



# Newsletter

SUMMER 2024



## WELCOME TO THE FDNY FOUNDATION SUMMER 2024 NEWSLETTER

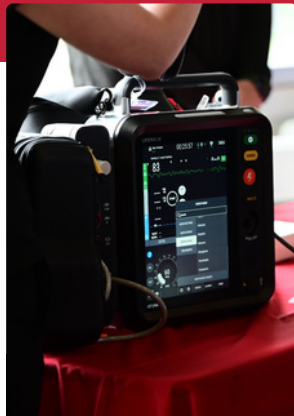
The FDNY Foundation funds programs that advance the FDNY's goals, which include maintaining operational excellence, reaching out to the community with an array of fire and life safety programs, and ensuring that our firefighters and EMS personnel have the best available training and equipment.

**Thank you for supporting us.**

**DONATE NOW**



**TRAINING**



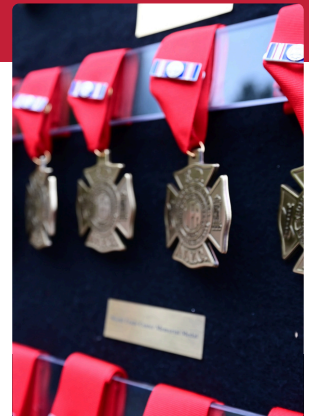
**EQUIPMENT**



**EDUCATION**



**TECHNOLOGY**



**SPECIAL  
EVENTS**

# FDNY FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER ROBERT S. TUCKER APPOINTED 35TH FDNY COMMISSIONER



Aug. 12, 2024

FDNY Fire Academy on Randall's Island

Robert S. Tucker, an FDNY Foundation Board Member, was sworn in as the 35th Fire Commissioner of the New York City Fire Department on Monday, Aug. 12, 2024, at the FDNY Fire Academy on Randall's Island.

On behalf of the FDNY Foundation Board of Directors, we congratulate Commissioner Tucker on being appointed Fire Commissioner. This is an extraordinary accomplishment for Commissioner Tucker and his family. We thank him for his years of support as an FDNY Foundation Board Member and his dedication to helping the FDNY. We look forward to working with Commissioner Tucker to help FDNY members and keep New Yorkers safe.

"Robert Tucker has been a longtime honorable member of the FDNY Foundation Board, and we are excited to see him become the Fire Commissioner of the FDNY," said Jean O'Shea, Executive Director of the FDNY Foundation.

"To the EMTs, paramedics and firefighters: This is the greatest honor of my life. I am here to serve you," Commissioner Tucker said. "I am honored to be the 35th Fire Commissioner of the City of New York. I know the work we will accomplish together will make this department even greater, and we will make this city an even safer to live, work and raise a family."

Commissioner Tucker served as the secretary of the FDNY Foundation. As a self-professed "fire buff," his first job was at the FDNY Manhattan Communications Office in 1985. He was named an Honorary Assistant Chief in 2010 and an Honorary Fire Commissioner in April 2014.

Commissioner Tucker brings decades of public safety experience to the role, having previously served as a special assistant to the Queens County District Attorney and as chairman and CEO of T&M Protection Resources, a globally recognized leader in security solutions and cyber intelligence.



**"This is the greatest honor of my life."**  
— Robert S. Tucker, Fire Commissioner



# Annual FDNY Search & Rescue Field Medicine Symposium (SRFM)



May 2-5, 2024

FDNY Fire Academy on Randall's Island

Medical responders from military, federal, state and local agencies gathered on May 2-5, 2024, to participate in the 11th-annual FDNY Search & Field Medicine Symposium (SRFM).

The four-day event, put on yearly by the FDNY Foundation, brings together first responders to share experiences, best practices and ideas. The event includes workshops, lectures, panel discussions, hands-on skills scenarios and a vendor showcase.

During pre-conference activities, the attendees participated in a hands-on active threat scenario, a field blood transfusion workshop and much more.

View the exhibitor showcase with the latest equipment and products by [clicking here](#).

You can see more photos from the 2024 SRFM by [clicking here](#).

The FDNY Foundation is committed to ensuring the FDNY has access to cutting-edge tools, resources and procedures to aid the members of the Department in their lifesaving mission and is innovating search-and-rescue operations for the fire service worldwide.

