

# South Dakota National Guard

## Public Affairs Office

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **SD Guard members volunteer for Day of Caring**

By Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen  
SDNG Public Affairs Office

RAPID CITY, S.D. – Eighteen South Dakota Army National Soldiers joined 950 other community members by volunteering their time to assist neighbors and businesses as part of the United Way of the Black Hills ‘Day of Caring’ on Sept. 1.

The United Way of the Black Hills kicks off their fundraising campaign each year with a day in which community members and organizations provide their time on various projects around Rapid City.

Nine Soldiers from the 109th Regional Support Group and nine Soldiers from Joint Force Headquarters spent the day painting, washing windows, cleaning gutters, mowing lawns and trimming trees at two separate locations.

“This is a way for us, especially on a nice day with clear skies with the sun shining, to get out of the office and do something different,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 James Fleming, human resource technician. “Then we can go home to our family and brag about a project we did within the community to support a family in need.”

In addition to the manual labor provided during its Day of Caring, the United Way’s primary mission is to raise money, and then distribute it to many of the area’s leading non-profit agencies that provide help to people in need.

“I think it’s fantastic that the Soldiers take a day from work to go and help citizens in our community,” said SDARNG State Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Zimmerman. “United Way is a great organization and it’s a great opportunity for the Guard to work side by side with the 968 volunteers who are out working in the community today.”

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**PHOTOS:** High-resolution photos for this release are available upon request or at:

[www.flickr.com/southdakotationalguard](http://www.flickr.com/southdakotationalguard)



**110901-A-CW157-002:** Staff Sgt. David Goodwin, Joint Force Headquarters, South Dakota Army National Guard, paints a bedroom for a local resident in need for United Way of the Black Hills’s Day of Caring Sept. 1, 2011, in Rapid City. (SDNG photo by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen) (RELEASED)



**110901-A-CW157-003:** Staff Sgt. Doug Johnson, 109th Regional Support Group, South Dakota Army National Guard, trims foliage for a local resident in need for United Way of the Black Hills's Day of Caring Sept. 1, 2011, in Rapid City. (SDNG photo by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen) (RELEASED)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Please contact Maj. Brendan Murphy at (605) 737-6721 or cell (605) 431-8753, or e-mail [brendan.murphy1@us.army.mil](mailto:brendan.murphy1@us.army.mil).