis Compton, Bill Webb, Executive Director of the Congressional Fire Service Institute, Chief Charles Hood, Dr. Denise Smith, and longtime friend of the fire service Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-MD), the Majority Leader of the United States House of Representatives. Video topics include segments on leadership, service, respect, and the best advice they received in their careers. We hope that the insights that the viewers of the series will see will be helpful to current and future leaders in the fire service. Our goal is to share our advice and to talk about the lessons we learned as we advanced over the years.

# **Everyone Goes Home® Program**

I feel members of the fire service seeing diversity representing Everyone Goes Home® will open a great number of doors. Thanks for letting me help tell the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and Everyone Goes Home® story. Everyone Goes Home<sup>®</sup> is the NFFF's flagship effort to reduce preventable firefighter line-of-duty deaths. By fulfilling our primary mission of supporting families, co-workers, and fire service leaders after a firefighter dies, we have recognized that not every fire service death is avoidable. This drives us to do all we can to better prepare firefighters to face and manage the risks inherent to the job and return after every run.

We've designed curricula within fire service programs, Everyone Goes Home<sup>®</sup>, and the Taking Care of Our Own<sup>®</sup> program, to equip firefighters with critical thinking skills allowing them to approach firefighting with a clear-minded intent and focus befitting professionals engaging in such a high-risk endeavor.



# **Fire Hero Learning Network**

In 2021, the Fire Hero Learning Network (FHLN) experienced a **9% increase in new users over 2020**. This increase reflects a sustained, modest, but steady increase each year over the last several years and is the result of targeted efforts by the Everyone Goes Home<sup>®</sup> Advocate team to attract new users.

Each online class receives a follow-up survey. Over 19,300 course attendees responded and reported the following:





reported revising an existing SOP/ SOG after taking a FHLN module

# 26%

were inspired to change how their department officially operates because they took a FHLN module



reported making informal specific operating changes at the individual or company level after taking a FHLN module

> **17,997** (93%)

reported that their safety knowledge increased after taking a FHLN module

Thank you for sharing your experience with viewers on the NFFF ICto-IC Discussion. I appreciate the insight and vulnerability shared.

"



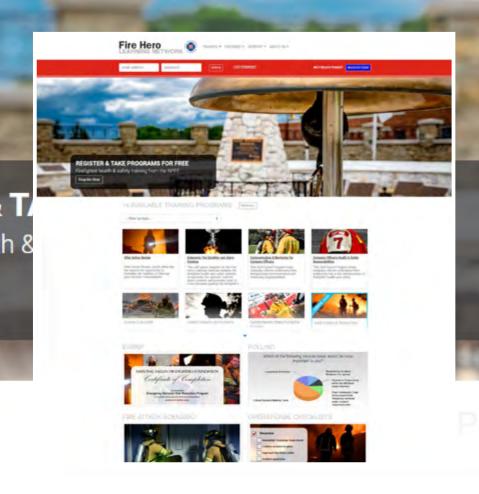
email address

password

### IN 2021, THE NFFF REACHED **130,000+** REGISTERED USERS OF THE

FIRE HERO LEARNING NETWORK

REGISTER IMMEDIATELY TO ACCESS ANY OF THE 14 FREE, HIGH-QUALITY, ONLINE TRAINING MODULES AND THE REST OF THE CONTENT AT WWW.FIREHEROLEARNINGNETWORK.COM





### UPDATED IN 2021 RESPONDING TO VIOLENT INCIDENTS 2.0

With increasing and distressing frequency, high-profile violent incidents have put the spotlight on the need to train the fire service to render service in these situations while protecting firefighters to the best of our ability. The National **Fallen Firefighters Foundation has** been at the forefront of this effort for more than a decade, authoring and promoting Firefighter Life Safety Initiative 12, which states: "National protocols for response to violent incidents should be developed and championed." The NFFF has developed this selfpaced program on the Fire Hero Learning Network as an important piece of that national response to violent incidents.

# Truman Fire Forum – Improving Firefighter and Community Safety

### FIVE AREAS OF FOCUS

### **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (CRR)**

- Add CRR knowledge/skills to NFPA professional standards.
- Add CRR programs to performance evaluations for firefighters and include them as part of officer job descriptions.
- Urge government officials to support CRR programs as policy.
- Determine the economic toll of fire to include insurance costs, fire department response, and environmental concerns.

### DATA

- Every member of the fire service is able and responsible for data collection, but it should not be an undue burden.
- Leverage technology to secure scalable and relevant data for each community.
- Partner with organizations who can fund research on the data and develop partnerships to benefit the community.

### MARKETING

- Marketing messages must go beyond fire prevention to include CRR programs and efforts.
- Reach an audience with narrower focus on some of the most important prevention messages, and be more effective in communicating those messages.
- Using visually engaging and realistic materials.

### SPRINKLERS

- The public would be safer with adoption of codes and standards that include sprinkler systems in both commercial and residential buildings.
- Increase in improved education programs, both inside the fire service, and for stakeholders in government and industry.
- Leverage federal housing programs as an incentive to install sprinkler systems.

### TECHNOLOGY

- Improvement of the use of tech, data collection and behavior to meet needs of internal and external stakeholders.
- Identify and partner with technology developers to stay current with technology. Suggested partners include: fire service groups, volunteer organizations like the Red Cross, and developers like Apple, Google, Facebook, and Waze.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman brought together experts from the fire service and outside interests to find ways to stop the destruction and deaths from fires in this country.

More than 70 years later, Truman's legacy lives on in the form of the Truman Fire Forum Working Group. The group's members are dedicated to preventing fires, advocating for safe communities, and preventing firefighter line-of-duty deaths.

