2020 Impact Report
Keeping First Responders Strong
In memory of thousands of first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice in 2020

Line Of Duty Deaths
123 Law Enforcement
61 Firefighters

Line Of Duty COVID Deaths
223 Law Enforcement
35 Firefighters

Health Care Worker Deaths
More than 2,900

#FirstRespondersStrong
Our Mission

First Responders Children’s Foundation provides financial support to children who have lost a parent in the line of duty as well to families enduring significant financial hardship due to tragic circumstances. First Responders Children’s Foundation also supports, promotes, and facilitates educational activities and programs created and operated by first responder organizations whose purpose is to benefit children or the community at large.
Dear Friends,

First Responders Children’s Foundation continues its significant impact on the country’s first responder community during the pandemic. For the past 20 years and especially during our current health emergency, the Foundation has provided a critical safety net for those who take an oath to protect our communities—emergency room nurses, medical professionals, paramedics, EMTs, firefighters, police officers and 911 dispatchers on the frontlines of our emergency response infrastructure.

First responders have a sworn duty to protect us, and we have a deep respect for their selfless commitment, service and sacrifice. We continue to help first responders as they lead our country’s COVID-19 response while simultaneously protecting our communities from wildfires, hurricanes, terrorist threats, and more than 600,000 other emergencies called into 911 every day. Too many first responders make the ultimate sacrifice leaving devastated families behind, and those families are our #1 priority as we continue our legacy of creating a brighter future for their children.

Because of many generous donors, the Foundation is able to help first responders and their families when they need it most. This report highlights the Foundation’s impact during unprecedented times supporting the heroic people who show up when we call 911.

All of this is only possible because of your financial support. Thank you for joining us to help our first responders.

Sincerely,

Jillian Crane
President
First Responders Children’s Foundation
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## BUILDING COMMUNITY

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A Year Like No Other

From 9/11 to COVID-19
Always Supporting
First Responders

First Responders Children’s Foundation was founded in the aftermath of 9/11 when over 800 children lost a first responder parent. Now, as we prepare for the 20th anniversary of that day, we are navigating another tragedy: the devastation that COVID-19 has brought upon our country and our first responders.

In 2020, the Foundation impacted 530,000 children and 232,000 first responder families through financial assistance to individuals and agencies, college scholarships, bereavement assistance, Toy Express, and The Mask Project. We also helped 120,000 first responders through individual financial help, agency financial help, housing, meals, and The Mask Project.

The success of our 2020 programs would not have been possible without the generous support of many individuals and companies.
A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER
GRANT RECIPIENT, BOSTON EMT AND MOTHER OF FOUR, DAMARIS PADILLA, DELIVERS A COVID PATIENT TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM BEFORE JUMPING BACK INTO HER AMBULANCE TO RACE TO THE NEXT RESCUE.
COVID-19 Response: Financial Help for Individuals

First responders are on the frontlines in every community across the country

In March of 2020, the Foundation introduced the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to help first responders in need including nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, firefighters, and personnel directly supporting first responders such as 911 dispatchers and medical personnel.

The COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund continues to provide support for first responders and their families enduring financial hardship due to the coronavirus. Our 2020 COVID response included emergency shelter and food stipends for first responders who needed to quarantine from their families, food deliveries to brave men and women on the frontlines, and financial help to those experiencing financial distress. The Foundation also paid for funerals of our heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities.

“We don’t care whether you’re a sheriff, whether you’re a detective, whether you’re a police officer, a firefighter, an EMT, or a volunteer firefighter. If you put your life at risk or lost your life saving others, we’re going to be there for your children.”
—BOARD MEMBER LAURENCE LEVY
COVID-19 Response:

Bereavement Assistance

First responders carry the burden that at any point they may pay the ultimate sacrifice by giving their life to save another.

We know that serving as a first responder isn’t a job - it’s a calling. First responders place their lives on the line every day to protect citizens and communities, and they knowingly accept these risks.