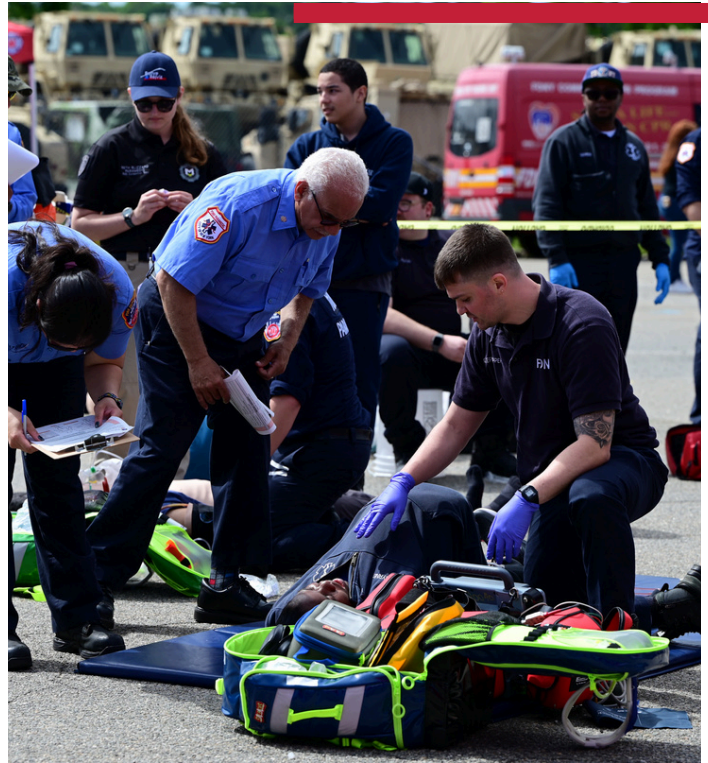
The FDNY Foundation thanks all of the exhibitors, attendees and staff for making it such a great event each year.



**Enhancing Preparedness**



May 19, 2024  
EMS Competition at FDNY EMS Academy at Fort Totten



# EMS WEEK 2024: Telling the stories behind the uniforms

In May, the FDNY Foundation was honored to fund EMS Week 2024 as a small gesture of our thanks, gratitude and appreciation for all FDNY EMS members and their remarkable service and unwavering dedication to keeping New York City safe.

EMS Week is designed to promote public safety among all New Yorkers, attract potential EMS recruits and celebrate the more than 4,400 members of FDNY's Emergency Medical Services and their lifesaving work.

Read the stories behind the members who appeared on this year's EMS Week poster.

The poster for EMS Week 2024 features the title "EMS WEEK 2024" at the top. Below the title is a group photo of eight people, including several in EMS uniforms and two in civilian attire. The text "BEHIND EVERY UNIFORM" is written in a bold, yellow font across the middle. Below this is another group photo of seven people, including Eric Adams and Laura Kavanagh. The text "IS A STORY" is written in a bold, yellow font across the bottom. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner, with the text "READ THEIR STORIES!" above it and "SCAN OR GO TO [JDNY.FDNYC.ORG/EMSWEEK](https://www.fdnyc.org/emsweek)" below it. The City of New York logo is in the bottom left corner. At the very bottom, it says "PRINTED WITH SUPPORT FROM THE FDNY FOUNDATION".

The theme for EMS Week 2024 was  
**BEHIND EVERY UNIFORM IS A STORY**



# SECOND CHANCE CEREMONY: CPR TRAINING SAVES LIVES



In honor of National EMS Week 2024, the FDNY held its 28th-annual Second Chance Ceremony on May 23, 2024, at Liberty Warehouse in Brooklyn. The special event reunited eight cardiac arrest patients with the FDNY members, bystanders and other first responders who helped save their lives.

Several of this year's survivors received cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) from bystanders before on-duty FDNY members arrived. Immediate CPR, coupled with defibrillation within the first few minutes after sudden cardiac arrest, can greatly increase a patient's chance of survival. The Second Chance Ceremony has reunited more than 200 patients with members of the FDNY who saved their lives.