Following the 17th Annual President Harry S. Truman Legacy Symposium and the President Truman Fire Forum, the Truman Fire Forum Working Group, had two main goals: to plan for a future National Fire Service Research Agenda Symposium that carries forward the spirit of President Truman's original goal and to update and prioritize fire prevention strategies from previous Truman Fire Forum meetings.

This group is calling for the fire service and the nation to integrate fire prevention and education into regular fire department operations; use data, research, and science to tell the fire prevention story, and increase advocacy for sprinkler use through strategies with federal partners.

# National Fire Service Research Agenda Symposium

In 2021, the NFFF hosted the 4th National Fire Service Research Agenda Symposium, and UL's Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI) was the exclusive sponsor.

During this Symposium, researchers and fire service practitioners met and worked in three facilitated working groups to create recommendations to have the most significant impact on firefighter health and safety. The facilitators then submitted the recommendations as worksheets to an expert jury of researchers and fire service representatives. After reviewing the recommendations, the jury was able to modify recommendations and move recommendations to other domains as needed. Their work resulted in the National Fire Service Research Agenda Report with nearly 300 recommendations.

A reoccurring theme in each of the working groups was the need for the fire service to approach research and complex issues by collaborating with other disciplines and industries outside of the fire service. Many of the working groups discussed overarching needs of the fire service and found that key research is not limited to one topic. Also in the Executive Summary are considerations for researchers on disseminating research into the fire service.

# Workgroup Focus

### **Hiring/Retention/Advancement**

recruitment, effective leadership, diversity/equity/inclusion/belonging, and hiring, promotion, and retention.

### **Effective Operations**

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

training, tactics, tools, equipment, apparatus, personal protective equipment, and community risk reduction.

### **Health and Safety**

wellness, understudied populations, cardiovascular health, cancer, mental health, metabolic health, reproductive health, occupational medical evaluations, fatigue, injury prevention/assessment, violence prevention/risk assessment, and work environment.

Our commitment to create a fire service national research agenda is embedded in the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives through Initiative #7. But even more critical than that, is our commitment to take a multidisciplinary approach to firefighter health and safety by providing the opportunity for researchers and fire service representatives to map out the future needs of the fire service. The result of this consequential collaboration are the recommendations in this report.



STAYING RESILIENT

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

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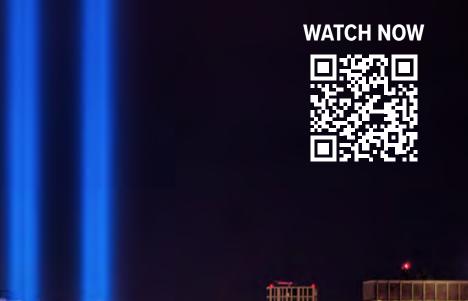
# 9/11 20 Years Later

Members of the FDNY Tell Their Stories of Resilience

On September 11, 2001, 343 FDNY firefighters were killed in the attacks on the World Trade Center. Since then, hundreds more have died from illnesses related to the response and recovery effort. Many more continue to face the physical and emotional toll exacted by the attack.

This documentary delivers a powerful and inspiring message of resilience through the words of those who were there, those who lived through and participated in the department's rebuilding, and those who carry on the department's highest tradition of commitment to service.

Fire departments can take the insight and wisdom provided by the members of the FDNY. Rebuilding a department after a tragic loss is challenging, but possible. This documentary will better prepare departments to work on their rebuild when they are faced with seemingly insurmountable loss. The part of our leadership that survived, really were the epitome of the resiliency of the department...Although we were mourning the members that we lost, they never lost focus on the members we had. They continued to worry about the safety of our members, the wellbeing of our members.



### TWO LESSONS LEARNED ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

- A peer component is important for trauma support of frontline workers. Those who are grieving relate best to those who have walked in similar shoes. It creates a safe zone and helps eliminate what we call negative celebrity status – the idea that they're worthy of attention because something terrible has happened to them.
- 2. Everyone reacts differently to trauma, and they all reach out for help in their own time. Some need support right away. Others wait years even 20 years and some will never reach out for help at all. The responsibility of organizations like ours and others is to make sure that we continue to offer mental health support not just at the time of a major trauma but long afterward so whenever people are ready to ask for help, it's there for them.

NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

# **NFFF Marketing**

Jhank Jon

"We are encouraged by all those who recognize the service of the brave men and women who protect their communities 24 hours a day 7 days a week."



# **Building NFFF Awareness**



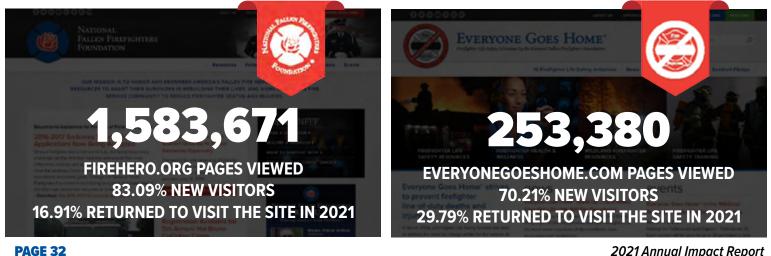
### OUR OVERALL REACH INCREASED 30%

With the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and Memorial Stair Climbs in over 40 U.S. cities, Laura Evans Media (LEM) created a media strategy to amplify the mission of NFFF. The effort started with a satellite media tour including 8 major market television hits in one morning. That was followed by a comprehensive media campaign resulting in dozens more local, national, and international media hits garnering millions of views. Broadcast viewership alone is estimated at 32 million.\*

As the NFFF prepared for its annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, which honors all firefighters who died in the line of duty, LEM developed a strategy to raise awareness about the Weekend and create opportunities for national and local media to pick up the live stream from Emmitsburg, Maryland. The effort resulted in dozens of media hits in broadcast and print reaching more than 1.25 billion\* viewers, listeners, and readers.

