

**New York Says Thank You Foundation**  
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**1 Day Ranch**  
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## **Hundreds of disaster survivors from around the U.S. “Pay It Forward” in Oklahoma to commemorate 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11**

***New York Says Thank You & Jewish Disaster Response Corps team up to rebuild  
1 Day Ranch, a horse rescue, therapeutic riding, and animal education facility  
in Bethel Acres, OK and lift the spirits of tornado victims with Stars of HOPE***

***The Jewish Federations of North America and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Indian Missionary  
Conference, Oklahoma Conference of United Methodist Church, and Chickasaw Nation are  
among a growing group of supporters for September 4-7, 2014 community barn-raising***

New York, NY & Bethel Acres, OK – June 17, 2014 - In commemoration of the 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11 and in the volunteer spirit of the National Day of Service and Remembrance, **New York Says Thank You Foundation** announced today that over 300 volunteers from NYC and around the U.S. will travel to the Oklahoma City/Moore/Shawnee area September 4-7, 2014 to assist in ongoing rebuilding and recovery efforts from the deadly tornadoes in May, 2013. Our main project is a community-wide barn-raising organized by New York Says Thank You in partnership with **Jewish Disaster Response Corps (JDRC)** to help rebuild **1 Day Ranch**. JDRC is a non-profit organization that mobilizes volunteers to assist domestic communities in long-term disaster recovery. **1 Day Ranch** is a horse rescue, therapeutic riding and animal education facility damaged in the violent winds that hit Bethel Acres and Shawnee on May 19, 2013. Partnering with the **Oklahoma Disaster Recovery Project**, volunteers will also help rebuild homes in the Moore area.

**In the past two months, \$200,000 has been raised to help rebuild 1 Day Ranch and turn it into a beacon of hope and service for the Bethel Acres and greater OKC community.** An incredible coalition has formed around this special project with major donations coming from The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, Oklahoma Conference of the United Methodist Church, Chickasaw Nation, Jewish Federation of Oklahoma City, as well as supporters of New York Says Thank You Foundation in North Dakota and Texas who wanted to “pay it forward” for previous projects that benefited their communities.

*“The Jewish Federations of North America raises and allocates money in response to disasters both in the United States and overseas. We are pleased to partner with the local Jewish Federation of Oklahoma City to support the work of the 1 Day Ranch. Their work will go a long way to comforting the community that was devastated by last year’s tornadoes,” said Dr. Cheryl Fishbein, chair of the Emergency Committee.*

*“The United Methodist Church of Oklahoma is very excited to partner with so many great organizations to make this dream a reality for 1 Day Ranch,” stated Rev. David Wilson, Superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. “It is amazing to see how Creator God brings so many great people together from around the country for such a great ministry and cause. We are thankful to the New York Says Thank You Foundation for its incredible drive and energy and faith in God to make this happen!”*

### **About 1 Day Ranch**

Founded in 2010 by Maeghan Hadley, 1 Day Ranch is a safe haven for horses, goats, dogs, pigs, and other animals rescued by local law enforcement from abuse and neglect. Beyond her rescue program, Maeghan's true passion is sharing the inspirational powers of these beautiful animals with special needs, disabled, at-risk youth, and adults. From a teenage girl battling eating disorders, to a young man with Down Syndrome, to an adult woman battling MS, these interactions and experiences help stimulate confidence, strength, hope, and recovery. 1 Day Ranch is a sanctuary benefiting animals and people.

The barn-raising will replace the existing barn with a state-of-the-art pre-engineered structure from **Lester Building** accommodating 10 stalls for horses and large animals. The barn will also house a tack and equipment room, office, and education space. In the educational area Maeghan will engage youth in animal education and service-learning projects along with continuing education for community members in animal rescue in disaster response.

*"We are honored to help Oklahomans rebuild just like they supported us 13 years ago following the tragedy of 9/11,"* stated Jeff Parness, Founder and Chairman of New York Says Thank You Foundation. *"We are also thrilled to have worked with our partners at JDRC as well as Edie Roodman of the Jewish Federation of OKC and Rev. David Wilson of OIMC-UMC to have brought together this wonderful coalition from the Oklahoma City and national Jewish communities and the Oklahoma Native American communities to support this inspiring effort which truly pays tribute to the volunteer spirit, kindness, and humanity that united the Nation on 9/12."*

*"We are thrilled to continue our work of Tikkun Olam (the Jewish value of repairing the world) helping our friends in Oklahoma recover from the deadly spring tornadoes,"* said Adina, Executive Director of Jewish Disaster Response Corps, *"In January and March of 2014, Maeghan from 1 Day Ranch joined us to share her incredible story with the 150 JDRC volunteers from campuses across the nation. After our first encounter, I knew I needed to find a way to help rebuild 1 Day Ranch. JDRC is grateful to NYSTY for taking the leap and making our dream project and Maeghan's a reality. We also look forward to continuing our work with Oklahoma Disaster Recovery Project."*

### **A Community Barn-Raising on the 9/11 Anniversary at 1 Day Ranch**

In addition to the Barn Raising project of New York Says Thank You Foundation and Jewish Disaster Response Corps, an additional goal of this 9/11 Anniversary barn-raising event is repairing community connections and the engagement of a broad spectrum of volunteers of all ages throughout the community. This volunteer base includes the Bethel Acres School District, local law enforcement from Oklahoma, Pottawatomie, and McClain Counties, and 1 Day Ranch partner organizations including the Central Oklahoma Humane Society and other local and statewide animal rescue programs. Based on previous 9/11 Anniversary barn-raising conducted by New York Says Thank You across the country, we anticipate nearly 1,000 volunteers will participate throughout the weekend barn-raising activities. In addition, children and families will have the opportunity to participate in the **Stars of HOPE** community art project. Based on the success of New York Says Thank You's Annie's House adaptive ski lodge in North Dakota, 4-H Barn in Greensburg, Kansas, and Build an Ark Animal Rescue project in Ellijay, Georgia, the assimilation of volunteers of all ages from across the community to participate in these barn-raising will foster a sense of pride and ownership in the project. This sense of ownership is essential for the long term success of the facility and its programs.

This barn-raising will strengthen the community, and in turn, the strengthened and inspired community will help provide long-term sustainability the barn and its programs.

**9/11 Survivors and disaster survivors from across America coming to help Oklahomans rebuild**  
Among the hundreds of volunteers travelling to the Oklahoma City area September 4-7 are 20 FDNY firefighters and NYPD police officers from New York City. Many of these first responders are survivors of the World Trade Center attacks. They will be joined by Ground Zero construction workers, 9/11 family members, California wildfire survivors, Hurricane Katrina survivors from Louisiana and Mississippi, tornado survivors from Illinois, Texas, Kansas, Iowa, Arkansas, Georgia, and Missouri, flood survivors from north Dakota, and Hurricane Sandy survivors from New York & New Jersey. These incredible volunteers will all be traveling to Oklahoma for this year's 9/11 Anniversary as an opportunity to "Pay It Forward."

"Having an opportunity to build new partnerships with the New York Says Thank You Foundation and 1Day Ranch as well as partner again with JDRC uplifts our commUNITY and rallies all of us around the important task of *tikkun olam*, repair of the world." Edie Roodman, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater OKC.

**Building contractors and suppliers interested in participating in this 9/11 Anniversary barn-raising at 1 Day Ranch are encouraged to contact Denny Deters, New York Says Thank You Foundation's Project Coordinator at [Denny@NewYorkSaysThankYou.org](mailto:Denny@NewYorkSaysThankYou.org) or at 402-740-8392.**

**Oklahoma Partners To-Date:**

- R&L Backhoe  
Chris Smith, Owner  
Prague, OK
- Hausners Precast  
Drumright, OK
- Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E)  
Oklahoma City, OK
- Hyatt Place at OKC Airport  
Oklahoma City, OK
- Sheraton at The Reed Center,  
Midwest City, OK.

**How to Donate**

**In addition to the \$200,000 already raised to support the barn-raising, the goal is to raise an additional \$67,000 in cash and in-kind donations to support the first full year of operations to support the animal care and rehabilitation, therapeutic riding, and animal education and service learning programming that will be offered by 1 Day Ranch. Local Oklahoma City corporations and foundations are encouraged to support this effort and also engage their employees and friends and family in the community wide 9/11 Anniversary "barn-raising" weekend September 4-7, 2014 at 1 Day Ranch in Bethel Acres.**

Contributions to support 1 Day Ranch's ongoing program to care for abused and neglected animals and develop the therapeutic riding and education programs are tax-deductible through 1 Day Ranch's charitable 501c3 (Tax ID # 46-3014494). Donations can be made online at [www.1DayRanch.org](http://www.1DayRanch.org) or sent to: **1 Day Ranch, 16704 Bethel Road, Shawnee, OK 74801.**

Contributions to assist in the construction of the 1 Day Ranch barn and support of volunteer expenses are also tax deductible through New York Says Thank You Foundation's charitable 501c3 (Tax ID #20-1554830). Donations should be specified for "1 Day Ranch" and can be made online at [www.NewYorkSaysThankYou.org](http://www.NewYorkSaysThankYou.org) under DONATE NOW or sent via check to: **New York Says Thank You Foundation, Attn: 1 Day Ranch, 2576 Broadway #174, New York, NY 10025.**

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