*The 28th-annual Second Chance Ceremony was held May 23, 2024, at Liberty Warehouse in Brooklyn.*

## CPR SAVES LIVES

The FDNY CPR Training Unit, which is made possible thanks to the **FDNY Foundation**, offers free, compressions-only CPR classes throughout New York City and has trained more than 200,000 New Yorkers to perform bystander CPR, including more than 80,000 high school students.

[VIEW MORE SECOND CHANCE PHOTOS](#)

# CLIMB TO SUMMIT



April 21, 2024  
SUMMIT One Vanderbilt in Manhattan



The 20 fastest teams of firefighters and EMTs won stairclimbers for their firehouses and EMS stations from funds raised at the event.

Engine 3/Ladder 12/Battalion 7	Engine 225/Ladder 107
Engine 310/Ladder 174	Engine 1/Ladder 24
Team Downey — the Rock	Engine 247
Engine 95/Ladder 36	Engine 152
Engine 282/Ladder 148	Engine 162/Ladder 82
Ladder 34	Ladder 130
Engine 290/Ladder 103	Rescue 2
Engine 320/Ladder 167	Ladder 18
Ladder 20	EMS Drill Instructors
Engine 307/Ladder 154	

In addition to preparing for the difficult tasks FDNY members perform every day, the Foundation strives to ensure their long-term health and readiness.

On April 21, the FDNY Foundation hosted the 2nd-annual FDNY Foundation Climb to SUMMIT at One Vanderbilt in Manhattan with support from SL Green Realty Corp.

For the second year running, the climb was a tremendous success! About 300 climbers from firehouses, EMS stations, corporations and individuals participated to help raise funds for FDNY members' health, fitness and wellness.



## Generously Donated

The **FDNY Foundation** donated 20 stairclimbers to the FDNY Fitness Unit. Given the rigorous demands of first responders' jobs and increased risk for cardiac events, keeping gym equipment in good working order ensures the safety and physical wellness of members to carry out their lifesaving mission.



# ENHANCING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PIPELINE PROGRAMS



May 30, 2024  
FDNY Headquarters in Brooklyn

## FDNY Officers Management Institute

The FDNY and the FDNY Foundation celebrated its 22nd graduating class of the FDNY Officers Management Institute at a ceremony on May 30, 2024. Developed by Columbia University and funded by the FDNY Foundation, FOMI helps make the FDNY more resilient and stronger by giving high-ranking members a solid foundation in management principles and leadership strategies, which are essential to the Department's continued operational success.

Since its inception, the FDNY Foundation has invested over \$5 million in FOMI, which was developed based on a recommendation in the McKinsey Report done in the wake of September 11, 2001. The FDNY Foundation congratulates the 16 FOMI graduates!

## FDNY Celebrates Captain Vernon A. Richard High School Class of 2024

On June 26, 2024, the FDNY Foundation joined the FDNY at a graduation ceremony for the 17th graduating class of the Captain Vernon A. Richard High School for Fire and Life Safety. This year, 33 students graduated.

The graduates successfully completed a challenging academic program that focused on leadership and strength as core values, as well as the academic and physical skills necessary for emergency responders.

To date, 101 graduates have been hired by the FDNY and currently serve as EMTs, paramedics and firefighters. The FDNY High School and Youth EMS programs are largely funded by the FDNY Foundation. We are proud to continue to support these great programs.



June 26, 2024  
FDNY Fire Academy on Randall's Island

This past school year, the **FDNY Foundation** allocated more than \$200,000 in scholarship funding to aid FDNY uniform members pursuing college degrees to promote their rank within the Department.



June 5, 2024  
City Hall Plaza in Manhattan



# Medal Day 2024

The FDNY Foundation congratulates all of the recipients at this year's Medal Day Ceremony. We thank them for their commitment, service, dedication, and for going above and beyond the call of duty to always help keep New Yorkers safe.

The FDNY Foundation is proud to continue to support FDNY Medal Day and the publication of the 2024 Medal Day Book!

## FDNY Foundation Associate Board Hosts "FDNY Night in the Bowery"

In May, the FDNY Foundation Associate Board hosted "FDNY Night in the Bowery" at FDNY Engine 33/Ladder 9 on Great Jones Street in Manhattan.

We thank the officers and members of E33/L9 who provided demonstrations and tours of this landmark firehouse to our associate board members and their guests.

