



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

October 16, 2013

Dear Friends,

I am honored to welcome you to Voices of September 11<sup>th</sup>'s 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Always Remember Gala.

Today we remember 9/11—the unspeakable tragedy that forever changed our nation and world. We also pay tribute to the extraordinary heroism and courage that instilled hope and faith during that tragic day and continues to be a source of inspiration for many. We honor heroes today, like Commissioner Ray Kelly and the New York City Police Department, who dedicate their lives every day to helping the people of New York during some of their darkest days. We celebrate heroes like the founders of Voices of September 11<sup>th</sup>, Mary Fetchet and Beverly Eckert, who thought about how to help others even when confronting deep personal loss.

For over a decade, VOICES has provided 9/11 families, first responders, and survivors with a resilient community and the continuity of care that they deserve. These holistic programs ensure both immediate and long-term support for those profoundly impacted by mass violence and natural disasters and are a model for the nation.

I was excited to hear of VOICES' receiving a grant from the United States Department of Justice to develop a Resource Kit. This remarkable resource, full of expertise, information, and networks from the 9/11 tragedy for fellow Americans, shows the best of humanity.

We will never forget the sights and sounds of 9/11. We will never forget the sights and sounds of tragedies that hit our towns and cities every day. However, we choose to remember the strength and resilience of community members who summon the courage to give back.

Thank you for coming together to remember loved ones and to support those around the country confronting tragedy with tremendous courage. I wish you all the best for a successful event, and I look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator