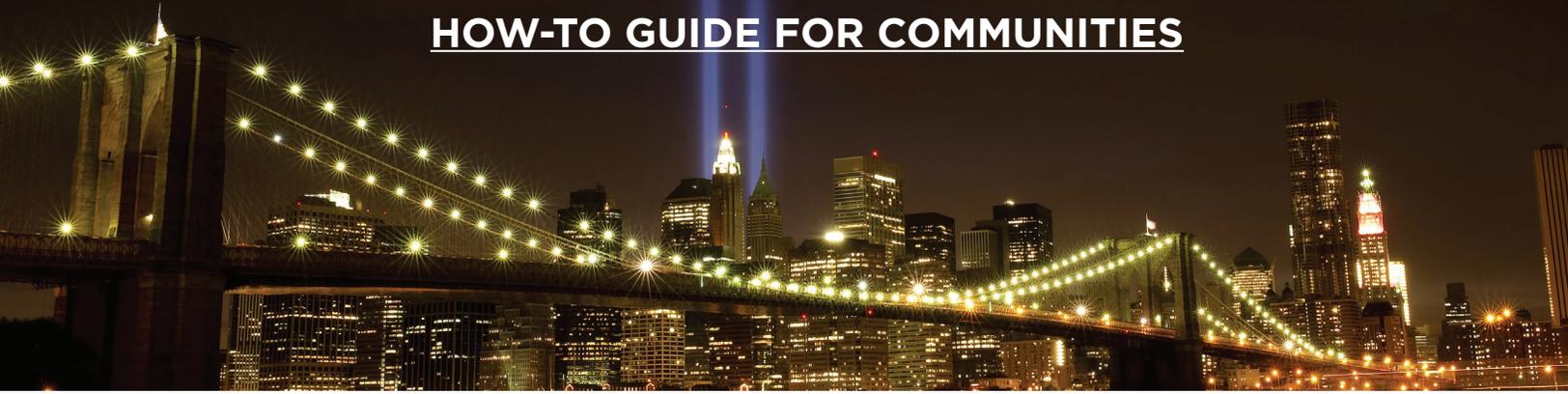


# COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

## HOW-TO GUIDE FOR COMMUNITIES



The tragic and shocking events of September 11, 2001 changed the U.S., and the world, forever. For those who were old enough to watch those events unfold, that day and the aftermath of the attacks has left an indelible mark. For those too young to remember, the legacy of 9/11 still shapes their lives as a central event in world history.

Communities worldwide will want to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of September 11, 2001 and find some way to honor and remember those who lost their lives. HISTORY® offers this guide to provide suggestions for 9/11 activities and commemorations.

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Organize a community assembly with simple readings or announcements about why we remember 9/11 and those who lost their lives.
2. Many communities were affected by 9/11 and lost community members in this tragedy. Dedicate a memorial, a plaque, or plant a tree to honor those in your community who were lost. Even if your community did not lose friends or family members directly, you can create a 9/11 Memorial to honor those who perished.
3. Communities throughout the world will observe a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. on 9/11, the time at which American Flight 11 hit the North Tower. Organize a moment of silence in your community.
4. Many brave people courageously helped others on 9/11 and in the aftermath of the attacks. Internationally, communities reached out to the U.S. in a sense of shared grief. Establish a “Community Spirit Award” to honor those in your community who have contributed to making it a better place. These awards can be offered in honor of the spirit of sacrifice and generosity that flourished after 9/11.
5. No matter where someone was on 9/11, if they remember it, they have a story about how they learned of the attacks and how they were affected. Communities can preserve the history of 9/11 by conducting oral histories to record memories of that day. Local history societies or museums would be great partners for oral history projects.
6. Many journalists and local historians have written about 9/11 related events and the war on terrorism that followed. Invite a guest speaker to give a lecture in your community about a topic related to 9/11.

### WORKING TOGETHER TO COMMEMORATE 9/11

HISTORY is proud to join with organizations throughout the U.S. in commemorating 9/11 and honoring those who lost their lives, including the National September 11 Memorial & Museum, the Flight 93 Memorial, and many others. Many of these organizations are linked at the end of this guide. Visit their websites for additional resources and background information.



## HONORING THE MEMORY OF 9/11 THROUGH SERVICE

A great way to honor the memory of 9/11 is to donate time through service projects. Organize a service project or a community project in your area. If you are in the U.S., two initiatives we recommend are Operation Honor Cards and Service Nation.



## PRESERVING 9/11 HISTORY

Many people have newspaper articles, photos, or other artifacts related to 9/11. Encourage community members to preserve these items and/or create an exhibition at a local library, school, or historical organization related to 9/11. The New York State Archives has an excellent website with guidance on how and what to preserve: [www.nyshrab.org/memory/index.shtml](http://www.nyshrab.org/memory/index.shtml)

## CONSIDER A DONATION

Museums and memorials related to 9/11 are still in need of funds and support. Collect contributions for the National September 11 Memorial & Museum, the Flight 93 National Memorial, the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial, or another 9/11 Memorial of your choice.

### HISTORY: DOCUMENTING 9/11

HISTORY has produced several important specials that capture the experiences of those who lived through 9/11. These programs also give context for the timeline of events and insight gathered in the aftermath. Visit us online at [www.history.com/classroom](http://www.history.com/classroom) for classroom guides to many of these programs.

**Please note:** many of these programs have sounds and images of 9/11 that are graphic in nature and difficult to watch. They are not recommended for students below high school age; adults should watch all programs before showing them to their students or children.

**9/11: The Days After** (premieres on 9/9/2011)  
**Voices From Inside The Towers** (premieres on 9/10/2011)  
**Making the 9/11 Memorial** (premieres on 9/11/2011)  
**102 Minutes That Changed America**  
**The Day the Towers Fell**  
**9/11: State of Emergency**  
**Relics from the Rubble**

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Background, video, and photos from History.com:  
[www.history.com/topics/9-11-attacks](http://www.history.com/topics/9-11-attacks)

National September 11 Memorial and Museum:  
[www.911memorial.org](http://www.911memorial.org)

Flight 93 National Memorial:  
[www.honorflight93.org](http://www.honorflight93.org)

National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial:  
<http://pentagonmemorial.org>

Service Nation and Operation Honor Cards:  
[www.servicenation.org](http://www.servicenation.org)  
[www.honorcards.org](http://www.honorcards.org)

9/11 Commission Report:  
[www.9-11commission.gov/report/911Report.pdf](http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/911Report.pdf)  
(Another useful version of this report: Jacobson, Sid and Ernie Colon, *The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation*. (Hill & Wang, 2006))

