



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Benefit Fund's Mission?

The Benefit Fund's mission is to provide assistance to the families of New York City Police Officers, Fire Fighters, Port Authority Police and EMS personnel who have been killed in the line of duty. The Benefit Fund gives financial assistance to grieving families immediately after they lose their loved one. Our goal is to raise enough funds to provide meaningful annual distributions to our beneficiaries for the remainder of their lives.

How long has the Benefit Fund been in existence?

The New York Police & Fire Widows' & Children's Benefit Fund was established in 1985 by Daniel J. "Rusty" Staub.

How many families are helped by the Benefit Fund?

In 1987, we provided 320 families with annual financial assistance and by 2007, we made the same commitment to nearly 700 families. Our need has certainly grown, but our mission remains pure. Help children and spouses who lost a loved one, charged with the task of keeping our families safe.

What distinguishes the Benefit Fund from other deserving charities?

The Benefit Fund is a volunteer based organization, with a Board of Directors committed to its mission and beneficiaries. Pride, honor and a strong belief that we need to help those families who help us is the foundation of our success.

Who benefits from my donation?

Though the charity was initially created to assist the families of fallen New York City Police Officers and Fire Fighters, after the events of September 11, 2001, the charter was expanded to include the families of Port Authority Police Officers and EMS personnel.

What percent of my donation goes to the beneficiaries?

Relying upon its strong base of volunteers, the Benefit Fund operates with minimal administrative overhead. Approximately 97% of donations goes directly to the beneficiaries.

How can I get a copy of the Benefit Fund's financial report?

A copy of the Benefit Fund's most recent audited financial statements are readily available on our website www.answerthecall.org. Also, a copy of the Benefit Fund's latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from the Benefit Fund or from the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau, Attention: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, New York 10271.

Is the Benefit Fund registered as a viable charity? If so, how can I verify?

Yes. The Benefit Fund is registered as a charitable organization in New York State and other jurisdictions. For a complete list of jurisdictions, in which the Benefit Fund is registered as a charitable organization, please visit our website www.answerthecall.org.

Is the Benefit Fund affiliated with the Fire Fighter or Police Department unions?

The Benefit Fund is an independent 501(c)(3) charity that is not affiliated with the Fire Fighter or Police Department unions.

How can I learn more about the Benefit Fund's volunteer opportunities?

Contact Linda Giammona at 212.735.4505 or linda.giammona@answerthecall.org.

How can I make a difference and make a donation?

Contact Linda Giammona, 212.735.4505, linda.giammona@answerthecall.org or visit our website www.answerthecall.org.

How can I sponsor an event in which proceeds are given to the Benefit Fund?

Contact Linda Giammona, 212.735.4505 or linda.giammona@answerthecall.org.

If you prefer, donations can be mailed directly to:

New York Police & Fire Widows' & Children's Benefit Fund
General Post Office
PO Box 26837
New York, NY 10087-6837



NEW YORK POLICE & FIRE

WIDOWS' & CHILDREN'S BENEFIT FUND

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