



Left to Right: Edgardo Alfonzo of New York Mets; Terry Sears, Executive Director of Tuesday's Children; John Franco of New York Mets; and Bobby Valentine of New York Mets. Photo Credit: Patrick McMullan/Getty Images

## **Tuesday's Children Hosted 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala at Citi Field with New York Mets Alumni**

### ***The Nonprofit Celebrates 20 Years of Service Dedicated to 9/11 Family Members and Communities Impacted by Terrorism, Military Conflict and Mass Violence, Honoring the New York Mets***

**Manhasset, NY – September 24, 2021** – [Tuesday's Children](#) honored The New York Mets, a long-standing partner of the nonprofit, and New York Mets Alumni last night during their 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala at Citi Field to mark two decades of service to 9/11 family members and communities impacted by terrorism, military conflict, and mass violence.

The evening was held outdoors on the field with 9/11 family members; **New York Mets Alumni Edgardo Alfonzo, John Franco, Al Leiter, Bobby Valentine and Todd Zeile; General Stanley McChrystal** who joined virtually and is Founder of the McChrystal Group; Emcee & Journalist **Brooke Baldwin**; Grammy-nominated singer **Deitrick Haddon** who sang the National Anthem; and other VIPs and guests. The celebration featured live entertainment and a live auction with signed merchandise, private tours led by Mets alum, dinner with Bobby Valentine, tickets to the 2022 MLB All-Star Game, and much more. Through this event, Tuesday's Children are on track toward their goal to raise more than half a million dollars.

"We are honored to mark our 20<sup>th</sup> year of service to family members and communities since Tuesday, September 11, 2001," said **Terry Sears, Executive Director of Tuesday's Children**. "Of over the 350 nonprofits that were established after 9/11, Tuesday's Children had the specific mission to focus on the 3,000+ children left without a parent. Ever since our inception over two decades ago, we have expanded our mission to provide the same platform of proven programs and services that we delivered to the 9/11 community to thousands of post-9/11 Military Families of the Fallen, who have suffered losses as a ripple effect of the 9/11 tragedy. Our role is to provide services for those impacted and to build a sense of

community whether it's through mentorship or leadership programs, career services, or even fun events to sports games, Broadway and beyond. We are a soft-landing place for these families and the kids continue to be a beacon of hope for all of us."

**Bobby Valentine** recounted that the historic Sept. 21, 2001 Mets game against the Atlanta Braves, the first home game after 9/11, was "bigger than baseball."

"It was about bringing everyone together to help us heal. It was like putting a small bandage on a large wound," said **Former Mets Manager, Bobby Valentine**. "We promised that night to be there for the children of those who lost loved ones on 9/11. Twenty years later, we will never forget and will always be there for you. I am so proud that the 2001 Mets players have continued to stand with Tuesday's Children today and help others who have been impacted by terrorism."

Tuesday's Children's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala was sponsored by Citigroup and Tradeweb as **Platinum Sponsors**; Amazin' Mets Foundation, The Cahalane Family, Jim and Marilyn Simons Foundation, Roger and Margo Coleman, Dee and Kevin Conway, Sidley Austin, LLP as **Gold Sponsors**; National Football League (NFL), Ernst & Young, Block O'Toole and Murphy, KPMG, TIAA Bank, Aon Foundation, Goldman Sachs, Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. and Disaster Tech as **Silver Sponsors**; and 1-800-Flowers.com as the décor sponsor.

Marking its 20<sup>th</sup> year of dedicated service in September 2021, Tuesday's Children has provided long-term healing and resilience-building support to over 42,000 individuals impacted by terrorism, military conflict, and mass violence, including supportive services to build resilience in 3,051 children who lost a parent on 9/11; thousands of 9/11 responder families; and 37,000+ families grieving the death of post-9/11 military service members; 6,000+ youth served through their [Career Resource Center](#); and 900+ young adults from 34 countries with [Project COMMON BOND](#).

For more information, visit [www.tuesdayschildren.org](http://www.tuesdayschildren.org) or follow Tuesday's Children on Facebook [@TuesdaysChildren](#) and Twitter and Instagram [@TuesdaysChldrn](#).

To download high-resolution photos of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala, please visit [this link](#). All photo credit goes to Patrick McMullan/Getty Images.

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#### **ABOUT TUESDAY'S CHILDREN**

Tuesday's Children provides a lifetime of healing for families who have been forever changed by terrorism, military conflict, or mass violence. Through a time-tested, long-term approach, Tuesday's Children programming serves and supports our nation's Military Families of the Fallen; builds resilience and common bonds in communities worldwide recovering from tragedies; and keeps the promise to support all those impacted by Tuesday, September 11th. For more information, please visit [www.tuesdayschildren.org](http://www.tuesdayschildren.org).

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