Since September 11, 2001, First Responders Children’s Foundation has provided assistance to first responder families during tragic times. When a first responder dies, whether Line of Duty, off-duty, retired, or when a first responder tragically takes his or her own life, First Responders Children’s Foundation is committed to honoring our heroes and providing support. When a first responder agency and family experiences the death of a member, the emotions experienced can quickly overwhelm. First Responders Children’s Foundation is here to offer support during this difficult time. We have developed protocols that agencies and their members can use to provide some comfort and assistance during bereavement.

We stand by our heroes and the families of first responders, and we work with first responder agencies and the community so that each fallen first responder is never forgotten. We are your family, and we support you. Guided by our mission, First Responders Children’s Foundation will continue to support and stand by the children of first responders.
COVID-19 Response:
Financial Help for Agencies

First responder agencies need equipment, supplies, and resources to effectively do their jobs and to engage children in their communities.

During the pandemic in 2020, we funded 25 agency programs across the country impacting tens of thousands of first responder families and community members.

12,946+
HOTEL ROOM NIGHTS PROVIDED TO FIRST RESPONDERS

33,000+
MEAL STIPENDS TO FIRST RESPONDERS

550+
MEALS SERVED TO FIRST RESPONDERS
When a broken air conditioner caused an elderly woman to pass out during a heatwave in Texas, Fort Worth Deputy Bryan Woodard escorted her to a local hospital then bought her an air conditioner and installed it himself after work. We reimbursed Deputy Woodard for his kindness in going the extra mile for the most vulnerable in his community.
Mental Health

FRIENDS OF FIREFIGHTERS
BROOKLYN, NY

2020 increased family stress for first responders.

We partnered with Friends of Firefighters to help fund the expansion of mental health resources. The program has hosted 2,060 sessions with 115 active and retired firefighters and their families which is an increase of 20% more sessions and 27% more people served than ever before.
“As an NYC firefighter, to say I’m stressed is an understatement. The worst part of COVID-19 has been being away from my two boys. At the height of the pandemic, when I would come home from the firehouse, all they would want to do is hug Daddy. I couldn’t hug them though, I had to clean and disinfect myself immediately. Finally, a hug, then they’d ask questions about death and dying, and are we all going to get sick or worse. As much as I try to shield and protect them from danger, both physical and mental, some things are just out of your control. They overhear things. At ages nine and six, they are aware of everything. I try not to project my anxiety and I downplay certain fears, but they are smart and nothing gets past them.”

—ACTIVE FDNY FIREFIGHTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SCOTT PERRIN DELIVERS A GRANT TO THE SPRING VALLEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT IN MILPITAS, CA.

VOLUNTEERS FROM PINNACLE SEARCH AND RESCUE IN WATSON, LA SAVE A CHILD FROM A FLOODED BUILDING AFTER HURRICANES RAVAGED THEIR LOUISIANA TOWN.
Volunteer Firefighters

SPRING VALLEY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
MILPITAS, CA

Spring Valley Volunteer Fire Department had been battling the horrific wildfires for weeks on end.

When planning a visit to deliver PR3 training shoes gifted to us by Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and Under Armour, we learned that the firehouse did not have access to ice or cold water. The Foundation surprised the firefighters with a gift of a commercial-grade ice maker and YETI coolers to transport cold water to the wildfires’ frontlines.

Disaster Response

PINNACLE SEARCH AND RESCUE
WATSON, LA

When hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and other disasters strike in Louisiana, Pinnacle Search and Rescue is there to help those in need.

With a dramatic increase in the number of hurricanes, floods and severe thunderstorms in 2020, this all-volunteer group of first responders in Louisiana tirelessly rescued people whose homes were destroyed. Nursing home residents were safely evacuated, and first responders delivered hot meals to hundreds of people living in their cars after entire towns were wiped out. We also helped Pinnacle Search and Rescue purchase critical medical equipment.
In 2020, we sent **785,000** masks to first responders on the frontlines of the pandemic.

We also sent **170,375** masks to their children.

Our efforts saved lives, and we thank our donors for helping us keep families strong.
NOTES OF GRATITUDE CAME IN FROM ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THESE FOUR CHILDREN WHO THANKED US FOR PROTECTING THEIR DAD.
Our Mask Project provided lifesaving PPE—including 785,000 medical-grade masks—to first responders on the frontlines across the country. The initiative started with a shipment of surgical masks to the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, which distributed masks to police agencies throughout the State of Michigan.

The Foundation scaled this distribution model and within weeks had a national distribution network in place for PPE. Our warehouse shipped bulk shipments of PPE to state police facilities as a distribution point for police, EMT, hospitals and other first responder agencies in the area to receive the equipment they so desperately needed.

Thanks to financial and in-kind donations from MaskClub by Trevco, The Ryan Seacrest Foundation and DonatePPE.org, the Foundation continues to ship all types of PPE—face shields, hand sanitizer, and protective clothing—to keep first responders safe.

Spotlight On Detroit:

PHYSICIANS AND POLICE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES

At the beginning of the pandemic, Wayne County Sheriff’s Department in Detroit needed PPE, so we sent masks to keep them protected. They had been suffering without enough masks to protect officers, doctors, and medical personnel. Tragically, two jail physicians, as well as jail Commander Donafay Collins and Corporal Dean Savard lost their lives to COVID.

On December 22, 2020 Wayne County Sheriff and former Detroit Chief of Police Benny N. Napoleon also lost his life to COVID-19.
WE SENT MASKS TO FIRST RESPONDERS ON THE FRONTLINES ALL OVER THE USA, INCLUDING LANCASTER EMS IN PENNSYLVANIA.
College Scholarships

First Responders Children’s Foundation has awarded college scholarships to hundreds of deserving children of first responders. Scholars are selected based on financial need, academic merit and achievements such as demonstrated leadership, excellence in the arts or sports and volunteer activities benefiting the community.

SAMANTHA SWITZER
New York University
Samantha lost her FDNY firefighter father, William, to 9/11-related cancer. She is now in the accelerated nursing program.

THOMAS CAPUTO
Villanova University
Thomas lost both his grandfather and uncle in the World Trade Center South Tower on 9/11. He is now studying to be a medical professional.

STORM RANDOLPH
Cal Polytechnic State University
Storm is studying computer engineering and is the recipient of the Vincent Bennet, Jr. Memorial Scholarship presented by Cisco Systems.
The first scholarship named in honor of Luis G. Alvarez was awarded to Tarnisa Capone, a senior at the University of South Carolina studying Criminal Justice and African American Studies.

Retired NYPD Detective Luis Alvarez lost his life to 9/11-related illness. He was publicly recognized for his bravery while pleading before the United States Congress to replenish the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund.
Toy Express

The First Responders Children’s Foundation Toy Express was created to address the sadness and isolation experienced by children of overworked first responders during the pandemic. We also wanted to help first responder agencies give back to families impacted within their own communities.

VALUED SPONSORS

The Foundation established Toy Express with generous toy donations from Mattel and American Girl which included other Mattel brands like Hot Wheels®, Barbie® and Mega Bloks®. Additional sponsors were CSX, Good360, Hess Toy Truck, Jakks Pacific, MaskUSA.com and Toys for Tots as well as countless individuals across the nation who helped us bring holiday cheer to first responder families by making donations of toys and money. Transportation of toys and masks across the country was provided by our exclusive shipping partner, TQL and its Moves that Matter program.
Toys Were Sent to Agencies and Families

**DRIVE THROUGH FUN**
Dedicated first responders and community volunteers across the country were vital to our success. These individuals showed up after work and on weekends to pack and distribute toys.

**SMILES FOR MILES**
To spread holiday joy, we shipped customized gift boxes filled with toys to the children of first responders who received financial help during COVID-19. We hand-selected items based on gender and age and shipped directly to the homes of 577 first responder families bringing smiles and cheer to 1,310 children.

**SANTA’S HELPERS**
Our staff and volunteers double masked-up, zipped on our red jackets and hit the road to help distribute toys, masks and food to struggling first responders and their children all over the country—from Maine to California and from Florida to Hawaii.
On October 28, 2020, First Responders Children’s Foundation hosted a National First Responders Day tribute at Liberty Park, directly adjacent to Ground Zero. A Hero Award was presented to an individual in each first responder category—police officer, firefighter, paramedic/EMT, nurse, doctor, and medical personnel—to honor their bravery on the frontlines of the pandemic.
Corporate Partners

Cisco

Cisco Systems has been a valued partner of the Foundation for nearly a decade. Through the years, Cisco has made donations to the Foundation, raised money through its employee matching program, and named a scholarship after Vincent Bennet, a Cisco employee and member of the First Responders Children’s Foundation inaugural Hero Awards Gala Committee who passed away suddenly on September 19, 2013. We honor Vincent’s life by empowering our scholars through his “Rules of Life:”

1. Do the right thing.
2. Often, less is more.
3. Don’t advertise – deliver.
4. Enjoy life to its fullest.
5. Laugh often.
6. Be grateful.

During COVID, Cisco came to the rescue and donated $1 Million to aid our COVID-19 response which helped us when we needed it the most.

CSX

CSX, a premier transportation company, has supported the Foundation’s mission for many years, and together we have provided scholarships to hundreds of first responder children through the company’s Pride in Service program. With the support of CSX, we awarded 126 scholarships to students attending 110 colleges.

When the Foundation decided to launch the First Responders Children’s Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund in March of 2020, CSX was the first corporate partner to commit to the Fund. With the help of CSX, the Foundation provided immediate financial assistance to first responders on the pandemic’s frontlines.

The Greenbrier Resort

The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulpher Spring, West Virginia selected First Responders Children’s Foundation as a charity partner for The PGA golf tour event, “A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier,” commemorating the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Since then, the partnership has evolved to include a scholarship named in honor of the Justice Family.
GRANT RECIPIENT CORPORAL BRYSON LYSTRUP, DETECTIVE WITH THE LEHI, UTAH POLICE DEPARTMENT, CELEBRATED THE BIRTH OF HIS NEW SON, DAWSON.
ALICIA KEYS PERFORMED HER SONG, ‘UNDERDOG’, TO ENCOURAGE THE COUNTRY TO BE RESILIENT AND DEFY THE ODDS. SHE DEDICATED IT TO ALL FIRST RESPONDERS AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS RISKING THEIR LIVES TO KEEP US SAFE.
“iHeartRadio Living Room Concert for America”

Some of entertainment’s biggest stars showed up in support of First Responders Children’s Foundation for the “Fox Presents The iHeart Living Room Concert for America,” hosted by Sir Elton John and broadcasted twice on FOX TV. The concert featured performances by Alicia Keys, Backstreet Boys, Billie Eilish, Billie Joe Armstrong of Green Day, Camila Cabello, Dave Grohl, H.E.R., Mariah Carey, Sam Smith and Tim McGraw from their own living rooms. The hour-long concert also spotlighted inspirational messages from guests and special appearances from Ken Jeong, Ciara and Russell Wilson, Ryan Seacrest, Melissa McCarthy and Ben Falcone, Lady Gaga, Lizzo, and Ellen DeGeneres.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have been mobilizing the country to support first responders on the frontlines with a call to action, “Help Us Help Them.”

8.7 MILLION+
VIEWERS OF THE “IHEARTRADIO LIVING ROOM CONCERT FOR AMERICA”

1,000+
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PRESS STORIES ABOUT THE FOUNDATION
“Stuck with U”

Scooter Braun Productions, Ariana Grande and Justin Bieber released the hit song, “Stuck with U,” with proceeds going to First Responders Children’s Foundation. “Stuck with U” won the award for “Best Music Video From Home” at the 2020 MTV Video Music Awards. And debuted atop the Billboard Hot 100. It became Bieber’s sixth and Grande’s third U.S. number one single.

