



## Ten-Year Commemorative Report

2006  
to  
2016





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*Commemorative Report  
designed by WordWorks*





When God directs your steps, you must move into action swiftly and that's exactly what I did. I was living in California, watching the one-year-anniversary media coverage of Hurricane Katrina, and felt extremely helpless. A year had passed and residents of the Ninth Ward in New Orleans, as well as thousands of others living along the Gulf Coast, were still displaced and/or trying to rebuild their lives after the storm. It broke my heart. I asked myself, "What can I do?" I had already sent donations to relief organizations but there has to be more that I can do to help these folks. And that's when it hit me like a rock.



My childhood friend Tabeier and I usually traveled to a fun location for her birthday, which was coming up in the fall but I said to myself, "What about if we put our normal plans aside and traveled to New Orleans to help with rebuilding efforts? We can even ask others to join us and make it a meaningful trip." And that's when I received confirmation from above encouraging me to do that very same thing. I immediately called Tabeier to share my idea and couldn't even complete my thoughts before she interrupted and said, "Let's do it!" We received that same type of positive energy when we invited family and friends to join us during Thanksgiving week in 2006. They, too, were eager and ready to roll up their sleeves and make their way to New Orleans from all over the country. Everything fell into place so easily and I knew without a doubt that this is what we were supposed to do. We were doing God's work and it felt powerful, relevant and urgent.

And that's how I've felt for the last 10 years of working with T.R.I.P. USA. The work that our Volunteers, Ambassadors and Community Partners have performed has been vitally important. While T.R.I.P. USA may be closing its doors after a decade of hosting volunteer rebuilding projects, this type of community work will always be relevant to the advancement and growth of the African-American community...this work must never end. So my hope is that everyone will continue to do God's work...whatever you are called to do. Do it well, do it swiftly and do it with love.

It's been a pleasure my friends. Thank you for pouring your love into serving others and making a difference in communities across the country. Keep TRIPPIN'!

Corliss N. Hill  
Co-Founder, T.R.I.P. USA

**G**reetings TRIP'pers - (what I have affectionately referred to our volunteers and supporters over the last ten years!) What a journey the last decade has been working with T.R.I.P.! When it all began with the inception of the volunteer-vacation concept, who knew it would turn into a movement that would make a difference in not just the communities of those we served, but also in the lives of the TRIP'pers we had the opportunity to get to know over the years.



We have been blessed to experience so much with, and through the eyes of so many; so in this last chapter, I would just like to express my deep gratitude for all of YOU. You were generously supportive with your time, talent, network and resources...you made it happen!

Thank you also to all the Board Members and Ambassadors who TRIP'ped with us throughout the last decade. All of you have busy lives, families, careers, other philanthropic endeavors and not to mention social lives, so for you to take the time to help shape, mold, lead, donate to and travel with T.R.I.P. – was very humbling for me.

Of course, we couldn't have accomplished anything without the hearts, ears and hands of our Community Partners. Those relationships were invaluable to the execution of our work and it was a win-win-win... every.single.time.

Our prayer is that the legacy and approach of T.R.I.P. will live on through all of us for generations to come. I hope this seed we planted serves as forage for your future community endeavors. That it will allow you to always reflect on how fortunate we are despite our circumstances. You are always in a position to serve someone else. Now more than ever, we must be aware, engaged, involved and make our actions speak with volume for the benefit of our communities at-large.

God Bless You and THANK YOU!

Tabeier S. Hamilton  
Co-Founder, T.R.I.P. USA

## Board Of Directors (2012 – 2016)

Dr. Sheneekra Adams – Northeast Division Manager, HearUSA

Kristian Buchanan Newman – VP, Partnerships & Advancement, National Urban League

Kristi Rodriguez – VP of Marketing, Retirement Plans - Nationwide

Tobias Tillmon – Associate State Director, Multicultural at AARP



Dr. Sheneekra Adams



Kristian Buchanan  
Newman



Kristi Rodriguez



Tobias Tillmon

## Past Board of Directors (2006 – 2012)

Patrick Akoma

Tamara Moore

Deryl Alexander

Rhea Norwood

Kyle Allman

Toye Wigley

Torance LeSane

Jocelyn Wright

## T.R.I.P. Ambassadors

In 2012, T.R.I.P. USA launched 4 local chapters in key cities led by Ambassadors who organized volunteers and hosted community rebuilding and revitalization projects.

