



# 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance

## *2011 Project Report*

“Building a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in Colorado.”



*Report Sponsored by:*



# Table of Contents

About Serve Colorado	Page 2
Day of Service Overview	Page 3
List of Projects by County	Pages 4-5
Project Reports	Pages 6-30
Acknowledgments	Page 31
AmeriCorps*State Programs	Page 32

**I will**

JOIN THE  TRIBUTE MOVEMENT  
[911day.org](http://911day.org)

# About Serve Colorado

## Overview

Serve Colorado—**Governor’s Commission on Community Service** strives to build a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in Colorado. Serve Colorado works under the leadership of a board of **16 commissioners to distribute and administer Colorado’s** allocation of AmeriCorps\*State funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The current program portfolio consists of 16 programs working to meet a variety of local needs throughout Colorado communities, including environmental stewardship, academic tutoring, youth mentoring, healthy futures, economic opportunity, and more! Additionally, Serve Colorado promotes volunteerism and service as a means to strengthen Colorado communities through days of service, special initiatives, and community partnerships.

## Goals

- To effectively distribute AmeriCorps\*State resources to address the needs of Colorado communities.
- To advocate for service and volunteerism as essential components in sustaining healthy Colorado communities.
- To create mechanisms which facilitate greater cooperation, communication and partnerships around service.
- To promote service and volunteerism as an integral component of education at all levels.
- To increase public awareness, appreciation, support and participation in service and volunteerism.
- To increase financial and in-kind support for volunteer initiatives from a broad range of public and private sources.

John Hickenlooper  
Governor of Colorado

Joseph A. Garcia  
Lieutenant Governor of Colorado

Serve Colorado  
Toya Nelson, *Executive Director*  
Mark Skinner, *Sr. Program Officer*  
Terri Jutzi, *Program Officer*  
Kathryn Gray, *AmeriCorps Specialist*  
Jenna Hansen, *Program Coordinator*  
DJ Close, *Literacy Project Fellow*  
**Jack O’Dell**, *VISTA Disability Inclusion*  
Jay Rivera, *VISTA Leader*

Commissioners  
Amy L. Humble, *Chair*  
Neil Oberfield, *Vice Chair*  
P. Maureen McDonald  
Hon. Cecil A. Gutierrez  
Paula Gumina  
Barbara Morris, M.D.  
Laura M. Mulvey  
Tom D. Muniz  
Angeline Roles  
Maureen Smile  
Deborah Smith  
Steven Trujillo  
Diane Stobnicke  
Carol Wright  
Bruce Cline, *Ex Officio*

# Day of Service Overview

On April 21, 2009, President Barack Obama signed legislation officially establishing September 11 as a federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance. The Day of Service provides a way for Americans and others to forever honor and remember the 9/11 victims, survivors, and the many that rose in service in response to the 9/11 tragedy, including first responders, recovery workers, volunteers, public safety officers and members of our military.

During the week of 9/11/2011, Coloradoans statewide pledged to volunteer and engage in other forms of charitable service, thus rekindling the remarkable spirit shared by so many in the aftermath of the attacks. Organizations and volunteers helped to create a fitting, enduring and historic legacy through service.



## Serve Colorado – **Governor's**

Commission on Community Service would like to sincerely thank everyone who helped in supporting and observing the second annual 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance. Special recognition to the extraordinary dedication of Xcel Energy on this day of service. Over 650 Xcel Energy employees and their families completed over 40 projects in the Denver Metro area, as well as throughout Colorado.

Your service is invaluable to our state.

# List of Projects

## Adams County

*Adams Community Gardens CO-OP, pg.6*

Arapahoe County RSVP (Senior Hub, Inc.)

