

New Jersey Family Assistance Center



Update

December 28, 2001

Interim Coordinator Named for Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance

Karen Fiorelli was recently named Interim Coordinator for the New Jersey Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance. Fiorelli assumes the responsibilities of Lillian C. Borrone who leaves her post as New Jersey's Recovery Coordinator on Monday, Dec. 31.

Under Borrone's leadership, the Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance has been key in the State's relief and recovery efforts since the tragic events of Sept. 11. Specifically, Borrone, a former Assistant Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, oversaw the creation of the New Jersey Family Assistance Center for families who lost loved ones in the attacks or victims who survived the attacks. Since Sept. 19, the Center has been host to federal, state and private agencies that offer services including counseling, legal assistance and financial aid. Borrone has also been instrumental in establishing contact with victims and families of victims, as well as working with the Governor's Washington Office and our Congressional delegation on federal priorities of concern to the families and the State. She also serves on the NJ Security Task Force.

Prior to being named Interim Coordinator, Fiorelli served as a deputy attorney general on the executive staff of Attorney General John J. Farmer, Jr. and worked closely with the Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance on various Family Assistance Center programs. Fiorelli will continue Borrone's work in coordinating the State's response to the needs of New Jerseyans affected by the Sept. 11 attacks.

State of New Jersey

Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco
Lillian C. Borrone, Coordinator
Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance

Family Assistance Center Update

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Safety. For copies, call 609-292-4791.

The September 11th Fund

On December 24th, the September 11th Fund mailed 18,000 checks totaling \$60 million to those who were injured, lost loved ones, or lost their homes or jobs as a direct result of the tragedy. Checks from this \$75 million Cash Assistance Program, which was raised by the September 11th "Tribute to Heroes" Telethon, will continue to be mailed throughout January.

Injured individuals and families who lost loved ones will receive a payment of \$10,000 and those in need who lost their homes or jobs as a direct result of the attacks will receive \$2,500. The Fund will automatically send these checks to those individuals who have already qualified for the Emergency Cash Assistance Program and will continue to identify all who are eligible by cross-referencing lists with the American Red Cross and the New York City Police Department.

If you have not yet received a check from the Cash Assistance Program, or wish to apply for the need-based Emergency Cash Assistance Program, contact the September 11th Fund Safe Horizon 24-hour hotline at 1-866-689-HELP or your local United Way office.

New Jersey Seeks to Establish List of WTC Victims Groups

Since Sept. 11 several organizations have been created to offer financial assistance or emotional support to families who lost loved ones in the attacks on the World Trade Center. The Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance is working to establish a central database of these organizations to share with you, but we need your help. If you are a member – or have contact information – of any group or nonprofit organization providing financial assistance, offering emotional support or promoting the interest of families victimized by the attacks such as the *Families of September 11th*, please call the Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance at 609-777-1248.

World Trade Center: New Jersey Recovers Project

New Jersey is running a special program that offers counseling and other assistance to people who have developed alcohol and/or substance abuse problems as a result of the attacks on the World Trade Center. The federally funded project, administered by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Service's Division of Addiction Services, is free, confidential and available to:

- ❖ Families of WTC attack victims
- ❖ Survivors of the WTC attacks
- ❖ Witnesses of the attacks and/or collapse of the WTC
- ❖ All rescue workers
- ❖ Individuals who lost their jobs as a result of the attacks

For information, call 800-238-2333.

Parents of Children With Special Needs

Laura Weinberg, whose husband, Richard Aronow, was killed in the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, is establishing a school for children with special needs, as well as a support group for their families. Those interested in obtaining more information, should contact the New Jersey Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance at 609-777-1248 to have your name and telephone number forwarded to Ms. Weinberg.

Federal Victim Compensation Fund

The state is currently working with the U.S. Department of Justice to arrange the site for a Federal Victim Compensation Fund Assistance and Intake Center in New Jersey. Information regarding the Center will be passed on to you in an upcoming newsletter. In the meantime, you can find additional information at <http://www.usdoj.gov/victimcompensation> or by calling the U.S. Department of Justice toll-free at 1-888-714-3385.

Info Hotline: 866-NJ-CRISIS • www.state.nj.us

Providing Help for September 11 Victims and Their Families
Currently Located at Liberty State Park, Jersey City, New Jersey