The FDNY Fire Safety Education Unit and Mobile CPR Unit were also on hand to provide fire and life safety information.



FDNY Foundation Board Members  
**Matt DiLiberto and Tony Pasquariello**



The FDNY Foundation Associate Board, which is chaired by Michael Corbi and Sheba Jafari, is made up of young professionals who are helping to raise funds and awareness for our mission to promote fire and life safety education and help the FDNY save lives and better protect New York.

A special thanks to the FDNY Foundation Associate Board for their excitement and support of the FDNY and FDNY Foundation.





## Mental Health Awareness Month

May was Mental Health Awareness Month, and the FDNY Foundation is proud to support the FDNY Counseling Services Unit (CSU), which has a staff to provide mental health evaluations, direct treatment and appropriate referrals for all employees: fire, EMS and civilians. The CSU offers a unique peer program, funded by the FDNY Foundation, which allows current and retired members to meet other members of the FDNY at their places of work.

## FDNY FOUNDATION FUNDS FITNESS COURSE FOR FDNY MEMBERS

In October 2023, about 20 FDNY members from fire and EMS completed the Army Master Fitness Course.

Members of the U.S. Army spent two weeks teaching FDNY members methods to increase physical readiness, reduce injury, standardize training and leadership development.

The training was made possible by the FDNY Foundation.



# BETTER PREPARED: FDNY FOUNDATION FUNDS UWF PROGRAM WITH PHYSICAL FITNESS TRAINING

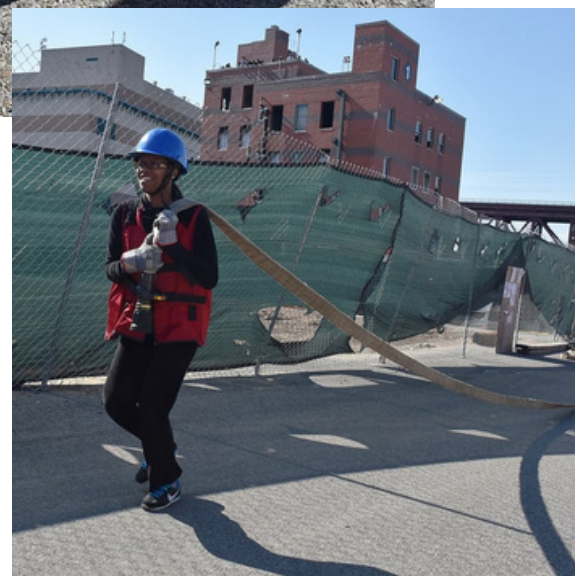


*Any woman who is interested in becoming an FDNY firefighter can participate in the United Women Firefighters (UWF) of New York's Female Firefighter Training Program.*

**Preparation is key.** The FDNY Foundation is proud to fund and support the United Women Firefighters (UWF) of New York's Female Firefighter Training Program. The program is open to all women who are interested in joining the Department. It offers the intense physical conditioning needed to qualify and succeed as an FDNY firefighter. Female firefighters already on the job, as well as a certified fitness instructor, lead candidates through strength and endurance training in a women-only supportive environment.

The UWF has successfully trained hundreds of female candidates with the desire to join the FDNY.

For the latest information regarding the training program, send an email to [UnitedWomenFirefighters@gmail.com](mailto:UnitedWomenFirefighters@gmail.com).







# FDNY Foundation joins the FDNY to ring the Nasdaq Closing Bell in May

On May 28, the FDNY Foundation and FDNY members rang the Nasdaq Closing Bell.

FDNY Foundation Executive Director Jean O'Shea was joined by Chief of Safety Michael Meyers, Chief of EMS Operations Michael Fields, former Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanagh and other FDNY members.

We thank Nasdaq for its continued support of the FDNY Foundation and all our FDNY members.





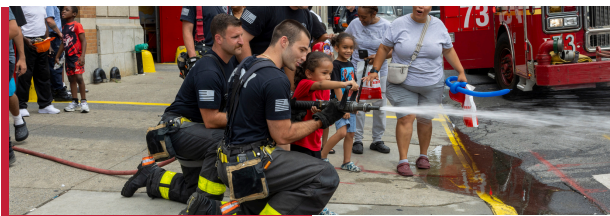


## Classic New York City Block Parties

It was another summer of fun as the Department opened its doors to welcome New Yorkers across all five boroughs to meet the FDNY members who bravely serve their communities. The popular summer block parties are made possible with the generous support from the FDNY Foundation.

