#UNITEDINSERVICE ROUND UP

1,735+ VOLUNTEERS COMPLETED 36 PROJECTS

"Through my work with The Mission Continues in Baltimore, I have seen that a fresh coat of paint is more than that - it’s cheer, it’s renewal, it’s inspiration, and it’s a safe space for each child walking into a school. It’s investment in the current and the future. It says “I believe in you. I care for you.” I chose to stand united in service because days of remembrance, particularly one honoring the tragedy of 9/11, instill what it means to be an American. We unite and serve, working towards a greater good so we can be stronger as a neighborhood, city, state, and nation.”

— MELISSA MASKULKA, MEMBER, BALTIMORE PLATOON

"The United in Service campaign reminds us that despite our differences, we are all Americans – and it is for that sense of connectedness and responsibility to one another that I choose to serve with The Mission Continues. Our project in Los Angeles this year took place at Carver Middle School, where 170 volunteers gave their time to painting, building, and gardening tasks that helped to improve the face of the school and to bring people together. The spirit of unity that animated our country after the 9/11 attacks was alive and well that day at Carver Middle School, proving again that together we can accomplish great things. My hope is that all of our participants will carry that spirit forward, and remember that we serve our nation best by serving our community first.”

— BRAYDEN YODER, PLATOON LEADER, LOS ANGELES 2ND PLATOON

PROJECT SNAPSHOT: DETROIT 2ND PLATOON

60 VOLUNTEERS + 2 TRUCKLOADS OF LUMBER + 24 CANS OF SPRAY PAINT + 120 TACOS

= A CLEAN PARK, HAPPY COMMUNITY, AND DIRECTLY ENGAGED AND INSPIRED YOUTH
NEW YORK PLATOONS SERVED AT ELLIS ISLAND:

This service project was part of an ongoing collaboration between The Mission Continues and the National Parks Service, and was designed to improve public access to the history and natural beauty of New York City. In under four hours we were able to put a fresh coat of paint on over 25 light poles, two exhibit rooms, two staircase towers and one hallway. We mulched over 30 trees and the entire Wall of Honor, demolished an old ADA ramp, and removed 4,000 square feet of invasive plant species near the baggage and dormitory building. Our hard work will ensure that over 3-million visitors per year can continue to enjoy the rich history of Ellis Island.

HOUSTON PLATOONS PROVIDED HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF:

All five Houston platoons joined forces to help in ongoing revitalization efforts at KIPP North. The platoons hosted over 175 volunteers to hold a donation drive for students and families impacted by Hurricane Harvey, and to improve the outdoor grounds of the school. Volunteers were able to build picnic tables, refurbish garden beds, gravel walking paths, and donate over 20 pairs of shoes to students. According to platoon members, it was motivating and inspiring to see the community band together to accomplish these tasks after so many were impacted by the Hurricane.

9,183 COLLECTIVE HOURS SERVED IN REMEMBRANCE OF 9/11/01 IS EQUIVALENT TO $221,678.00 WORTH OF IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES*

* Based on the Independent Sector’s estimate of the average value of a volunteer hour ($24.14 in 2016)

THANK YOU TO OUR LEAD SPONSOR, STARBUCKS, FOR HELPING US TO STAND #UNITEDINSERVICE AND POSITIVELY IMPACT COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY!