# Tuesday's Children

A lifetime of healing for families who have been forever changed by terrorism, mass violence or military conflict



# **2021 ANNUAL REPORT**



www.tuesdayschildren.org

# Dear Friends, Families and Supporters of Tuesday's Children,

This year, as our world began to return to a sense of normalcy, slowly emerging from a global pandemic, at Tuesday's Children, we marked two decades since the tragic events of Tuesday, September 11th, 2001. In our 20 years of dedicated service to more than 45,000 individuals, we have witnessed the many ways that our community and our families build resilience after terrorism, military conflict, mass violence, trauma and loss. This year, we carried each other through this milestone anniversary, through the highs and lows.

We were proud to honor our families at our 20 Years of Service Gala at Citi Field, home of the New York Mets. Many of these families have grown up with Tuesday's Children, and we watched them go from children at baseball games to young adults in career workshops, and now budding professionals who are giving back as Long-Term Youth Mentors to children grieving the loss of a military service member.

This year posed new challenges to our families with the 20th anniversary of 9/11 bringing intense emotions, reflections and memories. The tumultuous pullout from Afghanistan was a stark reminder of the immense costs of two decades of the War on Terror. We continue to honor those who lost their lives on 9/11, those who made the ultimate sacrifice in recovery efforts and post-9/11 military service, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to the living legacies they left behind. In 2021, we supported families through nearly 100 programs attended virtually and in-person by more than 3,000 individuals. We provided over 10,000 1:1 support services, including family consultations, information and resources, mental health referrals, and connection to a nurturing community of peer support. The unfortunate truth is that, although it has been more than two decades since Tuesday's Children was called to its mission, our work is still needed, perhaps now more than ever. We made a promise in the wake of a devastating tragedy that reshaped our lives and our world. Today, our society faces new challenges that we hoped to never see in our lives, or in the lives of our children. We are rising to meet the needs of new generations of children and families recovering from wide-scale trauma and loss.

While much of 2021 was about looking back, it was also a chance to look forward to the future of Tuesday's Children. Recent times have taught us to be adaptable and expect the unpredictable, yet we have certainty and resolve that Tuesday's Children will always keep the promise to our 9/11 community. We will continue applying the valuable lessons we've learned and the proven programs we've established to support Military Families of the Fallen and those impacted by mass violence.

With the continued generosity, support and strength of our community, we can continue our mission to promote long-term healing, create peer connections and live with resilience and hope.

Warm regards,

Therefule

Terry Sears Executive Director, Tuesday's Children



# About Tuesday's Children

"20 years. It's an organization we all wish never needed to be established. My family and I have benefited in so many ways from Tuesday's Children with the support of your dedicated staff and transformational programs. Thank you for all you have done and all you continue to do."

- Dolores, 9/11 family member



#### **OUR MISSION**

Tuesday's Children provides a lifetime of healing for families who have been forever changed by terrorism, military conflict or mass violence.

#### **OUR IMPACT**

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. Since 2001, more than 45,000 individuals have benefitted from our resilience-based programs.

## A CALL TO ACTION

We know firsthand the long-term effects of terrorism, military conflict and mass violence. Since Tuesday, September 11, 2001, more than 37,000 military families have lost a service member, in most cases a parent and spouse. There have been over 300,000 losses due to global terrorism in the last two decades, and more than 10 mass shootings are happening per week in the U.S. The ongoing pandemic has compounded the trauma and grief of so many of the families Tuesday's Children serves—1 in 5 of our families have now also lost loved ones to Covid-19 and over 80% have reported negative well being, isolation, anxiety and depression due to the pandemic.

#### SERVICE POPULATION

Tuesday's Children's service population includes: families of 9/11 victims and responders; families of fallen post-9/11 military service members; international youth and global victims of terrorism and mass violence. We provide customized guidance to local communities recovering from large-scale tragedies and mass violence. Tuesday's Children's Military Initiative for Families of the Fallen serves post-9/11 military children and families who have lost a service member, regardless of cause of death, branch of service, status of duty, discharge status or geographic location. Through our international initiative, Project COMMON BOND, we have united teenagers and young adults from 34 countries to transform their experiences losing a loved one to terrorism, violent extremism and war into global peacebuilding efforts and friendships that transcend borders.

#### **OUR APPROACH**

Tuesday's Children enables families and communities torn apart by tragedy to heal, recover and thrive for a lifetime. Our evidence-based Long-Term Healing Model is a proven approach to bringing families out of isolation by featuring safe, supportive and adaptive programming that builds community among individuals with common bonds. Trust is the foundation of our organizational strategy, and our approach of meeting families where they are in their post-loss recovery has proven to effectively engage families and meet their long-term needs.

# Tuesday's Children Programs

## TUESDAY'S CHILDREN SUPPORTED OVER 10,000 INDIVIDUALS IN 2021.

Our proven Long-Term Healing Model and evidence-based programs, held both virtually and in-person in 2021, build resilience, foster post-traumatic growth and create common bonds.

#### MILITARY INITIATIVE FOR FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN

Tuesday's Children's Military Initiative guides Families of the Fallen beyond grief into a lifetime of healing. Our rapidly expanding Military Initiative offers our full range of resilience-building programs and fills the gap in long-term healing programs and support available for America's Military Families of the Fallen. Tuesday's Children serves all whose family member answered the call post 9/11 regardless of branch of service, circumstance of loss, or military status. All programs are provided at no charge to our surviving family members.

## **HEART TO HEART**

These retreats bring together military Gold Star family members to foster long-term healing. We have held retreats for surviving spouses and Gold Star mothers and are preparing to host additional groups of surviving family members soon! Participants make connections, learn ways to navigate the challenge of finding "meaning" and discover resources that aid in coping and healing. These retreats allow surviving family members to enjoy a "time out" to refresh, and the opportunity to commemorate the life of their loved one with new lifelong friends.

## YOUTH MENTORING

The Youth Mentoring Program is designed to encourage and support mutually beneficial relationships between adult role models and children ages 6-18 who have lost a military parent or sibling. We support families through both in-person and digital e-mentoring. If you are interested in having or being a mentor, contact us today!

## **CREATIVE INSIGHT**

Our trauma-informed Creative Insight: Taking the Next Step program is based on the renowned Creativity in Business course at Stanford University. The eightweek course, a hybrid of virtual and in-person programming, bolsters self-esteem and quiets the inner voice of judgement, encourages innovative problem-solving, and provides the tools needed to face challenges and experience more fulfilling lives.

#### FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

We hold Family Engagement programs both virtually and in various locations to enhance resilience by building relationships among families with common bonds. These events strengthen our community, create positive new traditions and introduce Tuesday's Children's programming for future participation.





"The mentoring is going fantastic... It's amazing to see them working and talking. I am so very grateful for their dedication and support and their time to meet with my kiddos and be there for them. We are so grateful to be part of this amazing organization and the mentorship program. Thank you for everything that you and Tuesday's Children do and provide for all the families, especially my kiddos."

- Testimonial from a Gold Star parent

## **CAREER RESOURCE CENTER**

Since its inception, our Career Resource Center has facilitated career guidance and opportunities for over 6,000 children and young adults in collaboration with 140+ corporate and industry partners.

The Career Resource Center services are designed to provide children and families impacted by terrorism, military conflict and mass violence with tools and resources necessary to navigate the college, internship and career processes. Throughout the year, participants take part in a variety of programs to help launch their careers.

Our seminars and workshops, in-person and virtual, pertaining to college admissions, career planning, resume and cover letter writing, and interview techniques, help students and family members strengthen their college and job search processes and help them to put their best foot forward.

We also offer one-on-one and group career coaching opportunities, networking opportunities with peers and mentors and the opportunity to participate in our annual Take Our Children to Work Day.

In partnership with a diverse array of companies, Take Our Children to Work Day offers youths a unique opportunity to experience a practical, hands-on work day and envision their futures. In 2021, while so many people continued to work from home, we continued Virtual Slice of Advice Career Panels in lieu of in-person career shadow days in collaboration with corporate and industry partners.

## PROJECT COMMON BOND

Since 2008, Project COMMON BOND has created an international community of youth who share a "common bond"—loss and trauma due to an act of terrorism, violent extremism or war. Through dignity and peacebuilding sessions, resilience-building experiences, art therapies and recreation, youth form peer connections and become PEACEBUILDERS and AGENTS OF CHANGE. Since inception, Project COMMON BOND has united over 900 teenagers and young adults from 34 countries.

Project COMMON BOND connects teenagers and young adults with others who can identify with their loss and pain and empowers them to transform this experience into positive action. Participants engage in dialogue and community-building activities that enhance interpersonal communication and conflict negotiation skills, promote dignity, and enable them to act as global ambassadors for peace. We continued these connections in 2020 and 2021, hosting virtual sessions of Project COMMON BOND when we could not convene in person.

Participating countries include: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Canada, Columbia, Croatia, England, France, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Macedonia, Morocco, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Republic of Congo, Russia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Uganda and the United States.



"Finding people that share the same background with you, the same story with you, even if it's not exactly the same, is so important. I found people who share pain, and they know how you feel and you know how I feel. It was a great thing. I felt like I was not alone anymore. I felt very welcomed. I just had a great time... I would do it over and over and over and over again."

 Mongane, refugee from Democratic Republic of Congo, who found peer connections through Project COMMON BOND

# **Tuesday's Children Programs**

Resilient communities make for strong families. Peer support has been shown to build the resilience of individuals, and communities are more resilient when they are prepared for what lies ahead.