### \*METRICS GATHERED VIA MELTWATER MEDIA MONITORING SERVICES

### OUR REACH ON THE WEB

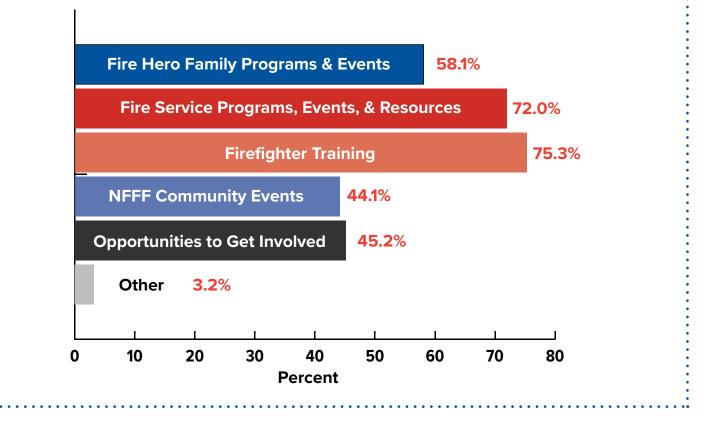


### E-MAIL MARKETING, AUDIENCE SEGMENTATION, AND IMPACT

We continued to work to improve our user's E-mail experience and engagement. The NFFF deployed an impact survey, to our Everyone Goes Home<sup>®</sup> audience, which helped us understand their needs and further segment the audience to deliver more targeted and relavant content.

THERE WERE **168** E-MAIL BLASTS SENT IN 2021, THAT'S A TOTAL OF **1,693,310** E-MAILS! **1,451** NEW SUBSCRIBERS JOINED US IN 2021. 37.6% Strongly Agreed and 52.7% Agreed that subscribing to the Everyone Goes Home® Newsletter has increased their awareness of NFFF programs & resources

We asked: What type of E-mail content is most valuable to you?



...

### Creating Buzz on Social Media Our Most Engaging Posts Across Social Media in 2021

...

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
 Fublished by Amy Tippett 
 Occember 10, 2021 
 Thank you to The Ef on the Shell for their support of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
 (NFFF) and for featuring the NFFF on their new Claus Couture Chief of Cheer Firefighter Set which
 is sold exclusively at Target.





Thank you to @dcfireems for hosting the Congressional Flag Ceremony yesterday in preparation for this year's Memorial Weekend. For more pictures from this year's ceremony, visit flic.kr/s/aHsmWMEzAb.



8:23 PM · Sep 28, 2021 · Twitter Web App



National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) 12,859 followers

Please join us in congratulating NFFF Executive Director Chief Ron Siarnicki on being recognized as an Honorary Battalion Chief by the New York City Fire Department (FDNY). Thank you to FDNY Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro and all who attended today's Promotion Ceremony.

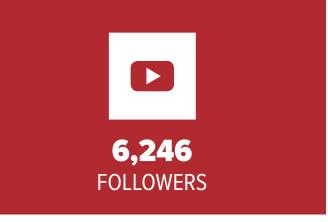
Photo Credits: New York City Fire Department

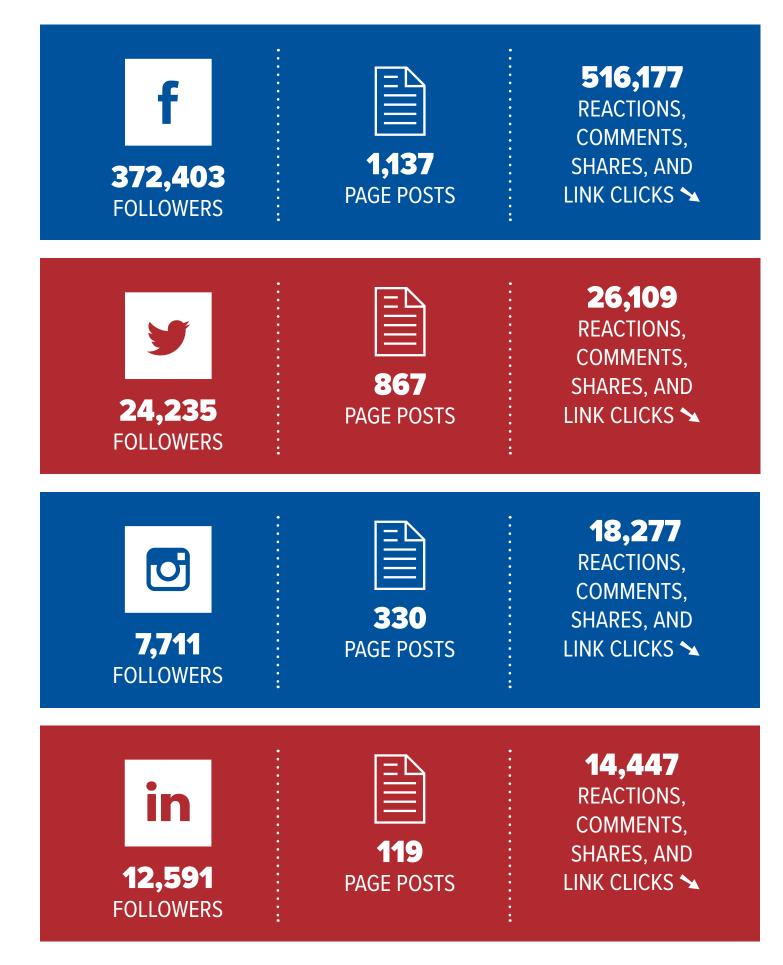


FOLLOW THE NFFF ON SOCIAL MEDIA









Nay

# Global Day of Gratitude Honors Firefighters Past, Present, and Future

International Firefighters' Day is a time where the world recognizes and honors the sacrifices firefighters make to keep their communities safe.

