



STEVEN M. FULOP  
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

## CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302  
P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442



STEVEN M. FULOP  
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 5, 2023

**Contact: Kimberly Scalcione**  
Press Secretary  
KScalcione@cnj.org

**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\***

### **Mayor Fulop joins Veteran Affairs to Encourage Community Service with Cleanup Event at Pershing Field Park & 150+ year old Armory Memorial**

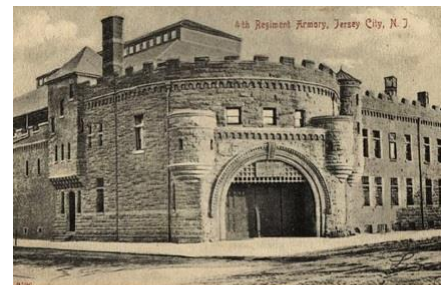
*Veterans & Community Invited to Volunteer for the Service Project on May 6*

**JERSEY CITY, NJ – Mayor Steven M. Fulop** joins **the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Division of Veteran Affairs** to invite the entire Jersey City community to participate in a day of community service at Pershing Field Memorial Park on May 6, 2023. Various projects will take place throughout the day to beautify and enhance the park and memorial, which dates back to the late 1800s. Additionally, this significant partnership with The Mission Continues will support the Jersey City Division of Veterans Affairs’ goal of forming a local platoon to serve our community.

“As Memorial Day approaches, it is especially important for us to support the many veterans in our community and beyond. Volunteering for cleanups like this is a great way to engage our veterans alongside residents to experience the benefits and fulfillment of giving back to the community where they live and work,” said **Mayor Fulop, a Marine Corps Veteran.**

This cleanup will enhance Pershing Field, a park beloved by many Jersey City residents and especially veterans, as it is the current home of the 150-year-old archway memorial, which was originally part of the Fourth Regiment Armory on the corner of Bergen Avenue in McGinley Square.

Volunteers will also prepare the community center for a large mural of the Tuskegee Airmen by painting the walls. They will also be doing some park beautification, including various garden installations.



The one-day service project is hosted by the City’s Division of Veteran Affairs in partnership with non-profit organization The Mission Continues, local corporate partner Jefferies, and community partner Pershing Field Garden Friends.

“In HHS, our mission is to help Jersey City residents realize their full potential when it comes to their mental and physical health. Community-centric events like this cleanup are especially important for our veterans in finding purpose, whether they are recently reintegrated into society or have a history of struggling to find purpose again,” added **Stacey Flanagan, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services**. “Our ultimate goal in serving veterans is that they benefit from the thoughtful services we provide.”

“We are excited to be partnering with Mayor Fulop and the Division of Veterans Affairs alongside members of the Friends of Pershing Fields this weekend for a day of veteran-led service in Jersey City,” said **Mary Beth Bruggeman, President of The Mission Continues and Marine Corps Veteran**. “This type of work is only possible thanks to our local partners and community members, and this is exactly the kind of collaboration that leads to lasting and visible impact on both veterans and communities.”

**Juliet Foster, an Air Force Veteran, is the Division of Veteran Affairs Director**. “I am thrilled to work with our Veterans Advisory Task Force Chairman, Michael Aiello, to partner with The Mission Continues, Jefferies Financial Group, and our community leaders from the Pershing Field Garden Friends to bring this positive community project to fruition. This is a wonderful endeavor, and I’m proud that we can bring our first veteran service project to the community.”

In Partnership:



**PERSHING FIELD PARK  
COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY**

THE MISSION CONTINUES IN JERSEY CITY, NJ

SATURDAY, MAY 6 - 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

We're excited to join forces with Pershing Field Park to beautify and continue to enhance the park and memorial. We'll prepare the community center for a large mural of the Tuskegee Airmen by painting the walls. We will also be doing some park beautification and possibly some installations. Come ready to get your hands dirty and serve alongside like-minded folks in the Jersey City community.

All ages and abilities welcome!

**LOCATION:**  
Pershing Field Park  
201 Central Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07307

**CONTACT:**  
Megan Kruse  
mkruse@missioncontinues.org

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:**



MISSIONCONTINUES.ORG @MISSIONCONTINUE THEMISIONCONTINUES

“Pershing Field has long served as a Jersey City landmark, where veteran contributions are honored and remembered. We are thrilled to partner with the Mission Continues and Veteran’s Affairs to improve this important site,” said **Debby DeVenezia, President of Pershing Field Garden Friends**. “We are putting in plants that are native to our region, sustainable and resilient; the garden will mitigate runoff, hold rain water and ensure the strength of our garden for years to come. It is our hope that this garden serves as a living tribute to the resilience and valor of service men and women of the United States of America.”

“Jefferies is proud to partner with the City of Jersey City, The Mission Continues, and Pershing Field Garden Friends to transform this important space. As we approach Memorial Day, there is no better way to honor service members than to volunteer alongside veterans and members of the community,” said **Michael Aiello, a Managing Director at Jefferies**.

Jersey City invites everyone to join this volunteer event to contribute to the positive impact this will have on the community. For more information or to register to volunteer, please visit [The Mission Continues website here](https://www.missioncontinues.org). Pershing Field Memorial Park is located at 201 Central Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07307. The event is on May 6 from 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided to volunteers.

**About The Mission Continues**

The Mission Continues organization connects veterans with under-resourced communities. Their programs deploy veteran volunteers to transform communities by working alongside non-profit partners and community leaders to improve educational resources, tackle food insecurity, and foster neighborhood identity.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Kimberly Scalcione at [KScalcione@jcnj.org](mailto:KScalcione@jcnj.org).**