*Boys & Girls Club Brighton Clean Up, pg.6*

Xcel Energy

*Fresh Produce Collection For Local Food Pantries, pg.7*

Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers

*Tree and Shrub Planting, pg.7*

Xcel Energy

## Arapahoe County

*Bennie E. Goodwin Center Project, pg.8*

Xcel Energy

*Boys Hope Girls Hope Reparation Project, pg.8*

Xcel Energy

*Colorado Freedom Memorial Project, pg.9*

Xcel Energy

## Boulder County

*Goodwill Boulder Project, pg.9*

Xcel Energy

*Help Us to Help Others! Pg.10*

Sister Carmen Community Center

## Broomfield County

*Broomfield Veterans Museum Project, pg.10*

Xcel Energy

## Clear Creek County

*Grays and Torreys Peak Trail Restoration, pg.11*

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado

## Denver County

*Afghan Makers Blanket Project, pg.11*

Xcel Energy

*Blue Star Families Book Distribution & Operation*

*Write Home, pg.12*

Xcel Energy

*Boys & Girls Club Denver Broncos Family Day, pg.13*

Xcel Energy

*The Bridge Project, pg.13*

Xcel Energy

*Celebration of Diversity, pg.14*

SHALOM Denver

*Colorado Remembers 9/11, pg.14*

The CELL

*Court Appointed Special Advocates Backpack Stuffing, pg.15*

Xcel Energy

***Denver Children's Home Reparations Project, pg.15***

Xcel Energy

*Extreme Community Makeover, pg.16*

Xcel Energy

*Food Bank of the Rockies Food Sorting, pg.17*

Xcel Energy

*Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Clean Up, pg.17*

Xcel Energy

*Goodwill Denver Donation Sorting, pg.18*

Xcel Energy

*Habitat for Humanity Outlet Store Assistance, pg.18*

Xcel Energy

*Mile High Montessori Reparations Projects, pg.19*

Xcel Energy

*Senior Support Services Clean Up, pg.19*

Xcel Energy

*SVGD Volunteer Outreach, pg.20*

Single Volunteers of Greater Denver

# List of Projects

## Denver County, cont.

*Tennyson Center for Children Landscaping, pg.20*  
Xcel Energy

*Urban Peak Clean Up and Breakfast, pg.21*  
Xcel Energy

*Veterans AmeriCorps Quick Reference Guide, pg.21*  
CTAT at Denver Options

*Volunteers of America Breakfast and Bingo, pg.22*  
Xcel Energy

*Volunteers of America CFL Distribution, pg.22*  
Xcel Energy

*Walgreens Patient Information Project, pg.23*  
Xcel Energy

*Warren Village Repairs Project, pg.23*  
Xcel Energy

*Work Options for Women Picnic, pg.24*  
Xcel Energy

## Douglas County

*Junior Achievement in a Day, pg.24*  
Xcel Energy

## Jefferson County

*Disaster Preparedness for Seniors, pg.25*  
**Senior's Resource Center**– RSVP Program

*Family Tree Clean Up, pg.25*  
Xcel Energy

*Feed the Children Backpack Distribution, pg.26*  
Jeffco HIPPOCorps

*The Action Center Food Pantry Project, pg.26*  
Xcel Energy

*Seniors' Resource Center Landscaping Project, pg.27*  
Xcel Energy

## Larimer County

*9/11 Tribute Event & Film Screening, pg.27*  
United Way of Larimer County

*Windsor Food Pantry Food Collection, pg.28*  
Xcel Energy

## Mesa County

*Mental Health First Aid, pg.28*  
**St. Mary's Senior Companion Program**

## Morgan County

*Colorado Mission of Mercy, pg.29*  
Xcel Energy

## Saguache County

*First Responders Recognition Dinner and Public Tribute  
Pg.29*  
Saguache United Methodist Church AmeriCorps  
Program

## Summit County

*Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center Repairs  
Project, pg.30*  
Xcel Energy

# Adams County Community Gardens Co-Op

## Arapahoe County Retired Senior Volunteers Program



Volunteers planted a large fruit tree at the Stonehocker Community Garden in Northglenn in remembrance of 9/11/01. The area around the tree was set aside with a decorative fence and paved with flagstone. Two benches were added for reflection and shaded rest for those working in the community garden.

## Boys and Girls Club Brighton Clean Up Xcel Energy

To commemorate the 10 year anniversary of 9/11, 35 Xcel Energy employees volunteered at the Robert M. Shopneck Boys and Girls Club in Brighton. Volunteers performed a variety of needed maintenance and upkeep projects to give the club a new sparkle.

The Boys and Girls Club families were very thankful for everything that was done to improve the facility and were grateful to the Xcel Energy employees who were so giving of their own personal time.



An Xcel Energy volunteer sprucing up an old bench.

## Fresh Produce Collection for Local Food Pantries Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers

From Friday 9/9 through Saturday 9/10, owners of **Azadore's** encouraged **Brighton community members to bring in a bag of fresh produce to Azadore's Mexican Restaurant**. For their donation, customers received 10% off of their meal. To commemorate 9/11, the Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers packaged the produce and delivered it to His Hands Food Cupboard. In total, 38 family bags of fresh produce were delivered weighing over 300 pounds!



## Tree and Shrub Planting Xcel Energy

Fifteen Xcel Energy volunteers planted shrubs and plants along the Sand Creek Regional Greenway in Commerce City. This area had recently flooded, and the plants and shrubs will be critical to restoration efforts. The Greenway was named one of the Top Ten Fitness Trails in the USA by The American Hiking Society. **The volunteer's hard work will allow users to continue to enjoy the trails.**



The volunteers pose for a group photo.



Planting and watering new shrubs.



## Bennie E. Goodwin Center Project Xcel Energy

Twenty-nine Xcel Energy volunteers helped to redesign and set-up the computer lab at the Bennie E. Goodwin Center. The mission of the Bennie E. Goodwin Center is to provide educational assistance to multi cultural youth and adults through educational programs, referral services and partnerships with other community organizations. Volunteers installed new electrical wiring, painted the hallways where the classrooms are located, cleaned the classrooms, resurfaced the desks and organized the food pantry.



Wiring the redesigned computer lab.



A volunteer applies a fresh coat of paint.

## Boys Hope Girls Hope Xcel Energy



Getting ready to clean.



Filling up a bucket to water plants.

Boys Hope Girls Hope provides at-risk children with stable homes, education, financial and emotional support. In Foxfield, Colorado, they have two long-term care homes where live-in residential counselors challenge and mentor youth scholars of their program. Xcel Energy volunteers performed a variety of tasks at the homes including: trimming shrubs, pulling weeds, staining a deck, scrubbing floors, organizing the pantry and helping fill out the activity calendar.

## Colorado Freedom Memorial Project Xcel Energy



Taking inventory of the gravestones.



Posing as a group.

The Colorado Freedom Memorial will be the first memorial in America dedicated to all wars and all branches of service that will list the individual names and hometowns of service members. Xcel Energy volunteers helped prepare the memorial by spending the morning inventorying the Military gravestones at Fairmont Cemetery. Some of the stones were broken and some even had trees growing out of them. The Colorado Freedom Memorial, working in conjunction with the military, will repair or replace these damaged stones. **A special service will take place at the cemetery on Veteran's Day.**

## Goodwill Boulder Project Xcel Energy



Volunteers sort donations.

Nine Xcel Energy volunteers and family members partnered with the Boulder Goodwill store on September 10. While some volunteers organized the outdoor large item area, others helped out in the store sorting clothes and other goods. Goodwill provides the opportunity for tangible skill acquisition for at-risk youth and low-income and disabled adults. The in-store volunteer efforts by Xcel Energy employees helped the retail store save \$300 in payroll expenses that can instead go to their programs. Many Xcel Energy employees support those programs as well by volunteering their time for mock interviews, panel discussions, and other events.

## Help Us to Help Others! Sister Carmen Community Center



The organizational mission of Sister Carmen Community Center (SCCC) is to provide assistance, without discrimination, to residents of East Boulder County who are in need. Volunteers sorted gently used donations and put items on the shelves of their thrift store. SCCC depends on thrift store revenues to help provide the basic needs of housing, food and self sufficiency.



Putting donations on the shelves.

## Broomfield Veterans Museum Project Xcel Energy

Twelve Xcel Energy volunteers helped with two projects at the Broomfield Veterans Memorial Museum. One group made 40 padded hangers for storing uniforms from all areas of service, which will help preserve the uniforms while they are being stored or on display throughout the Museum. The other group logged 150 books into the **Museum's library database. The Museum is logging all** of the books from their library into a database so they can share this information with the Broomfield Public Library.

Volunteers also helped the Museum with projects that allowed their veteran volunteers to spend more time educating the visitors through sharing their own stories and answering questions.



Logging books for the database.



Making hangers for uniforms.

## Grays and Torreys Peak Trail Restoration Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado



Clearing the trail.



Volunteers pound in new check dams.

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado partnered with the Colorado Fourteeners Initiative to restore the popular trail leading to Grays and Torreys Peaks. Forty-five hardworking volunteers spent two days moving 58 tons of rocks and crusher fine to restore a 600 foot section of trail. These trail improvements will prevent erosion and protect this fragile alpine area, allowing the thousands who hike the trail each year to enjoy **Colorado's beauty while sustaining it** for generations to come. The weekend was topped off with delicious food, camping, great company, and a beautiful setting.



Installing a culvert.

## Afghan Makers Blanket Project Xcel Energy



Packing the fleece blankets to donate.

Fifty-five Xcel Energy employees and family members honored the 9/11 Anniversary by gathering in Denver to make 160 fleece blankets in a little more than three hours. Thanks to these energetic volunteers, clients of the Colorado Gerontological Society will receive these warm, colorful blankets with their holiday gift baskets this year.

# Blue Star Families and Operation Write Home Xcel Energy



Working together to package donated books.

Twenty-seven volunteers in various Xcel Energy Colorado locations helped collect brand new books for children up to 11 years of age who live on military bases. The book drive took place from August 15-26; on September 10, volunteers sorted and packed all of the donations. The book drive was a huge success with 1,069 books collected from the generous donations of the community.



