



because our work doesn't end
after the fire is out



Firefighters witness much of the devastation that fire inflicts on the human body, both from the experience of their comrades and from the survivors they rescue. Please join a **special** group of people and corporate benefactors who recognize and support the Foundation's cause of caring for the region's burn survivors.

firefighters saw a need and responded

More than 30 years ago, several firefighters recognized a need for a nationally renowned burn center in the New York Metropolitan area. The firefighter community responded and created the **New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation** in 1975. We are a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds and awareness for the advancement of quality burn care, research, prevention and education.

The Foundation is endorsed by both the Fire Department of New York City and our primary beneficiary, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center's William Randolph Hearst Burn Center.

To date, the Foundation has raised and distributed to the Burn Center and to our other philanthropic causes a total of more than \$15 million at an average rate of \$500,000 a year.

your response is vital, too

While the Foundation is wholeheartedly supported by firefighters, we can't realize future goals alone. We need support from individuals, the business community and other organizations to allow us to expand our important efforts. This brochure is our appeal to you. Read about our Foundation and our history and **help us make sure our work doesn't end after the fire is out.**



The William Randolph Hearst Burn Center at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center, located in New York City, is the largest and busiest center of burn care in our nation. Its research has led to improvements in the survival rate and **quality** of life for all ages. The Burn Center is also relied upon by the City's firefighters when they are injured in the line of duty.

within the hospital's walls

The New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation financially supports many efforts of the prestigious New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center and its **William Randolph Hearst Burn Center**. The Burn Center treats more than 900 inpatients (a third of those being children), and 4,000 outpatients annually.

The Foundation provides substantial contributions to the hospital and the Burn Center, including to: A general fund for burn wound healing, care and research efforts; a skin bank; a hyperbaric oxygen chamber program; a fellowship award for physicians specializing in burn care; the Firefighter Jeff Giordano Children's Playroom; specialized equipment when needed; and the Department of Rehabilitative Medicine to enhance scar management and functional outcome of all burn survivors, whether they be adults or children.

The Foundation, too, sponsors training and continuing education by sending Burn Center staff to advanced training seminars and to the American Burn Association's annual meeting. This helps staff remain on the cutting edge of innovations and the latest medical thinking in burn treatment.

As important, the New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation provides activities and parties that boost morale for the Burn Center's team and patients alike. Many a child's face has brightened upon seeing a firefighter visit dressed as a clown. Many a doctor's face has broken into a grin on such occasions, as well.



Each year, the Foundation provides for dozens of young burn survivors to attend camp. If you could witness the joy these children demonstrate at being with others who share their plight, at being able to simply have some fun for a change, we're sure you'd agree that our support of these youngsters is a most **worthwhile** effort. The Foundation also coordinates the talent of firefighters who volunteer as counselors at burn camps.

The Foundation also reaches beyond the hospital

While the Foundation's primary mission is to raise and distribute money for burn care, our efforts go beyond the raising of dollars and cents for the Burn Center.

Each year, for instance, the Foundation **sends youngsters to burn camp**. Many of these children were treated at the Burn Center. The Foundation also coordinates the talent of firefighters who volunteer their time as **counselors at burn camps** throughout the region and who **volunteer** at various holiday functions and parties at the Burn Center itself.

We also collaborate with the Fire Department of New York City (FDNY) to **educate the public** on fire hazards and prevention. For example, Foundation members have volunteered to appear in videos aired on local news stations that demonstrate fire safety and fire prevention tactics. We staff a booth at Rockefeller Center every year during **Fire Prevention Week** where we distribute important literature from both the Burn Center and FDNY. Additionally, our members volunteer their time to operate booths at **community street fairs** throughout the year to further distribute fire safety information.

The Foundation also underwrites many firefighter **lectures and seminars**. Finally, the Foundation **provides grants** to individual uniformed firefighters to pursue educational paths beyond firefighting in such topics as nursing or other academic pursuits.



Donations

The Foundation has always been **grateful** for the support of the firefighter community. From the start, New York City firefighters gave their enthusiasm and spare change. Today, the Foundation still receives checks from firehouses that are the total of individual contributions. Firefighters also purchase gifts for the Burn Center and attend Foundation-hosted events.

fundraising began in the firehouse

A proud legacy of philanthropy

The Burn Center was built by a grassroots effort on behalf of the firefighter community. That spirit continues to support the Foundation and its mission.

The Foundation organizes fundraising events including a golf outing, road races, walk-a-thons, skiing events, and other sporting and recreational efforts. Firefighters and their families are enthusiastic supporters of these activities, but these events are also open to the public. The larger community is encouraged to attend, have fun and support our important work.

A selection of items to purchase

The Foundation offers various items for sale that would be of interest to the firefighting and general community.