Once again in 2021, families lit their homes in red, created tokens of thanks, watched special Firefighters' Day content, and made donations to the NFFF, letting the world know how much firefighters mean to our communities.

New in 2021, the #ThisIsMyFirefighter campaign mobilized our Fire Hero Families and other fire service families, giving them the opportunity to brag about their firefighter(s) on social media. NFFF Board Member Chief Billy Goldfeder hosted discussions with fire chiefs from around the world. Our first NFFF Trivia Night live on Facebook brought people together to celebrate and test their NFFF and International Firefighters' Day knowledge.

During our second commemoration, we teamed up with the Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and The Niagara Falls Illumination Board to have Niagara Falls lit in a spectacular display of red. Firefighters from the United States and Canada gathered at the falls to celebrate International Firefighters' Day with the rest of the globe.



### NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

### STAYING RESILIENT





### A Nation Remembers Together In-Person Memorial and Online Tribute Unites Communities

Following a year of reduced, postponed, and virtual events brought on by the COVID pandemic, the *National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend* marked its 40th anniversary on October 2-3 by returning to an in-person event in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Of the 215 firefighters honored at the Memorial Weekend, 87 firefighters died in the line of duty in 2020, 82 firefighters died in the line of duty in 2019, and 46 firefighters died in the line of duty in previous years. COVID-related line-of-duty deaths were, for the first time, a factor in the weekend tribute.

The pandemic created enormous challenges. During the planning, and as late as September, the National Memorial again faced the possibility of being postponed. At each of those moments, the hundreds of Memorial Weekend volunteers, NFFF staff, and our partners at the U.S. Fire Administration found ways to overcome the obstacles. This allowed the fallen to be appropriately honored and their families to see the gratitude of our nation.

Around the holidays, we invited the nation to remember with us during *America's Tribute to Fallen Firefighters*.

This special online salute hosted by CBS News Anchor Norah O'Donnell, recognized firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty serving their communities.



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

**STAYING RESILIENT** 

The entire weekend was an indescribable weekend for me. The amount of love and respect shown to me throughout the entire weekend was outstanding and a feeling I have never experienced.

WATCH THE TRIBUTE

# **National Memorial Park**

"For many who have lost a firefighter, this is a deeply moving memorial. It acknowledges their loved one, acknowledges their commitment to public service, and their sacrifice." NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

Improvements and repairs were made to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, where an eternal flame symbolizes the spirit of all firefighters — past, present and future. Firefighting artifacts were added to the display at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel, a reminder of the long history of firefighting and the sacrifices made in its service.

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# **Restoration of National Memorial Park**

In April 2021, renovations to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial were completed. The stone Maltese Cross surrounding the Memorial was replaced with stamped and painted concrete. The walkway around the Maltese Cross was replaced to eliminate trip hazards and underground heating was also installed to keep the walkway clear during inclement weather. Additionally, the railing around the Memorial and eternal flame was renovated.

Through our partnership with the U.S. Fire Adminstration, several plaques on the National Memorial were carefully and reverently restored and replaced. Some were weathered and others were updated to include the names of added firefighters.

Although supply-chain issues have impacted the production and placement of bricks on the Walk of Honor<sup>®</sup> during the global pandemic, over 150 bricks were placed before the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in October. The Foundation continues to work with our vendors to ensure that bricks purchased will be added in Memorial Park.





# VISITOR INFORMATION KIOSK ADDED TO MEMORIAL PARK

In August, the Foundation installed the new Visitor Information Kiosk near the National Fallen Firefighters Monument in National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park. The new kiosk features information about the NFFF, fallen firefighters honored at the Memorial, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program, and Walk of Honor<sup>®</sup> bricks. Notices of firefighter fatalities from the U.S. Fire Administration are also posted at the Memorial.

# National Fire Academy Students Learn More About the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the Brainard-Griego Collection

support from the U.S. With Fire Administration, memorabilia from the Brainard-Griego Collection have been placed in display cases in the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel and in E Building. Items include: 20 high eagle helmets, two Cairns War Baby helmets, Chan Brainard's helmet, dress cap, and a childhood photo on one of New Haven's engines. Other items include a firefighting study guide from early 1960, speaking trumpets, fire buckets, lanterns, box alarm cards, books, and firefighter toys. The collection in E Building features a wildland firefighting collection.

In 2021, U.S. Fire Academy Superintendent Eriks Gabliks was an integral part of getting students to visit the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel to learn more about the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and this special collection. Special open houses were developed to welcome students and raise awareness of the Foundation and its programs.



The chapel also houses the Brainard-Griego Collection of thousands of items of international fire service memorabilia which is proudly displayed and shared with those attending classes and during various open house events offered throughout the year.

# **NFFF Development**

"Thank you to our amazing donors, corporate partners, event participants, and volunteers for your support in 2021." NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

**STAYING RESILIENT** 

Thanks to generous individual donors, sponsors and corporations, the Foundation has remained strong and resilient through another year of the pandemic. These contributions have helped the Foundation to memorialize our nation's fallen firefighters, support their families and reduce firefighter

deaths and injuries.

# **2021 Partners and Donors**

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation thanks our donors and corporate partners whose incredible generosity helps us honor America's fallen firefighters, assist their families, and prevent firefighter injuries and deaths.