Scheron Brown – New York, NY

Sonya Williams – Maryland/D.C. metro area

Monica Evans – Maryland/D.C. metro area

Rachelle Thomas-Green – Los Angeles, CA

Rashida Hanif – Oakland, CA



Scheron Brown



Sonya Williams



Monica Evans



Rachelle Thomas-Green



Rashida Hanif



**JOIN THE REBIRTH!**  
**DETROIT WEEKEND OF SERVICE**  
OCTOBER 10-12, 2014



**HOSTED BY T.R.I.P.**  
TAMEL REBUILD INSPIRE PROGRESS  
[www.TRIPDETROIT.org](http://www.TRIPDETROIT.org)



**ARISE**  
**DETROIT!**  
Be Part of the Change





## Advisors and Long-time Supporters

- Deryl & Surlenza Alexander
- Patrick Akoma
- Pastor Charles Garrison
- Corey Hamilton
- Sam & Dorothy Hill
- Rhea Norwood
- Herbert & Betty Shine
- Kimberlee Summers

## Graphic Designers:

- Tonya Harris, WordWorks
- James Logan, JLogan Creative
- Mikel Madison, Thurman Madison Design

## Web Designers:

- Henry Caldwell, C&G Technical Group
- Leslie Wilson, IAM Brands Consulting

## Photographers:

- Paul Walker
- PG Images
- Marcellus Johnson, NLPGimages
- Eric Killen Photography





ARE YOU

TRIPPIN'?



In 2006, childhood friends and Delta Sigma Theta sorority sisters Corliss Hill and Tabeier Hamilton invited 30 friends and family members from across the country to travel to New Orleans during the week of Thanksgiving to assist with post-recovery and clean-up efforts following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and breached levees in the city.

Initially called “Doing God’s Work,” the first volunteer-vacation was so successful that these two friends decided to keep the momentum going and launch an official non-profit organization. Thus, T.R.I.P. USA (Travel. Rebuild. Inspire. Progress.) was born from the desire to do more than just watch others in action but to come together as a traveling collective to make a positive impact on those in need.



T.R.I.P. ([www.tripusa.org](http://www.tripusa.org)) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization led by a network of more than 1,000 registered volunteers from across the country, ranging from ages 18 – 65.







*First Photo:* T.R.I.P. USA served as official Volunteer Partner for Tavis Smiley's State of the Black Union Builds Day in 2008, where they helped to facilitate 6 community service projects throughout the city of New Orleans.

*Second Photo:* Tavis Smiley greets volunteers at one of the project sites.

*Third Photo:* A group of volunteers who helped to make up the 1,500 individuals that participated in service projects throughout the city.





## **Vision**

We envision a world where communities of color – across the country and world – are transformed through service, travel and volunteerism.

## **Mission**

T.R.I.P. (Travel. Rebuild. Inspire. Progress.) was created to encourage travel-volunteerism to help rebuild underserved African-American communities, and inspire hope and make progress towards a brighter future.

## **What We Do**

T.R.I.P. partners with local residents, community development corporations, civic and community groups and faith-based organizations to carry out its mission.

Community development projects are executed based upon a needs assessment include:

- Building houses
- Disaster relief and recovery
- Fundraising efforts in support of international relief projects
- Housing rehabilitation
- Renovating recreational parks
- Painting schools
- Planting community gardens
- Park beautification
- Neighborhood clean-up
- Repurposing abandoned lots and blighted neighborhoods
- Serving the homeless community
- Working with community development corporation projects







# Community Project Milestones

Since 2006, T.R.I.P. USA volunteers have made a positive impact in rebuilding communities of color across the U.S. Our devoted volunteers have left an imprint of love and hard work on several volunteer projects. Below are some highlights:

- Traveled to New Orleans for the inaugural community project, which included **30** volunteers from across the country.
- Facilitated rebuilding service projects in more than **20** communities across the country, including Atlanta, Columbus, D.C., Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Miami Gardens, New Orleans, New York City, and Upper Marlboro, MD.
- Launched a local "T.R.I.P. Ambassador Program" in **4** metropolitan areas: D.C.-Maryland metro area, Los Angeles, New York City and Oakland.
- Assisted with Hurricane Katrina post-recovery efforts in New Orleans for **4** consecutive years.
- Rallied more than **30** volunteers to assist with Super Storm Sandy post-rebuilding efforts in New York City.
- Built **10** Habitat For Humanity homes in New Orleans.
- Established community partnerships with more than **40** organizations in several major cities.
- Generated a volunteer network of more than **1,000** volunteers across the country.
- Completed beautification projects with **6** community playgrounds.
- Served meals to more than **1,000** homeless individuals.
- Provided more than **\$12,000** in mini-grants to local community partners.
- Built **4** homes in Grand Goave, Haiti for families in need after the earthquake.
- Assisted in revitalizing **1** school in Kingston, Jamaica.