At each event, FDNY members held interactive demonstrations, offered free fire and life safety education and conducted tours of Department apparatus.

This year, the Department took to social media to tell the stories connecting FDNY members to the communities they serve with a weeklong buildup ahead of each Saturday event. Thanks to everyone who came out to a block party this summer!



This year, the FDNY was FIRED UP for block parties in **Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island!**



# FOUNDATION TEAMS UP WITH FDNY AND GHOSTBUSTERS FOR FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EVENT



There was something strange in the neighborhood.  
At Ladder 8 in Tribeca, to be more exact.

In collaboration with the Ghostbusters movie franchise, the FDNY and the FDNY Foundation, the firehouse for Ladder 8 became an icehouse on March 14. It was decorated to look like the film version of the firehouse in all its icy splendor.

During the two-week event, members from the FDNY Fire Safety Education Unit, FDNY mascots, firefighters and EMTs provided critical fire and life safety education.



*Free CPR classes, smoke alarm installation sign-ups, fire safety literature and promotional items, and fire safety presentations took place for two weeks.*



# 5-5-5-5 DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY



## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN **FREDERICK D. WHITESIDE** EMS DISPATCH

On Nov. 17, 2023, EMT Frederick D. Whiteside, a 22-year FDNY veteran, experienced a cardiac arrest while working at a New York City 911 Dispatch Center in the Bronx. EMT Whiteside, 43, was appointed to the FDNY on April 19, 2002. He is survived by his daughter, mother and uncle.

*The FDNY Foundation set up a scholarship fund for EMT Whiteside's daughter. To donate to the EMT Frederick D. Whiteside Children's Scholarship Fund, please visit [www.fdneyfoundation.org/donate](http://www.fdneyfoundation.org/donate). Under "Fund," please select **EMT Frederick D. Whiteside Children's Scholarship Fund**.*



# 5-5-5-5 DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY



## SUPERVISING FIRE MARSHAL **GEORGE E. SNYDER JR.** BFI SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

On Aug. 9, 2024, Supervising Fire Marshal George E. Snyder Jr. suffered a cardiac episode after work. He died Saturday, Aug. 10. SFM Snyder began his career with the FDNY in May 2002. He was cited five times for meritorious acts throughout his 22-year career. He is survived by his mother, three sisters, nephews and nieces.





FDNY Firefighter  
**Michael W. Daly**  
*Ladder 87*



FDNY EMT  
**Sebastian J. Vazquez**  
*Station 26*



FDNY Firefighter  
**Kamran A. Khan**  
*Engine 219*



FDNY Firefighter  
**Jason E. Baldwin**  
*Ladder 46*



FDNY Firefighter  
**Deo Lall Jr.**  
*Engine 153*



Former FDNY Firefighter  
**Derek Floyd**  
*Ceremonial Unit*



FDNY Firefighter  
**Anthony M. Caliando**  
*Ladder 158*

The FDNY Foundation joins the FDNY in mourning the passing of Firefighters Michael W. Daly, Kamran A. Khan, Jason E. Baldwin, Deo Lall Jr., Anthony M. Caliando, EMT Sebastian J. Vazquez and former Firefighter Derek Floyd.

The FDNY Foundation has set up scholarship funds for their children. To make a donation, please go to [fdnyfoundation.org](https://fdnyfoundation.org) and select the appropriate fund. Our Foundation donates \$10,000 to each of these children's scholarship funds.

We will never forget their service and dedication to the FDNY and the City of New York.



# FDNY FOUNDATION JOINS THE FDNY FOR THE 2024 BOROUGHWIDE MEMORIAL PLAQUE DEDICATIONS



The FDNY Foundation joined the FDNY for the 2024 Boroughwide Memorial Plaque Dedication Ceremonies for all five boroughs. Each year, the Department holds the ceremonies to remember the members who died over the previous year. Each ceremony took place at the Fire Academy on Randall's Island.

## MANHATTAN

- Battalion Chief Stephen Geraghty, *Rescue Battalion*
- Battalion Chief Brian O'Flaherty, *Battalion 9*
- Firefighter Thomas Healy, *Ladder 25*
- Wiper Bruce Peat, *Marine 1*
- Battalion Chief James Hanley, *Battalion 7*
- Paramedic Paul Daniels, *Station 16*
- Firefighter Timothy Hickey, *Engine 91*
- Firefighter John Rowe Jr., *Engine 21*
- Lieutenant James Donohue, *Ladder 8*

## BRONX

- Lieutenant Michael Higgins, *Ladder 19*
- EMS Lieutenant Redwin Mendez, *PSAC-2*
- Firefighter Robert Painter, *Ladder 39*
- Lieutenant Joseph Brosi, *Engine 88*
- Firefighter Douglas Harkins, *Ladder 29*
- Lieutenant James Burns II, *Engine 46*
- Firefighter Edward Pecoroni, *Engine 70*
- Paramedic Andrew Enderes, *Station 27*

## QUEENS

- Firefighter Michael Gebert, *Engine 324*
- Firefighter Gregg Lawrence, *Engine 308*
- Firefighter George Trippree, *Ladder 173*
- Firefighter John McDonnell, *Ladder 116*
- Firefighter Michael Arriaga, *Engine 301*
- Lieutenant Michael Hance, *Engine 302*
- Lieutenant James Corrigan, *Battalion 53/Engine 291*
- Firefighter Thomas McDougall, *Ladder 117*
- Firefighter James Mager, *Engine 293*
- Lieutenant Richard Kobbe, *Ladder 133*
- Firefighter Michael Costa, *Engine 328*
- EMT Kerry Burnett, *Station 47*
- Firefighter Thomas Anderson Jr., *Ladder 162*
- Firefighter Kevin Kelly, *Engine 307*
- Firefighter Robert Hughes, *Ladder 134*
- Electrician John Fiorentino, *Bureau of Communications*

## BROOKLYN

- Firefighter William Hughes, *Ladder 123*
- Battalion Chief Joseph McKie, *Battalion 41*
- Firefighter Peter Chiodo, *Engine 226*
- EMT Patricia Scaduto, *EMS Operations*
- Lieutenant Donald Kelly, *Ladder 161*
- Firefighter Anthony Mauro, *Ladder 109*
- Firefighter Victor Cantelmo, *Engine 236*
- Battalion Chief Vincent Lyons, *Battalion 43*
- Paramedic Peter Bushey, *Station 40*
- Fire Marshal Karl Sederholt, *BFI Special Operations Command*
- Captain Neil Ferro, *Engine 227*
- Firefighter Mark Batista, *Engine 226*
- Firefighter Robert Welsh III, *Engine 207*
- Firefighter John Tiska Jr., *Engine 229*
- Firefighter Albert Filosa, *Ladder 146*

## STATEN ISLAND

- Lieutenant James McCauley Jr., *Battalion 23*
- Captain Gary Nybro, *Engine 166*
- Firefighter John Patrick Morgan, *Ladder 80*



The FDNY Foundation proudly funds the Boroughwide Memorial Plaque Dedication Ceremonies.



# SAVE THE DATE! 2024 FDNY FOUNDATION DINNER



The **2024 FDNY Foundation Dinner** will take place **Thursday, September 19, 2024**, at the FDNY Fire Academy on Randall's Island.

This year, we are proud to present the FDNY Fire Commissioner's Humanitarian Award to **Harvey M. Schwartz**, Chief Executive Officer, Carlyle.

**Cocktail Hour:** 4:30-5:30PM  
**Program Begins:** 5:45PM

To help support, visit [fdnyfoundation.org/dinner](https://fdnyfoundation.org/dinner). Contact the Foundation at 718-999-0779 or email [info@fdnyfoundation.org](mailto:info@fdnyfoundation.org).

**DONATE NOW**

*The FDNY Foundation is the official non-profit organization of the New York City Fire Department. Your support directly assists the men and women of the FDNY to better protect New York. When you make a donation, you are making New York City safer.*

## CONTACT US

FDNY Foundation  
9 Metrotech Center  
Room #5E-6  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
(718) 999-0779  
[fdnyfoundation.org](https://fdnyfoundation.org)

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