Operation Write Home thank you notes.

As part of Operation Write Home, 15 creative Xcel Energy volunteers colored letter templates for members of the military. The coloring of each letter was as varied and creative as the messages to the soldiers within them. The hope is that these messages convey the sense of gratitude each writer feels for the sacrifice made by the soldier receiving it.



Letters to our soldiers.

# Boys & Girls Club Denver Bronco's Family Day

## Xcel Energy

Twenty Xcel Energy volunteers spent the morning at the Denver Bronco's Boys and Girls Club preparing and serving breakfast to club members and their families. A carnival with games, prizes and lots of activities was also available. Over 200 parents and kids attended the exciting family day.



Children enjoy the bouncy castle.



Volunteers help serve breakfast.

## The Bridge Project

### Xcel Energy

The Bridge Project's mission is to provide educational opportunities for children living in Denver's public housing neighborhoods so they graduate from high school and continue on to higher education. Xcel Energy volunteers and students from the Bridge Project sanded and prepped a bench in the garden and then painted a mural on the bench. The kids enjoyed the hands-on project knowing they would be able to show their friends all the hard work they did.



Building the bench.



The bench sanded and ready for paint.

## Celebration of Diversity SHALOM Denver

SHALOM Denver hosted a Celebration of Diversity event on 9/20. The first half of the day featured a diversity panel with inspirational speeches from eight community members who have overcome prejudice and other barriers to become leaders in their fields and servants to their communities. This was followed by a lunch featuring over 30 multicultural dishes. After lunch, speaker Mike Thompson taught participants that no challenge is too great and no barrier too large to become a successful, conscientious citizen.



Community leader panel.

## Colorado Remembers 9/11 The CELL

Governor John Hickenlooper, in partnership with Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, joined The Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (The CELL) in hosting **Colorado Remembers 9/11, a commemoration event to honor lives lost and America's will to prevail**, on September 11, 2011 at Civic Center Park in Denver. Over 35,000 people attended the program which included a Remembrance March comprised of law enforcement and first responders, a military flyover, firing salute, and special musical tributes by the Colorado Symphony, Tyler Ward and the Beach Boys. The CELL, The Denver Post, 9News, and AEG Live-Rocky Mountains produced this special program. **Over 150 volunteers worked diligently throughout the day to ensure the event's success.** They helped with set-up, registration, provided food to law enforcement and first responders, organized ADA and media seating areas, handed out programs, and facilitated other critical event logistics.



The crowd gathers to watch the program.



NCCC members wave hello.

## Court Appointed Special Advocates Backpack Stuffing Xcel Energy

In honor of the 9/11 Anniversary, CASA coordinated a project which brought together 13 volunteers from Xcel Energy. The volunteers assembled 100 backpacks that contained basic essentials for school such as: paper, pencils, binders, tissue, and other assorted school supplies.

Volunteers also put their creative hats on to design one-of-a-kind cards which were attached to each backpack to add a more personal touch. Children will receive these backpacks at their first meeting with the advocates.



Organizing the supplies.

## Denver Children's Home Reparations Project Xcel Energy

**Eighteen Xcel Energy volunteers painted the social studies classroom at Denver Children's Home, as well as the hallway leading to the classroom and the doors along the way. The volunteers also cleaned hallways, stairwells and bathrooms in a building with over a century of history. Denver Children's Home is the oldest nonprofit in Colorado and serves children and their families who have been affected by abuse, neglect, or trauma. The organization provides therapy, education, and a safe place to live to those in need. Xcel Energy volunteers helped create a bright classroom and a clean home to kids who need a little light in their day!**



The freshly painted classroom.



# Extreme Community Makeover Xcel Energy



Volunteers load a couch for removal.



Twenty Xcel Energy employees partnered with Extreme Community Makeover to volunteer in remembrance of September 11, also kicking off the Xcel Energy United Way campaign. Volunteers removed graffiti and cleaned up alleys in the community of Westwood. The group was able to remove truckloads of trash out of the alleys which ended up filling a 30 yard dumpster! The community was also involved as some teams had neighborhood members and children helping them out along the way.



Sweeping out an alleyway.

## Food Bank of the Rockies Food Sorting Xcel Energy

The Food Bank of the Rockies receives and distributes tens of millions of pounds of food annually to over 1,000 hunger-relief programs. On September 10, a terrific team of 34 Xcel Energy volunteers helped Food Bank of the Rockies pack 750 cartons with food staples to supplement daily nutrition needs. The boxes of food will make a real difference in the lives of hundreds of **families and individuals. The team's hard work and great spirit** was a fitting way to honor the victims and emergency responders of 9/11 and to fulfill Food Bank of the Rockies' mission of fighting hunger and feeding hope.



