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PRESS RELEASE

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## Serve Alaska & AmeriCorps Alaska: 9/11 National Day of Service & Remembrance

**Monday, September 13, 2021 (Anchorage, AK)** – On the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Serve Alaska and AmeriCorps Alaska announced the September 11<sup>th</sup> National Day of Service and Remembrance (9/11 Day). AmeriCorps programs across Alaska rendered tribute to those killed and injured, first responders, and the countless others who serve to defend the nation's freedom at home and around the globe through service projects in their communities.

"September 11th is a day of history, emotion, and reflection," said **Katie Abbott, Executive Director of the Serve Alaska State Commission**. "9/11 is an opportunity for communities across Alaska to unite in service and volunteerism as we honor the sacrifice of those who lost their lives in 2001 and those who rose in service to our country. This year, on the 20th anniversary of 9/11, we honor, serve, and unite in this spirit."

**Day of Service Projects**—AmeriCorps members in Alaska, in partnership with local organizations and tribal groups, commemorated 9/11 with the following projects:

- **United Way of Southeast Alaska AmeriCorps** filled up to 5,000 backpacks of emergency supplies to be shipped to tribal children and elders throughout Southeast Alaska.
- **Sitka School District AmeriCorps AmeriCorps** beautified public spaces and planted trees at Harrigan Centennial Hall.
- **RurAL CAP Resilient Alaska Youth AmeriCorps** executed projects within their communities including clean ups, graveyard beautification, community garden work, food preparation for elders, and distribution of PPE.
- **Alaska Public Defender Agency AmeriCorps** repackaged bulk food items and packed grocery bags for delivery to people in need in the Anchorage community including the homeless and veterans.

Volunteerism renews and strengthens communities, families, and individuals. As more families are dealing with challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that we don't turn inward, but instead create common cause.

September 11th was designated a National Day of Service by Congress in 2009 and is led by AmeriCorps, the federal agency for volunteerism and national service. AmeriCorps partners with [911Day.org](http://911Day.org), the nonprofit that, along with 9/11 families, began the 9/11 Day observance more than a decade ago and engages hundreds of nonprofit groups, faith-based organizations, schools, and businesses nationwide.

*Serve Alaska promotes and supports volunteerism across the state and brings AmeriCorps programs to Alaska. The Serve Alaska sub-grantees operate in almost every region of the state, bringing much needed support and training to rural and urban Alaska. Serve Alaska is housed*

*within the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development's Division for Community and Regional Affairs. Learn more at [www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/ServeAlaska.aspx](http://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/ServeAlaska.aspx).*

**AmeriCorps** is a federal agency which works to bring people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges, through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities. AmeriCorps helps make service to others a cornerstone of our national culture. Learn more at [www.americorps.gov](http://www.americorps.gov).

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