Through our evidence-based Long-Term Healing Model, Tuesday's Children shares promising practices and provides customized guidance, localized tragedy assistance, resources and peer support to service providers and survivor groups from multiple U.S. communities impacted by terrorism, targeted violence, military conflict and widescale traumatic events.

Our proven model for long-term, resilience-building programming has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Harvard University Law School's Negotiation and Mediation Clinical Program, the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism, the UN International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Women Without Borders, New York Psychiatric Institute at Columbia University, NYU Child Study Center, among others.

Communities we have supported include: Oxford Township, MI; Dayton, OH; El Paso, TX; Virginia Beach, VA; Thousand Oaks, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; Parkland, FL; Las Vegas, NV; Sutherland Springs, TX; Orlando, FL; Aurora, CO; Newtown, CT; Boston, MA; Virginia Tech, VA; Littleton, CO (Columbine H.S.); New York, NY; families nationally and internationally impacted by the 9/11 terrorist attacks, post 9/11 recovery and military operations; acts of global terrorism and mass violence and other mass tragedies.

Internationally, we share community resilience and long-term healing strategies with partner organizations, victims, and survivor groups from 34 countries. We have participated in global conferences, including UN panels and initiatives supporting victims of terrorism, the International Congress for Victims of Terrorism, INVICTM, and the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, among others. We were the first U.S. organization to be listed in the UN's Victims of Terrorism Support Portal.

#### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAMS

Our online toolkit at TuesdaysChildrenHeals.org offers a training curriculum and resources for providing tragedy assistance and support services to families and communities impacted by traumatic events.

Through Connections in Resilience, we provide training and cross-cultural exchange around long-term healing, dignity, peacebuilding, trauma, resilience and self-care for service providers.

The Survivors of Tragedy Outreach Program (STOP), a survivor peer support network, elevates the voices of those directly impacted by tragedies to help other communities heal.

The annual Lessons in Recovery and Resilience Forum and quarterly speaker series convene experts, survivors and key stakeholders in tragedy assistance and long-term healing.

Our COVID Response Project provides resources and capacity building in key sectors interfacing directly with families and children who have lost a parent, primary caregiver or family member in the pandemic.

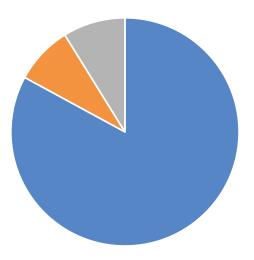
"Walking beside Tuesday's Children in service and friendship has aided me in my journey both professionally and personally. The sense of understanding through actions and words is what makes the difference for those we serve as well as ourselves."

- testimonial from a service provider supporting communities impacted by mass violence

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2021	2020
Assets: Cash and Cash Equivalents Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets Fixed Assets – Net Total Assets	\$1,971,891 151,826 2,889 <b>\$2,126,606</b>	\$ 813,999 171,880 5,992 <b>\$ 991,871</b>
Liabilities and Net Assets Liabilities: Accounts Payable Deferred Revenue Total Liabilities	\$ 95,160  <b>\$ 95,160</b>	\$ 33,708  \$ 33,708
Net Assets: Unrestricted Temporarily Restricted Total Net Assets	\$1,493,050 538,396 <b>\$2,031,446</b>	\$ 606,078 352,085 <b>\$ 958,163</b>

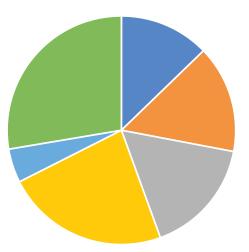
## ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES



Program Services 83%
Management & General 8%
Fundraising 9%

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31	2021	2020
Support and Revenue: Special Events Revenue Less: Direct Costs	\$ 884,841 358,142	\$ 675,675 158,729
Net Revenues From Special Events Contributions and Grants Program Fees Other Revenues Total Support and Revenue	<b>\$ 526,699</b> \$2,726,266 194 2,307 <b>\$3,255,466</b>	<b>\$ 516,946</b> \$1,342,523 791 225 <b>\$1,860,485</b>
Expenses: Program Services Management and General Fundraising Total Expenses	\$1,809,481 179,918 192,784 <b>\$2,182,183</b>	\$1,473,492 176,403 296,947 <b>\$1,946,842</b>
Change in Net Assets Net Assets, Beginning of Year Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,073,283 958,163 <b>\$2,031,446</b>	\$( 86,357) 1,044,520 <b>\$ 958,163</b>



- Project Common Bond 13%
- Skills Development 15%
- Mentoring 16%
- Adult & Family Programs 23%
- Community Service 5%
- Health & Wellness 28%

# Leadership

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