Packing cartons of food!

## Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Clean Up Xcel Energy

Fifteen Xcel Energy employees volunteered at Girls Inc. on September 10 in commemoration of the 10 year anniversary of 9/11. Volunteers helped prepare the facility for the upcoming school year by working on landscaping, sorting books and sports equipment, cleaning the gymnasium and sprucing up their transportation vans. Since its founding in 1945, Girls Inc. empowers girls and strives for an equitable society. Girls ages 6-18 are taught to have confidence in themselves and to be prepared for interesting work and economic independence.



Helping give Girls Inc. a new sparkle.



Cleaning off mats outside.

## Goodwill Denver Donation Sorting Xcel Energy

For over 90 years, Goodwill has provided training and employment to unemployed, low-income and disabled **adults in Denver. Goodwill's retail stores provide affordable clothing and household items, create employment opportunities (on average 70% of retail employees are disabled or have other barriers to employment) and generate revenue toward achieving Goodwill's mission.** Nine Xcel Energy volunteers assisted at the Denver retail location by taking in, sorting, and placing donations on store shelves. Contributing in this manner has a real impact to Goodwill as income from their retail stores are the primary source of funding for their programs.



Denver's Goodwill Donation Center.

## Habitat for Humanity Outlet Store Assistance Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy volunteers helped reorganize and design the kitchen and bathroom cabinetry displays at the Habitat for Humanity Outlet Store. The store recently had an interior designer give them tips on how to display merchandise. Following these tips, volunteers sorted and relocated existing items to make a display area for cabinetry. This was quite the undertaking, as the cabinetry was heavy and required strong teamwork. At the end of the day, volunteers were excited to see the progress and changes they were able to make.



A row of donated cabinets at the store.

## Mile High Montessori Reparations Xcel Energy



A volunteer spruces up a door.

The mission of Mile High Montessori Early Learning Centers is to provide quality early childhood education to low-income children to prepare them for school.

An energetic group of volunteers from Xcel Energy joined forces to help Mile High Montessori complete a myriad of repair and beautification projects. Volunteers enjoyed painting halls and doorways knowing that their hard work would make the center more enjoyable for all.

## Senior Support Services Clean Up Xcel Energy

Senior Support Services (SSS) was established in 1976 when six churches in downtown Denver came together to assist low-income and homeless seniors who were being displaced by downtown redevelopment. As the need grew, their services expanded. In 1995, SSS bought a building at 18th Avenue and Emerson Street where a full range of services are provided for hungry and homeless seniors. Xcel Energy volunteers helped polish up the building by meticulously deep-cleaning the computer area and painting shelving for the clothing room. Now both rooms have a new glow!



Putting up shelving in the clothing room.



Scrubbing the back of a chair.

# Volunteer Outreach

## Single Volunteers of Greater Denver

Single Volunteers of Greater Denver (SVGD) formed in March 2006 and currently noting over 300 members, dedicated four of its events from September 8-11 to the memory and efforts of the 9/11 first responders. Over 40 volunteers assisted in the execution and planning of these events. SVGD is an organization that assists non-profit organizations with fundraising and community awareness events in the Denver Metro Area. The events the group assisted with included the Mission Wear Gala and Fundraiser, the Emily Griffith Opportunity School 95th Anniversary event, the Colorado Horsecare Food Band and the Belmar Community Festival Italiano.



## Tennyson Center for Children Landscaping

### Xcel Energy



Sweeping off a retaining wall.



Adding a weed barrier to the garden.

Tennyson Center for Children at Colorado Christian Home serves as a treatment center and K-12 school for emotionally and crisis-affected children and youth, particularly those suffering from abuse and neglect. The organization serves children ranging in age from 5-18 and is dedicated to ensuring that these amazing kids have the fighting chance they deserve at a satisfying and fulfilling life.

In service to the Tennyson Center for Children, volunteers from Xcel Energy worked tirelessly to improve the landscaping at the Center. Volunteers removed weeds, added new plants, made minor repairs and trimmed bushes. Staff and children both love the new look of their outdoor spaces.

## Urban Peak Cleanup and Breakfast Xcel Energy

Ten Xcel Energy volunteers cooked and served breakfast to 40 residents of Urban Peak for the 9/11 Day of Service. Volunteers served a delicious breakfast that consisted of waffles, scrambled eggs and many more breakfast foods. Urban Peak is a shelter for 15-21 years old homeless youth. The residents of Urban Peak are offered a supportive community that empowers them to become self-sufficient adults.