# TRIBUTE SPONSORS

### Gifts of \$250,000 or more

**David and Doreen Levy**\* Motorola Solutions Foundation

# **LEGACY SPONSORS**

*Gifts of \$100,000 or more* Cintas Fire Protection Knox Medical University of South Carolina National Fire Sprinkler Association, Inc. Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. State Farm Fire & Casualty Company State of New York

### **PLATINUM SPONSORS**

*Gifts of \$75,000 or more* 3M Scott Fire & Safety LION Group, Inc.

### GOLD SPONSORS Gifts of \$50,000 or more

Kidde Safety Motorola Solutions, Inc. Rocco J. Emma Living Trust

# SILVER SPONSORS

*Gifts of \$25,000 or more* Charles Foster\*

IamResponding.com **Mr. and Mrs. Scott R. Johnson\*** Johnson Controls Foundation Mission BBQ MissionSquare Retirement Muertos Roasters, LLC Paul Davis Restoration, Inc. Safety Components First Responders 911 Foundation The Presto Foundation Turtle Plastics VFIS Witmer Public Safety Group, Inc./ TheFireStore

## BRONZE SPONSORS Gifts of \$10,000 or more

1-800-BOARDUP Andy Boyt Memorial Fund Affliction Holdings, LLC AFSA Chesapeake Bay Chapter **AXIS Accident & Health Brandon Little Memorial Brookfield Properties Burton & Sandra Zipser Foundation California Casualty** Cargill, Incorporated Centura Health **Dyne Fire Protection Labs** Eileen Coglianese Revocable Living Trust FirstNet Vicki Glatfelter\* **Greater Tucson Fire Foundation** Highland Hose Company #1, Inc. Kronenwetter Fire Department Library Volunteer Fire Company Milliken & Company

Minikel & Company Minutemen Coffee Company National Association of State Fire Marshals National Fire Protection Association Ohio Chapter of AFSA OSHKOSH Corporation Foundation, Inc. PBI Performance Products, Inc. Provident Agency, Inc. Runner's Depot, Inc. Skidmore College Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation Streamlight, Inc. The Honor Network The LumiStella Company Thomas Tardo DBA The Climb Woodstock Fire Department

### **PEWTER SPONSORS**

Gifts of \$5.000 or more AMITA Health **Adrienne Andrulis\*** Baltimore Gas and Electric Company Basin Coordinated Health Care, Inc. Bloomberg, LP **CNY Memorial Stair Climb Paul Conlon\*** Dakota Baseball, LLC Federal Strategies, LLC Fire Rescue Fitness FirstService Corporation **Gail Fowler\*** Gamber Johnson **Bonnie R. Hall\* Thomas and Bonnie Hays\*** International Association of Fire Chiefs, Inc. Java Forever, Inc./GORUCK Johanson Transportation Service Landmark Construction Liberty Art Works, Inc.

\*Denotes NFFF Giving Circle Members. To learn more about this prestigious group for individual donors, please visit FireHero.org/nfff-giving-circle.

#### NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

#### STAYING RESILIENT

Liberty Mutual Insurance Nutter, McClennen & Fish, LLP Oaktree Capital Management, LP OSU Fire Protection Publications Pelican Products, Inc. Poughkeepsie Professional Fire Fighters Local 596 Princeton Fire Fighters IAFF Local 466

- Protectowire Fire Systems QALO Inc. Red Hat Rockland Trust **Derain Roper\* Steven Rosenberg\*** SERVPRO of Rocky Hill, Sequoyah Hills, South Knoxville St. Cloud Rox Baseball Club
- John and Darcey Steel\*
- Supporting Heroes, Inc.
- The Mariner Foundation
- The Reliable Automatic Sprinkler
- Company, Inc.
- West Grove Fire Company
- Whitaker Farms

Thank each one of those who we saw and heard and those behind the scenes...all the volunteers who helped make it possible and safe for us all. Thank you and may God bless each one.

## THANK YOU TO OUR FEDERAL PARTNERS FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT

Bureau of Justice Assistance Department of Justice Federal Emergency Management Agency Department of Homeland Security U.S. Fire Administration Department of Homeland Security

# 2021 9/11 Memorial Stair Climbs

Stair Climbers in **50** states, the District of Columbia, Brazil, Canada, Ireland, Germany, Kuwait, Australia, France, and the United Kingdom commemorated the 20th Anniversary of September 11th.

# \$1,793,622 RAISED FROM 2021 STAIR CLIMBS

**15,885** *climbers at* **50** *events and around the world <i>honored and remembered the firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on 9/11.*  **TOP 5 STAIR CLIMB STATES IN RED** 

### **STAIR CLIMBS**

2021 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at DPA 2021 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Lambeau Field 2021 Baltimore 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Binghamton Fire 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Bishop 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Black Hawk 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Borderland 100 Club 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Central Pennsylvania 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Charlotte 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Chicagoland 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Cintas 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Cintas-Mason 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Cira Green 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Colorado 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Columbus 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb & Walk 2021 Denver 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Dickinson 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 El Dorado 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Fayetteville 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 FDIC 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Firehouse Expo 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Four Corners 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Grand Rapids 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Greenville City 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Highlands County 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb & Walk

2021 Imperial Valley 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Kalamazoo 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Kearney Area 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Knoxville 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Lambton College 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Lancaster 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 McCook 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Nashville 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 National Stair Climb 2021 Nebraska 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 New Hampshire 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb NYSAFC FIRE 2021 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Ocean City 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Panama City Beach 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Premier Health Gem City 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Princeton 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Richmond 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Roanoke 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Rochester 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb & Walk 2021 Salt River Firefighters 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Spokane 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Springfield Area 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Stevens County 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 Tri-Cities 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb 2021 VCOS 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb & Walk

I believe the Stair Climb event provides an environment where we may honor and remember the sacrifices that were made during the attacks on 9/11. As an active-duty fire service member, it is important to stop and reflect on the lives that were taken in the line of duty, so their sacrifices are not forgotten. The Stair Climb event provides an uninterrupted time to focus our thoughts on those 343 firefighters and to recommit ourselves to serving the fire service in a way that is befitting of their legacy.



