

## **New York Transplant to Tampa Bay Commemorated 9-11 with a Life of Service**

*Judy Fagerman was one of the thousands who felt the urge to help the victims of 9-11 nine years ago. Two years later to the day, she dedicated her life to full-time service by becoming the Supervisor of over 380 Volunteer Ministers of the Church of Scientology Tampa, Florida. And 9 years later she commemorated 9-11 with thousands of other Scientologists at their international religious retreat in Clearwater.*

September 14, 2010 (FPRC) -- Tampa Bay, Florida - On Saturday, September 11, 2010, Judy Fagerman joined with hundreds of others in the celebration of Auditor's Day at the Church of Scientology in Clearwater, Florida. Auditors are Scientology ministers who use the religious technology developed by Scientology founder L. Ron Hubbard to counsel and improve the lives of others. According to Scientologists, Mr. Hubbard once said: "A being is as valuable as he can serve others." It was his view that the value of Scientology ministers is in their knowledge of how to improve the lives of others and they apply what they know that led to the creation and celebration of Auditors Day annually by Scientologists. Supporting the auditors by spreading out throughout communities, are another group of Scientologists called Volunteer Ministers (VMs). Thousands of them were also included in the celebration of Auditors Day September 11, 2010 not just in Clearwater, Florida but at all Churches of Scientology throughout the world.

For more information on the Volunteer Ministers Program, log on to [www.volunteerministers.org](http://www.volunteerministers.org)

Born in Mahattan, Judy Fagerman joined the Church of Scientology New York in 1973. It was therefore a shock to Judy on seeing the news reports that the World Trade Center had imploded and hundreds were killed. Day after day, here in Clearwater Florida, Judy watched the reports. Finally she made up her mind: "I went to Ground Zero to help. I was filled with so much grief when I watched those reports about my beloved New York and its citizens, that I had to do something about it."

9-11 was Judy's "Wake-up Call." She said, "I realized that that unfortunate time brought people from diverse backgrounds together to help and I was deeply touched by that. It was a key lesson I took away from that calamitous event and I felt that if we could just keep working together to help our communities, there will never be another 9-11."

Judy continued to help as a Volunteer Minister using tools developed by L. Ron Hubbard in organization and in assisting those with physical and mental trauma. Then two years to the day after 9-11, Judy expanded her role and took on a full-time position at the Church of Scientology, Tampa as the Volunteer Minister In Charge. As such, Judy supervises over 380 Volunteer Ministers in the Tampa Bay and since 2003, she and her Volunteer Ministers have helped with the four 2004 Florida hurricanes as well as Hurricane Katrina in 2005 when the State of Florida asked the Volunteer Ministers in Florida to travel to Louisiana and help the relief effort there. Judy and her crew have also assisted with disasters in other parts of the US and the world – The Virginia Tech Shootings, The Ground Hog Tornadoes, the Tsunami in Asia, the Burma Disaster in 2008. Then came the massive Haitian Earthquake earlier this year and Volunteer Ministers are still there in Haiti

six months later mopping up the physical and emotional debris in the wake of that extensive disaster.

But major disasters are not the only occasions when Judy and her VMs have been out in communities helping in their unique way. They have also run Blood Drives, done park clean ups, visited and helped the sick in hospitals and distributed food to the homeless.

As a result of all they have done, Volunteer Ministers of Tampa have received the Governor's Points of Light Award, commendation from the Tampa City Council, the National Guard plaque for their work at Hurricane Charley in 2004 and a commendation from the Tampa Police Department among others.

On September 11, 2010, nine years to the day after Ground Zero and seven years to day after making her desire to help a full-time occupation, Judy Fagerman, commemorated the day with other ministers and parishioners of the Church of Scientology at the church's religious retreat, the Fort Harrison in Clearwater. Judy concluded, "9-11 sparked a flame inside of me to do everything I can to never have something like that happen again. Now, I love what I do and have become even more effective at helping people in my community as a result of all I have learned and experienced as a Volunteer Minister in charge of disaster relief for my church. My sadness is mixed with joy as I remember 9-11."

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