Cooking up breakfast.



Cleaning up after a great meal.

## Veterans AmeriCorps Quick Reference Guide CTAT at Denver Options

The Center for Technical Assistance and Training (CTAT) at Denver Options recognizes and honors the large number of veterans who have served our country. In order to help veterans connect to national and community service in Colorado, CTAT created a **“Veterans AmeriCorps Quick Reference Guide”** which supplements the existing **“Veterans and Community Service: What’s In It For Me? (WIIFM)” Veterans Outreach Program training sessions**. The guide highlights national service by including information such as the benefits of national service as a transition to civilian employment. The guides will be distributed to attendees of the Veterans Outreach Project sessions at Ft. Carson and Denver Options, and to Denver Options Program Managers who work directly with veterans in Fort Carson, Colorado Springs and Denver.



The Warrior Transition Unit



Marine Ross Schumaker speaks with the Veterans

## Volunteers of America Breakfast and Bingo Xcel Energy



Running the Bingo hopper.



Helping with Bingo.

Over 150 people enjoyed a hearty breakfast provided by 16 Xcel Energy employees, families and friends at the Volunteers of America Day of Service Brunch on Saturday, September 10. After breakfast, guests played bingo and had a great time winning special prizes such as fleece coats and King Soopers gift cards. All guests received a special goodie bag that was filled in part with personal hygiene items. Volunteers left with grateful hearts knowing that they made each guest feel very special during the time spent together.

## Volunteers of America CFL Distribution Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy volunteers passed out over 500 compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) to the senior and disabled residents of the Volunteers of America Sunset Park Apartment Complex. Volunteers assisted in the installation of the light bulbs which will save over 75% in energy costs and will last 10 times longer than a regular light bulb. The residents were very appreciative of all the volunteers efforts.



Explaining the benefits of CFL.



Assisting one of the residents.

## Walgreens Patient Information Project Xcel Energy

In partnership with Walgreens, 12 Xcel Energy volunteers helped screen individuals for eligibility for senior programs such as LEAP (heating assistance), food stamps, tax rebates, telephone assistance and prescription drug assistance. Volunteers also handed out the Senior Resource Guidebook, a comprehensive guide to senior resources in the Denver metro area.



Passing out literature to the community.

## Warren Village Reparations Project Xcel Energy



Getting ready to get to work.



Weeding and mulching.

Xcel Energy volunteers spent the day working at Warren Village weeding and mulching **the community's gardens and repairing the outside stairs.** Warren Village helps motivated, low-income, previously homeless single parent families move from public assistance to personal and economic self-sufficiency. Warren Village completed a major renovation to the community in May 2011, and the work done by Xcel will brighten up the exterior of the buildings for its residents.



## Work Options for Women Picnic Xcel Energy

Work Options for Women was founded in 1996 with a mission to combat homelessness and poverty by providing unemployed women with the confidence and skills they need to become gainfully and permanently employed in the food service industry. Work Options for Women students participate in a 16-week hands-on food service training alongside professional chef instructors. Xcel Energy volunteers sponsored a picnic for current and former program members. Everyone enjoyed a fun afternoon and a delicious picnic.



Organizing picnic supplies.



Helping with games.

## Junior Achievement (JA) in a Day Xcel Energy



Teaching at the school.



Reading with students.

Twenty-five Xcel Energy employees adopted Redstone Elementary School in Highlands Ranch to teach “JA in a Day” to over 680 students. Each volunteer taught in one classroom for the entire day and even enjoyed lunch with their students in the cafeteria. Junior Achievement trains business people to teach interactive lessons in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship to K-12th grade students. JA in a Day teaches the same curriculum as the traditional program, only rather than one lesson a week, the lessons are all taught during one full day session.

# Disaster Preparedness for Seniors

## Senior Resource Center– RSVP of Jefferson County

Senior Resource Center kicked-off a Disaster Preparedness for Seniors Project on 9/11 dedicated to the memory of 9/11 first responders. Volunteers are working directly with seniors on completing an individualized written home evacuation plan, completing an emergency contact file and receiving disaster preparedness kits. 150 seniors will benefit from the program. Senior Resource Center works diligently to enhance the quality of life for seniors and the RSVP Program of Jefferson County has been an integral part of the organization for the entire 33 years. With 83 sites in Jefferson County, hundreds of volunteers dedicate their time and talents to help the community.



Preparing disaster preparedness kits.

## Family Tree Clean Up

### Xcel Energy



Trimming trees.



Weeding the grounds.

For 34 years, Family Tree has provided a broad range of services and shelter to families and youth of metro Denver to overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness. To commemorate the 9/11 Anniversary, 12 Xcel Energy volunteers worked hard to spruce up the playground area, lay rubber mulch, trim bushes and plants, sweep sidewalks, rake, and prepare the grounds for winter. Their hard work created a beautiful new landscape at Family Tree!

## Feed the Children Backpack Distribution Jeffco HIPPYCorps

Jeffco HIPPYCorps (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) in partnership with Jeffco Schools Homeless Services and the McKinney Vento program at the Colorado Department of Education, distributed over 3,800 backpacks with school supplies, books, toothpaste and food to school districts all over the state through the Feed The Children Back Pack Distribution event. The event gives homeless children the food and supplies they need to stay in school and succeed academically.



Jeffco HIPPYCorps members.



Sorting through supplies.

## The Action Center Food Pantry Project Xcel Energy



Organizing the warehouse.



Sorting through supplies.

In honor of the 10 year anniversary of 9/11, 50 Xcel Energy volunteers supported The **Action Center's donation operations by packing government subsidies for distribution**, sorting and packing in-kind food donations, sorting school supplies, and assisting with the warehouse organization. The Action Center in Jefferson County provides an immediate response to the challenges residents are facing. The Action Center serves more than 28,000 residents of the county and distributes over 8,000 pounds of food weekly.

# Seniors Resource Center Landscaping Project Xcel Energy

To honor the 9/11 Anniversary, 12 Xcel Energy volunteers worked at the Senior Resource Center Adult Day and Respite Care Center which was in need of sprucing up. The volunteer employee team painted courtyard benches, did general yard work, planted flowers, painted the kitchen and cleaned and lined the kitchen shelves.



Getting ready to paint.

The Care Center offers day programs to older adults with physical and cognitive challenges and to young adults with developmental disabilities. The Care Center provides a well-rounded program that addresses physical well-being, creative endeavors, social connections, mind challenges and spirituality.



Putting on a fresh coat of paint.

## 9/11 Tribute Event & Film Screening United Way of Larimer County



Film screening.



Tribute cards.

United Way of Larimer County's Volunteer Center hosted a public education and outreach program for the community to commemorate 9/11. Five Hundred 'Never Forget' lapel pins were distributed through partner businesses in the county. The pins were attached to tribute cards which asked recipients to make an "I Will" pledge to honor the fallen by volunteering. The back side of the card included information about the film screening of the new documentary "*New York Says Thank You*", which took place the afternoon of 9/11. The film profiles a national pay-it-forward movement that mobilizes volunteers around disaster affected communities in the US. Many in the audience read their 'I Will' tribute aloud following the film.

## Windsor Food Pantry Food Collection Xcel Energy



Taking a break from stacking the shelves.

Over 3,300 pounds of food were collected by 80 employees of the Fort Collins and Greeley Xcel Energy Service Centers in an eight-week, 9/11 food drive. On 9/11, these employees and families delivered the donated food and helped sort and stack the shelves of the Windsor Food Pantry. The shelves of the food pantry were close to empty when the volunteers arrived yet, completely full by 11:30 a.m.! The need for food is great as 1-in-8 people in Colorado experiences hunger. The volunteers were grateful that due to their efforts, fewer people will have to go hungry in Windsor.

## Mental Health First Aid St. Mary's Senior Companion Program

Twenty-five staff and volunteers from the Senior Companion, Foster Grandparent and RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) programs in Mesa County completed a 12 hour certification course to better understand mental illness and respond to mental health emergencies. In the aftermath of 9/11, some people felt isolated and depressed. With only 65 percent of adults aged 65 and over knowing little or nothing about depression and other forms of mental illness, recognizing signs of mental illness and taking steps to intervene has the potential to increase quality of life, minimize trauma and avert tragedy. The participants who were trained in Mental Health First Aid received greater confidence in providing help in others, a greater likelihood of advising people to seek professional help and a decrease in stigmatizing attitudes.



## Colorado Mission of Mercy Xcel Energy

Five Xcel Energy volunteers in Brush, Colorado honored the 9/11 Anniversary by sending flyers and pamphlets to organizations throughout northeastern Colorado to promote a free dental clinic at Brush High School sponsored by Colorado Mission of Mercy. Xcel employees volunteered to help get the word out by making copies, stuffing envelopes, and finding addresses of civic organizations, churches and businesses for each community in the northeastern Colorado area. These organizations were encouraged to share the information within their communities. During the two day clinic, Colorado Mission of Mercy saw over 1,500 individuals who could not otherwise afford dental care. These clinics have a positive impact on the oral health of the residents of the communities.