## OUR 9/11 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMBS SUPPORT NFFF PROGRAMS AND THE FDNY COUNSELING SERVICES UNIT

These 9/11 Memorial Stair Climbs are a way to honor and remember the FDNY firefighters who selflessly gave their lives so that others might live on September 11, 2001. Each participant pays tribute to a FDNY firefighter by climbing the equivalent of the 110 stories of the World Trade Center. Individual tributes not only remember the sacrifice of a FDNY brother, but symbolically completes their heroic journey to save others. Through firefighter and community participation we ensure that each of the 343 firefighters is honored and that the world knows **we will never forget**. The Stair Climbs fund the programs provided by the NFFF to support the families of your local fallen firefighters and the FDNY Counseling Services Unit.

# **2021 Regional Golf Tournaments**

### **GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

Maryland Fire Chiefs Association Annual Fall Golf Tournament Paul Davis Restoration of Florida Charity Golf Tournament Benefiting the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation 1st Annual National Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament hosted by Paul Davis Delmarva 2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament Metro Atlanta Firefighter Classic 6th Annual Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association Golf Tournament 7th Annual Greater Pittsburgh National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Golf Tournament 8th Annual Play It Forward Golf Tournament 12th Annual Geneva National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Golf Tournament 14th Annual Greater Monroe County National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Golf Tournament 14th Annual National Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament 14th Annual National Fallen Firefighters Golf Tournament

# 1,830 PARTICIPANTS RAISED \$328,412 AT 12 TOURNAMENTS IN 2021



# **2021 Special Giving Campaigns**

I have seen what the NFFF has done over the years, and what a great resource it is to firefighters and their families. I wish more people knew about NFFF and all the special work that it does... to provide comfort to the families and recognition to our heroes that have given it all.

#FIREHEROTUESDAY MATCH OF \$35,000 FROM THE PRESTO FOUNDATION

# PRESTO

On November 30, 2021, the Foundation kicked off its holiday season of giving with #FireHeroTuesday. Through the generous support of The Presto Foundation, every donation made by December 31st was matched, up to \$35,000. We are proud to partner with The Presto Foundation to bring comfort and hope to the families who have lost a loved one in the line of duty. In 2021, we made twice the impact for programs like our scholarships, peer support, wellness conference, kids camps, and so much more.

# TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED BY SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS

#FireHeroTuesday	\$70,140
COVID-19 Emergency Fund	\$2,260
Gamers for the Fallen	\$6,255
Facebook Giving	\$128,810
Everyday Hero Campaigns	\$58,964

# EVERYDAY HERO – SIMON CORBY & HIS PEERS RAISED \$1,943 FOR NFFF



"On June 19th we will be participating in the Ghost Town Trail Challenge to raise money for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. The Challenge is a 32-mile, one-day, sunrise to sunset endurance hike (or run) on nearly the entire Ghost Town Trail from Blairsville, Pennsylvania to Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. Unlike a footrace, the "challenge" is not to come in first or win, but to endure, to finish the hike in one day. The Challenge starts in Blairsville, Pennsylvania and ends 32 miles later in Ebensburg, Pennsylvania."

#### STAYING RESILIENT

#### NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

# **Board of Directors**

CHAIRMAN Troy Markel Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services, Inc. (VFIS)

VICE CHAIRMAN William Webb Congressional Fire Services Institute

TREASURER Robert Jacobs Maryland State Firemen's Association

### **INTERIM SECRETARY**

Chief Ronald Jon Siarnicki Executive Director National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

King Butler, CPCU<sup>®</sup>, CLU<sup>®</sup> State Farm Insurance Companies

Lorraine Carli National Fire Protection Association

Deputy Chief William Goldfeder Loveland-Symmes Fire Department Chief Charles Hood San Antonio Fire Department

Michael Leonard Motorola Solutions, Inc.

Chief Ernest Mitchell, Jr.\* Fire Chief/U.S. Fire Administrator (Ret.)

Chief Kevin D. Quinn National Volunteer Fire Council

Chief Joanne R. Rund Baltimore County Fire Department

Harold A. Schaitberger International Association of Fire Fighters

### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBER**

Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell U.S. Fire Administrator

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Louisa Aunkst Fire Hero Family Member

Barry D. Balliet\* Provident Chief Keith Bryant Oklahoma State Fire Marshal/ U.S. Fire Administrator (Ret.)

Chief Kevin E. Cooney Volunteer and Combination Officers Section, International Association of Fire Chiefs

Thomas Harbour HarbourFire, LLC U.S. Forest Service (Ret.)

Chief Thomas Jenkins City of Rogers Fire Department

Kelly M. Kirwan Motorola Solutions, Inc. (Ret.)

David Levy Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

Michael Robertson Military Firefighter Heritage Foundation

Faith Swan Fire Hero Family Member

Terry Victor Johnson Controls/Grinnell Fire Protection Solutions

\* Members of the Board of Directors of the First Responder Center for Excellence for Reducing Occupational Illness, Injuries and Deaths, Inc.





