



Families of September 11, Inc. (FOS11) was created by family members who lost loved ones on September 11, 2001. Our mission is to raise awareness about the effects of terrorism and public trauma and to champion domestic and international policies that prevent, protect against, and respond to terrorist acts.

In its early years, FOS11 served as a hub for 9/11-related information of particular interest to the family members of those who died and communicated with them through e-mail list serves and its web site. Among FOS11's early achievements were efforts around establishing the 9/11 Commission and advising on the Victim's Compensation Fund. Many of our Board members passionately crusaded for changes in public policy in an effort to ensure that no one else would have to go through the same experiences as them. We also created an online chat program which provided an opportunity for our members to meet online and exchange ideas with others in the 9/11 community who were facing similar challenges.

Today, membership in FOS11 totals more than 2,600 people worldwide. We maintain an active dialogue with our members and reach them through our website (www.familiesofseptember11.org), email alerts, and personal contact. Many of our web articles are custom-written by our expert advisors and we dedicate staff to researching responses to concerns or inquiries on specific topics, for example, teens and depression, clinical implications of 9/11 images on television, or the health concerns 9/11 rescue and recovery personnel are experiencing. Members are also welcome to participate via our bulletin board, our information box, or our newsletters. For many, we remain an accurate, non-partisan, and reliable source of information.

The Children of September 11 (COS11) webpages provide relevant resources and information for parents, caregivers, and advocates of children affected by 9/11. Resources include links to emotional support websites, information on scholarships and camps, websites specifically for children, and miscellaneous resources on such subjects as 9/11 curriculum, school safety, and other 9/11 organizations that provide support to children. The COS11 webpage is linked to directly from our primary FOS11 website and maintains its own URL at www.childrenofseptember11.org.

A current FOS11 project, the 4 Action Initiative, is a collaboration of Families of September 11, The New Jersey Department of Education's Commission on Holocaust Education, and Liberty Science Center. Now in its second year of a three-year development program, the 4 Action Initiative will create a comprehensive curriculum and resource guide that will include eight units for grades K-12. Each unit draws on new and existing curricula covering multiple subject areas ranging from human behavior to the history of terrorism. The goals of the project are to: provide information so that students understand the factors that led to the events of 9/11; further understand that the issues of terrorism are global, unresolved concerns; provide students with skills to inspire them to handle change and affect others in positive ways; and preserve the memory of those who died on 9/11.