### First Responders Recognition Dinner and Public Tribute Saguache United Methodist Church

In honor of 9/11 Remembrance Day, the Saguache United Methodist Church AmeriCorps program collaborated with the Saguache County Sheriff's department, VISTA members, Mountain Valley High School and the Oasis Restaurant to produce a recognition dinner for Saguache County's first responders. The dinner was enjoyed by over 60 volunteers and family members of the Saguache Volunteer Fire Department, first responders and ambulance crew on 9/8. Volunteers were presented with the Presidential Volunteer Service Awards, which included 21 (out of 48) lifetime awards to volunteers who have accumulated over 4,000 volunteer hours.



Preparing to enjoy a great meal.



Honoring the volunteers.

## Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center Repairs Project Xcel Energy



Taking a break from the repairs.

The Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center is a national leader in outdoor education serving all people with a specialized focus on serving those with disabilities and special needs. Xcel Energy volunteers spent the day repairing and painting the outdoor deck. For more than 30 years, the Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center has been changing lives by showing people that they have the power within themselves to change their own lives.

Save the Date!


**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**  
**Day of Service**  
**Monday, January 16, 2012**

Attention Project Coordinators:

Honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by bringing the King Day of Service to your community.

Save the date and start planning your service projects now! For more information, please visit:

[www.colorado.gov/servecolorado](http://www.colorado.gov/servecolorado)  
Or call 303.866.6246



# Acknowledgments

Serve Colorado would like to thank the following people for their contributions and project coordination of the 2011 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Tom Rapp  
Adams Community Garden CO-OP

Carol Wright  
Xcel Energy

Linda Young  
Greater Brighton Neighborhood Volunteers

Linda Hahn  
Sister Carmen Community Center

Becca Summer  
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado

Danielle Cummings  
SHALOM Denver

Rebecca Levin  
The CELL

Tom Baroch  
Single Volunteers of Greater Denver (SVGD)

Gayann Bradenburg  
CTAT at Denver Options

John Walsh  
Senior Resource Center– RSVP of Jefferson County

Gweneth Welch  
Jeffco HIPPIY Corps

Jacquelyn Pipe  
The Senior Corps Program of Mesa County

Adam Molzer  
United Way of Larimer County

Yvonne Morfitt  
Saguache United Methodist Church AmeriCorps Program



# AmeriCorps\*State Programs

AmeriCorps\*State programs funded by Serve Colorado span a wide array of geographic areas and service categories. The following are 2010-2011 funded programs:

Boomers Leading Change in Health AmeriCorps Program

*Contact:* Barbara Raynor *Website:* BLCIH.org

Boys & Girls Club Outreach and Enrichment Initiative

*Contact:* Julie Mordecai *Website:* ColoradoBoysandGirlsClubs.org

City/DPS Collaborative – Urban Education Service Corps

*Contact:* Roxanne Nice *Website:* DPSAmeriCorps.wordpress.com

Colorado HIPPYCorps

*Contact:* David Tisdale *Website:* CPFCONline.org

Colorado Mesa University AmeriCorps Program

*Contact:* Angie Bertrand *Website:* ColoradoMesa.edu/AmeriCorps

Colorado Youth Corps Association Education Award Program

*Contact:* Jennifer Freeman *Website:* CYCA.org

Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition

*Contact:* Nicole Vera *Website:* CBYTAAmeriCorps.org

Energize La Plata

*Contact:* Peter Tregillus *Website:* SUCAP.org

Frontier Asset Building AmeriCorps Program

*Contact:* Shawn Young *Website:* FrontierAssetBuilding.org

Job Training Environmental and Conservation Initiative

*Contact:* Ellen Piangerelli *Website:* MileHighYouthCorps.org

Pueblo Community College AmeriCorps Project

*Contact:* Cristina Guerra *Website:* PuebloCC.edu

United Way AmeriCorps Program

*Contact:* Adam Molzer *Website:* UWayLC.org

Regional Substance Abuse Prevention Partners (RSAPP)

*Contact:* Cathy Cowles *Website:* RSAPP.org

Saguache United Methodist Church AmeriCorps Program

*Contact:* Yvonne Morfitt

The School-Based Mentoring Program

*Contact:* Libby Foster *Website:* PartnersRouttCounty.org

Weld County Youth Conservation Corps

*Contact:* Tami Grant *Website:* CO.Weld.CO.US





Serve Colorado - **Governor's Commission on Community Service**

Office of Lieutenant Governor Joseph Garcia

225 East 16th Avenue, Suite B-52

Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone: 303.866.6426 Fax: 303.866.2525

[www.colorado.gov/servecolorado](http://www.colorado.gov/servecolorado)