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STAYING RESILIENT

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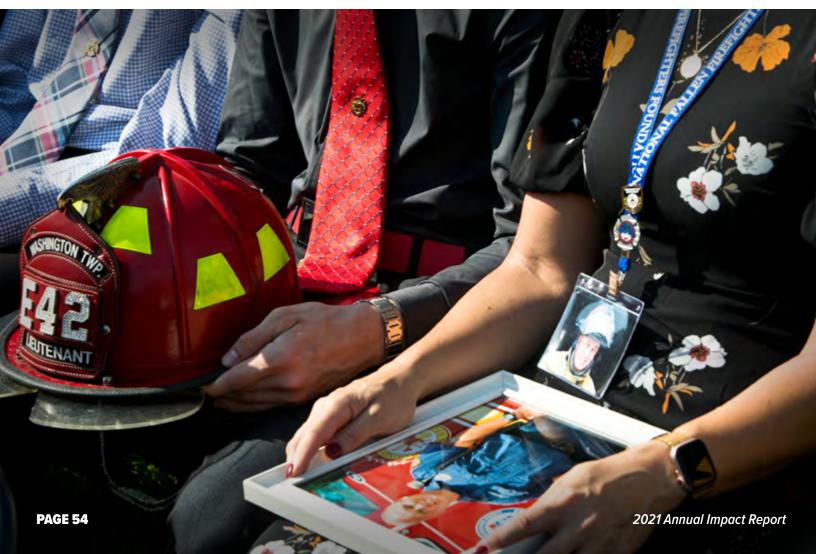
# **Financial Stewardship**

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation strives to be a good steward, maximizing the impact of your gifts to help the fire service and their families. **Over 79% of our budget supports our Fire Hero Family and Fire Service Programs.** In 2021, we were proud to earn a Platinum Seal of Transparency rating from GuideStar and our sixth consecutive 4-star rating by Charity Navigator.

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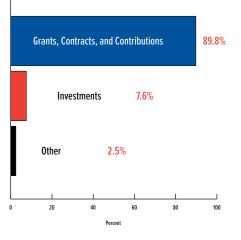
Coming from over a decade of law enforcement, I understand the tragedy that falls on families and friends when one is lost in the line of duty. It is outstanding to hear the direct impact my donation made, but more importantly it is outstanding that your Foundation does the tireless, and at times thankless, work it does. Thank you for the continued work of every single person at your Foundation in providing resources and scholarships!





#### STAYING RESILIENT

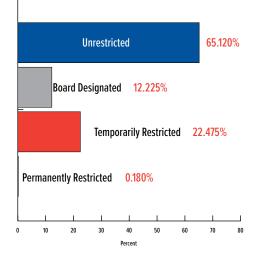
2021 REVENUE AND SUPPORT							
Grants, Contracts, and Contributions	\$8,800,549						
Investments	\$745,552						
Other	\$249,430						
Total	\$9,795,531						



2021 PROGRAM EXPENSES							
Fire Hero Family Programs	\$5,128,555						
Fire Service Programs	\$1,458,773						
National Memorial Park	\$232,227						
Gift Shop/Online Store	\$209,557						
Management and Administration	\$468,302						
Fundraising	\$797,140						
Total	\$8,294,554						



2021 NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	\$9,044,782
Board Designated	\$1,697,943
Temporarily Restricted	\$3,121,622
Permanently Restricted	\$25,000
Total	\$13,889,347





# NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION WWW.FIREHERO.ORG

# EMMITSBURG

PO DRAWER 498 EMMITSBURG, MD 21727 301-447-1365 301-447-1645 (FAX) **CROFTON** 2130 PRIEST BRIDGE DRIVE, SUITE 6 CROFTON, MD 21114 410-721-6212 410-721-6213 (FAX)



Become a year-round supporter of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation by E-mailing <u>donate@firehero.org</u> or visiting <u>www.firehero.org/donate</u>.

# **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**



The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation values our strategic alliances with our corporate sponsors to raise awareness and funds. Without your support and involvement we could not accomplish our mission to honor and remember America's fallen fire heroes, provide resources to assist their families in rebuilding their lives, and work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries.

Potential new corporate partners are invited to join us in developing strategic alliances or cause-related marketing programs. Participating companies receive a portfolio of benefits that demonstrate our appreciation, create awareness, and highlight their commitment across multiple platforms.

### **Level of Support** What Your Donation Means to Our Families & Fire Service ★ Annual Support of All Fire Hero Family Scholarships and Job Training **Tribute Sponsorship** \$250.000 ★ Memorial for All Firefighters Who Died in the Line of Duty Prior to 1981 ★ National Memorial Park Visitors Center Legacy Sponsorship \$100.000 ★ Memorial Weekend Travel for All Fire Hero Families Development of Foundation Programs **Platinum Sponsorship** \$75.000 ★ Fire Hero Family Wellness Conference ★ National Memorial Park Expansion **Gold Sponsorship** \$50.000 ★ National Memorial Tribute Video and Satellite Broadcast ★ Retreat for Fire Hero Family Members by Relationship **Silver Sponsorship** \$25.000 ★ Line-of-Duty Death Prevention Course Development/Hosting **Bronze Sponsorship** Outreach to Fire Service Organizations and Departments \$10.000 ★ Memorial Weekend Keepsakes for All Fire Hero Families **Pewter Sponsorship** Grief Publications and Educational Materials \$5.000 ★ Fire Hero Family Scholarships and Job Training ★ Fire Hero Family Support Network **Brass Sponsorship** \$2.500 ★ Hal Bruno Bereavement Camp for One Child **Supporter Sponsorship** Chief-to-Chief Network \$1.000 ★ Memorial Weekend Travel for One Family

\* Funds may be directed to specific programs or wherever needed most

# **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**



FIRST RESPONDER

Center for Excellence

**Level of Support** 

The First Responder Center for Excellence for Reducing Occupational Illness, Injuries and Deaths, Inc., (FRCE) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The FRCE receives funding through private donations from individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations. The FRCE is a National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) affiliate organization, created in 2016. Its mission is to promote quality educational awareness and research to reduce physical and psychological health and wellness issues for first responders.