“One World”

“One World” the song was written and produced by Academy Award-winning composer Franke Previte, who wrote the 1987 hit “I’ve Had the Time of My Life,” from the film “Dirty Dancing.” “One World” salutes the resilience of the nation—and heroic first responders—dealing with a pandemic. First Responders Children’s Foundation is proud to be the beneficiary of revenue generated by this anthem of strength in a time of crisis.
Public Service Announcements

The Foundation launched four national public service announcements which have reached 175 million households.

- **Television personality Ryan Seacrest** encouraged viewers to show up for first responders.
- **Country music artists Alan Jackson and Caylee Hammack** teamed up in a duet of the classic Don Williams song, “Lord I Hope This Day is Good,” to show how our brave hometown heroes work hard every day to keep us safe and protected.
- **“Kids Thank First Responders”** portrayed children all across America cheering on police, firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, nurses, and medical personnel.
- **Caylee Hammack** wished everyone “Happy Holidays” with a reminder that first responders never take a day off from coming to the rescue for us, so let’s come to the rescue for them.
At the height of the pandemic in New York City, Ryan Seacrest wanted to do something meaningful for first responders. He reached out just as we learned that EMTs and firefighters of the FDNY were in desperate need of a safe place to quarantine from their families. We worked with the FDNY Foundation and, within hours of receiving a substantial donation from The Ryan Seacrest Foundation, provided the necessary accommodations along with food stipends.

Ryan recorded “Let’s Show Up for First Responders” PSA that aired on national television, radio and online. He also made a guest appearance on an ABC Holiday TV Special about the Foundation on the “Localish” show.
Our national TV, radio, and print media public service announcements kicked off in July 2020 in all 50 states.

34,689 AIRINGS

373,907,551 IMPRESSIONS
Community Fundraising

We are grateful to be the beneficiary of many successful campaigns and events.

**Omaze** created a once-in-a-lifetime experience to win a custom Ford F-250 4x4 diesel V8 truck and $20,000 in cash.

**IRun4Movement** has donated funds from five 5K virtual runs to the Foundation.

**The 2020 Subaru Benefit Concert** in Huntington Beach, California at the Paséa Hotel was an outdoor rooftop concert with lovelytheband which raised money for the Foundation.

**Bloomingdale’s** featured the Foundation in displays inside six stores across the country and encouraged shoppers to “round-up” their purchases to benefit the Foundation.
“When I was 17 I was in a bad car accident, and a woman who was a first responder, came out of her house, got me out of the car and saved my life. I was in coma for 7 days and in the hospital for 28 days total. Since then I have always wanted to make a difference and do something with this life I have been given. I have an 11-year-old daughter that wants to be a firefighter like her mom and that is the best feeling ever. She knows the risks I take, but she also knows that I am well trained and my brothers have my back. I am blessed every day to be able to go and do the job that I do “and be able to help people on the worst day of their life and make it better.”

—FIREFIGHTER/EMT MANDEE MARX WITH THE ROCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT, ROCHESTER, MN
# Heartfelt Thanks

## $1 Million & Above
- Cisco Systems
- The Ryan Seacrest Foundation
- Universal Music Group

## $500,000 & Above
- Allstate Foundation
- The Rite Aid Foundation
- Sunlight Entertainment

## $250,000 & Above
- Anonymous
- CSX
- Fox Corporation

## $100,000 & Above
- Amazon
- Belk
- Bravado
- Catalyst Pharmaceuticals
- E. & J. Gallo Wine
- Erin Condren LLC
- The FourishGive Foundation / Stone Ridge Asset Management
- Fox Entertainment
- iMedia Brands, Inc. / Shop HQ
- iRun4Movement
- Motorola Solutions Foundation
- Network for Good
- PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC
- Spotify
- Your Cause LLC

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- The Abbott Fund
- American Girl
- Arch Capital Group
- Consult Beaute / GEO Management Corp.
- Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
- The Frank DiMinno Family Foundation
- Geller & Company
- Grayson C. Hoffman Memorial Fund
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- Rupert Murdoch
- New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund
- New York Community Trust
- Old White Charities
- Omaze / Charities Aid Foundation of America
- Remick Family Foundation
- TD Securities Underwriting Hope Fund
- The Toy Foundation
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