Highlights among these offerings include:

- A 16-DVD collection of training videos produced by the Fire Department of New York City (FDNY).
- Calendars, which include work schedules for City firefighters.
- Striking reproductions of original oil paintings depicting various scenes of firefighters in action. The original paintings are on display at the FDNY Bureau of Training located on Randall's Island, New York City.

For more information about items available for purchase, visit www.nyffbourncenter.com/products.



The Foundation now seeks to build on its traditional base of financial **support** and broaden its reach to welcome involvement from beyond the firefighting community. With your gift, the Foundation can continue to grow and expands its programs.

fundraising efforts include the public

Memorial and special occasion cards

One of the most poignant ways the Foundation raises money is through the sale of memorial and special occasion cards. Friends and family, often beyond the actual firefighter community, can honor the memory of a loved one with a living tribute in the form of a Burn Center Memorial Card. This beautiful card is a unique way to remember a deceased loved one while giving life, hope and care to burn victims.

Special occasion cards are also available. Well-wishers can honor someone's anniversary, new job, retirement, birthday or promotion, while contributing to the Foundation. These cards have even been thoughtfully used in lieu of wedding favors.

Corporate and private gifts

Please join a special group of individuals and corporate benefactors who recognize and support the cause of caring for the region's burn survivors. You will be in a prestigious circle of many private philanthropists who have donated anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Sponsors include corporations and philanthropic organizations such as United Way, Macy's, Verizon, Ralph Lauren, Engelhard Hanovia, and the National Fire Sprinkler Association.

For information on tax-saving and giving opportunities, call (718) 379-1900 or visit www.nyffburncenter.com.



Thanks, in part, to the **vision** of three extraordinary New York City firefighters (in younger days, from left to right, Jack Meara, Jimmy Curran and Joe Hickey), the Burn Center was built and thrived. Today, the William Randolph Hearst Burn Center enjoys a reputation as one of the most dedicated burn centers in the world.

The Foundation's history

Our founders

In 1972, Firefighters Joe Hickey and Jack Meara were deeply moved by a news photograph of two Vietnamese children who had been severely burned by napalm. The men considered bringing these children to New York for treatment. To their surprise, they discovered that there were no medical facilities in the New York area devoted exclusively to the treatment of burn injuries.

Alarmed, the firefighters began working with physicians and other concerned citizens, and in 1975 established the Foundation. Thanks to the equal dedication of the medical community, the Burn Center opened shortly afterward.

A key leader

When the late Jimmy Curran, who was then a Lieutenant in Rescue 1, was introduced to the Foundation's founders Joe Hickey and Jack Meara, he immediately volunteered his services. When he became the Foundation's president, Jimmy Curran recruited equally enthusiastic individuals to support the cause. Their efforts went on to raise millions of dollars for the Burn Center.

Moving forward

The Foundation continues to be staffed, led and largely governed by current and retired firefighters. No compensation has ever been paid to any firefighter associated with the Foundation.

The Foundation now seeks to broaden its reach to welcome involvement from beyond the firefighting community. We aim to never forget our roots, but to honor the vision of those who came before us and to stretch the horizon of what we can achieve.

The Foundation's alliances

While the majority of the Foundation's efforts go to support burn victims, the Foundation also nurtures its relationships with important partners in the burn-care and firefighting communities. Such relationships include our support of, participation in, or collaboration with:

The Fire Department of New York City

As first responders to fires, public safety and medical emergencies, disasters and terrorist acts, thousands of brave men and women protect the lives and property of New York City residents and visitors.

Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors

This non-profit group is dedicated to empowering all those affected by a burn injury. The group offers peer support, education and advocacy.

The Society also runs the World Burn Congress. This national conference brings together hundreds of burn survivors, family healthcare providers, firefighters and anyone affected by burn injuries. In 2009, the World Burn Congress holds its annual meeting in New York City.

World Police and Fire Games

This athletic event is open to active and retired law enforcement and fire service personnel. In 2011 (the 10th anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001), the games will be held in New York City.

American Burn Association Members

As both a model and a peer group, our Foundation is in contact with other like-minded organizations, exchanging ideas, inspiration and resources.

New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation

21 Asch Loop, Bronx, NY 10475
(718) 379-1900
www.nyffbourncenter.com

Foundation President

William J. Leahy

Firefighter, FDNY, L-4

Board Members

Greg Batkay

Firefighter, FDNY (ret.)

Matt Beatty

Firefighter, FDNY, R-1

William Carlson

Firefighter, FDNY, L-4

Matt Daly

ConEdison

James Fitzgerald

Lieutenant, FDNY (ret.)

Joseph Hickey

Firefighter, FDNY (ret.)

Daniel Prince

Firefighter, FDNY (ret.)

Thomas R. Zapf

Macy's