FRCE is developing relationships with corporate partners to raise funds specifically supporting its work in cancer prevention and awareness, behavioral health, the Firefighter Physical Initiative, cardiac care and overall health and wellness. Corporate Partners can work with us in designing a portfolio of benefits that best meet their marketing goals. These strategic alliances will create a high return, distinguishing each company while supporting the first responders in local communities and nationwide.

# What Your Donation Means to First Responders

Tribute Sponsorship \$250,000	★ Program Development and Sustainment Expansion of the FRCE's infrastructure to support new program development and the sustainability of the FRCE's existing programs related to first responder behavioral health, cancer, cardiac disease, physical fitness, and other health and wellness initiatives.
Legacy Sponsorship \$100,000	★ Delivery of Health & Wellness Seminars to First Responders Seminars will review occupational health risks, occupational cancers, cardiovascular events and behavioral health injuries and discuss how to manage and reduce risks in the fire service and use the tools they need to implement within their fire department to address each of these threats.
Platinum Sponsorship \$75,000	★ Wellness Program Analysis and Strategic Planning Evaluate current best practices and propose strategies for disseminating systematic approaches usable by various types and sizes of departments. Results will include guidance documents, program plans, workbooks, and evaluation mechanisms. (Cardiovascular Disease and Musculoskeletal objectives)
Gold Sponsorship \$50,000	★ Research to Practice Portal The FRCE Research to Practice Portal is central to the mission of the FRCE. Priority was given to establishing a clearinghouse function to help departments understand, evaluate and apply research informing their efforts. Sponsorship for the Research to Practice Portal keeps the system operating on a monthly basis.
Silver Sponsorship \$25,000	★ Cardiac Program Support FRCE continues work in improving firefighters' cardiac health, mitigating cardiac disease, preventing heart attacks and expands efforts to reach all first responders.
Bronze Sponsorship \$10,000	★ Outreach to First Responder Organizations and Departments FRCE shares information through its website, social media, print and educational materials.
<b>Pewter Sponsorship</b> \$5,000	★ Advancement of the FRCE Health and Wellness Program Providing evidence-based research and recommendations for nutrition and exercise programs specific to first responders.
Brass Sponsorship \$2,500	★ Advancement of Online Resources Online toolkits provide on-demand training and education resources that can be modified and used by fire departments.
Supporter Sponsorship \$1,000	★ Awards Program Support Seal of Excellence sponsorships will recognize fire departments' success in reducing injuries and fatalities through work in FRCE's programmatic areas.

FIRST RESPONDER CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE | SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\* Programs and anticipated expenses are subject to change

2130 PRIEST BRIDGE DRIVE, SUITE 11, CROFTON, MD 21114 | 443-302-2915 | WWW.FIRSTRESPONDERCENTER.ORG | LJACOBS@FRCMAIL.ORG

# National Fallen Firefighters Foundation **RESERVE YOUR SPOT ON THE WALK OF HONOR**®

SPONSOR INFORMATIC	N			
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Address:				
City:		State:		Zip:
E-mail:		Phone:		
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Cardholder's Name:		Signature:		

Billing Address (if different from above):

Please complete the brick inscription on the opposite side of this page.



Join thousands of others by sponsoring a brick on the Walk of Honor<sup>®</sup> in the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park, located on the campus of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This brick walkway links the official National Fallen Firefighters Monument, honoring all fallen fire heroes, to the historic National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel and the 9/11 Memorial Plaza.

Fire departments and organizations have purchased special sections to honor their members or those who have answered the final call. Bricks are a great way to say "thank you," celebrate a special occasion, or to remember a loved one. When you sponsor a brick, you will receive a customized certificate recognizing your support.

Help build a permanent Memorial Park to all firefighters — past, present, and future.

Please fill out this order form or go to firehero.org to order online and to find bricks already in place.





The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation was created to honor America's fallen firefighters, to assist their families, and prevent firefighter injuries and deaths. As part of our mission, we host the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, the official national tribute to firefighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Through activities offered, our Fire Hero Families find reassurance that their loved ones will not be forgotten, and that they have a place to find comfort and compassion.

Beyond the Memorial Weekend, we connect family members with similar experiences and provide scholarships, camps, and retreats.

We also honor the fallen and support firefighters by providing free resources and training opportunities to help reduce line-of-duty injuries and deaths.

You can help us continue this important work by sponsoring a brick on the Walk of Honor<sup>®</sup>.



# National Fallen Firefighters Foundation **RESERVE YOUR SPOT ON THE WALK OF HONOR**®

## **INSCRIBE YOUR WALK OF HONOR® BRICK**

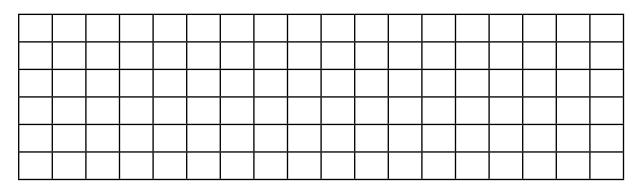
### INDIVIDUAL, DEPARTMENT, FIRE ACADEMY CLASS BRICKS

Please print up to 18 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation) on 3 lines.

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### **INSCRIBED BRICK**

Please print up to 18 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation) on 6 lines.



#### **LOGO BRICK**

Please send high-resolution artwork to Donna Clark at dclark@firehero.org.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

For additional information or questions, please contact Donna Clark at <u>dclark@firehero.org</u>.

Please make checks payable to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, detach and return to: National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, Post Office Drawer 498, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

All donations to the NFFF are tax-deductible as allowed by law.