

PRESS RELEASE



9/11 UNITED SERVICES GROUP
helping organizations help people

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9/11 UNITED SERVICES GROUP AND THREE MAJOR NEW YORK AGENCIES EXTEND DEADLINE TO MARCH 8TH FOR FINANCIAL AID TO WORKERS

Previous Deadline of February 22nd Extended

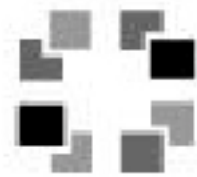
February 14, 2002 [New York, NY] – The 9/11 United Services Group (USG), on behalf of the American Red Cross in Greater New York, The Salvation Army and Safe Horizon, has announced a two-week extension of the deadline for workers displaced by the events of September 11 to make appointments to apply for financial aid. **The new deadline is now Friday, March 8, 2002.**

All three agencies will schedule appointments at the Disaster Assistance Service Center, at 141 Worth Street, through March 8 with workers in need of cash assistance due to loss of job or income. The USG, its member organizations and key government agencies are coordinating additional services, such as job training, placement and counseling, to assist with long-term needs.

“After listening to the concerns of those affected by the events of September 11, we and these three charities concurred that it was necessary to extend the deadline by two weeks to allow more time for appointments to be made,” said Robert J. Hurst, Chief Executive Officer of the USG. “In our ongoing efforts to simplify the process for those who lost their jobs or income as a result of these horrible events, we will continue to be receptive to feedback from the people we and our member charities intend to serve.”

To qualify for cash assistance from the three agencies, displaced workers must obtain an appointment and apply in person. Appointments must be *scheduled* by March 8 but do not have to take place by that date. Those who have lost jobs or income due to the events of September 11 can apply with any one of the three charities -- the American Red Cross in Greater New York, Safe Horizon and The Salvation Army -- and become eligible for services from all three, provided that they meet the individual qualifications of each agency. Appointments will take place over the following weeks until all those who have made appointments have been served.

Who Is Eligible? The plan applies primarily to individuals who were working below Canal Street as of September 11, 2001, who lost their jobs by a certain date - December 31, 2001, for the Red Cross; and January 11, 2002, for Safe Horizon and The Salvation Army. Some assistance is available for those who can demonstrate work-related income losses linked to the affected area. Non-citizens are eligible for support regardless of immigration status.



How to Register: Anyone applying for financial aid due to September 11-related job or income loss from one of these three agencies -- the American Red Cross in Greater New York, Safe Horizon and The Salvation Army -- must come in person by Friday, March 8, to the Disaster Assistance Service Center and obtain an appointment to be interviewed. The Center is located at 141 Worth Street, Manhattan, and is open from Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, and Saturday, 9 am to 2 pm. Interviews will be conducted at both 141 Worth Street and 51 Chambers Street. Those living outside New York City can call their local United Way to find nearby locations where they may make an appointment. To reach the Red Cross, residents in New Jersey may call 877-746-4982; in Connecticut, call the local Red Cross chapter. For The Salvation Army, New Jersey residents may call 888-247-0100; in Connecticut, 860-543-8400.

The plan, which represents a coordinated approach to serving the needs of those economically affected, entails the following:

- Staff of the American Red Cross in Greater New York, Safe Horizon and The Salvation Army at the Disaster Assistance Service Centers have been cross-trained, enabling those who have lost jobs or income to apply with any one of the three charities and become eligible for services from all three, provided that they meet the individual qualifications of each agency.
- Staff will work to connect those who may be eligible with key public programs, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster housing assistance and New York State unemployment assistance.
- Representatives of employment and training agencies will be available in the centers to assist people in finding job placement and training programs.

In addition, the USG has trained more than 220 “service coordinators” from all 13 USG member organizations and other agencies serving victims, families and other affected people. These service coordinators will work directly, on a long-term basis, with people who have been affected and will listen to their concerns in order to assist them in getting the help they need from private and public benefits available.

The USG, a not-for-profit organization, is a consortium of 13 private New York City human service organizations that have joined forces to coordinate the help being provided to those affected by the September 11 terrorist attacks. It was created as a direct response to the need of victims, families and others affected by the World Trade Center attack for a more efficient, streamlined system to help coordinate benefits.

USG member organizations can be accessed through the Safe Horizon September 11th Support Hotline -- which is reachable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week -- at 866-689-HELP (4357).

Participating organizations in the USG are The American Red Cross in Greater New York, Asian American Federation of New York; Black Agency Executives, Inc.; The Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York; Catholic Charities Diocese of Brooklyn; Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, Inc.; Hispanic Federation; Human Services Council; Mental Health Association of New York City, Inc.; Safe Horizon; The Salvation Army; UJA-Federation of New York; and United Neighborhood Houses of New York. The USG has received funding, in part, from The September 11th Fund created by the New York Community Trust and the United Way of New York City.