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Our T.R.I.P. volunteer-vacations are the heart of what we do. Over the past 10 years, T.R.I.P. USA volunteers have traveled to various destinations to participate in rebuilding and revitalization projects – many times, taking vacation time from work and using their own resources to travel.

## Timeline of Volunteer-Vacations (2006 – 2014)

### • November 2006 – Inaugural Project

Post-Hurricane Katrina Recovery Project in New Orleans, LA (Upper Ninth Ward) in collaboration with the New Orleans Parks and Recreation Department, New Orleans Sheriff's Department and Habitat for Humanity.

### • November 2007

Weekend service project in New Orleans (Upper Ninth Ward and St. Bernard Parish) in partnership with the New Orleans Parks and Recreation Department, Habitat for Humanity and New Orleans Charter Science and Math High School.

### • February 2008

Served as official Volunteer Partner for Tavis Smiley's State of the Black Union Builds Day. Helped to facilitate 6 community service projects throughout the city of New Orleans with more than 1,500 volunteers.

### • October 2008

Weekend service project in New Orleans (Upper Ninth Ward) in partnership with the New Orleans Parks and Recreation Department, Habitat for Humanity and Animal Rescue New Orleans.

### • October 2009

Weekend service project in New Orleans (Upper Ninth Ward) in partnership with the New Orleans Parks and Recreation Department, Habitat for Humanity and Trinity Christian Center.

### • February 2010

Led fundraising campaign to support Haiti Relief efforts by supporting the American Red Cross and other recovery organizations.

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## • May 2011

Hosted “Day of Service” projects in partnership with the City of Miami Gardens and Little Haiti Neighborhood Enhancement Team of Miami, FL in collaboration with the City of Miami and MLK Community Mural Project.

## • June 2012

Participated in a 10-day mission trip to Grand Goave, Haiti. Built homes for Haitian families; served food and clothing to local residents; gardened and landscaped around local school and clinic; and fellowshiped with children in local orphanages.

## • October 2012

Weekend service project in Miami, FL in partnership with Miami Rescue Mission and Roots in the City.

## • October 2013

Weekend service project and post-Super Storm Sandy rebuilding projects in Far Rockaway and Red Hook, NY – working with New York Cares, Friends of Far Rockaway and Red Hook Added-Value Community Garden. During that year, T.R.I.P. also launched a fundraising campaign and donated \$4,000 to build a home for a deserving family in Grand Goave, Haiti.

## •October 2014

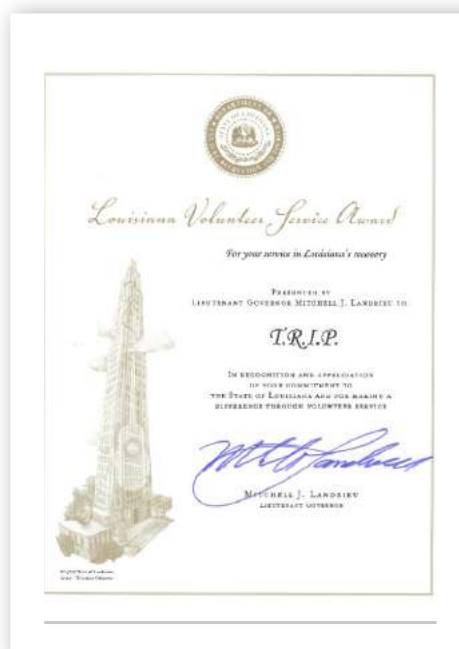
Hosted “Weekend of Service” city-wide revitalization projects in Detroit, MI – working with the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Detroit Housing Commission, Greening of Detroit and Detroit Future City.





Over the last decade, T.R.I.P. USA received several accolades from state and city officials for its commitment to community revitalization, including proclamations, service awards and neighborhood dedication plaques.

- October 2006: Featured in *Black Enterprise* magazine
- October 2007: Second feature in *Black Enterprise* magazine
- February 2008: Selected as official *volunteer partner* and grantee to work with national media personality Tavis Smiley on his *State of the Black Union Builds Day*
- April 2009: Received the *2009 Louisiana Volunteer Service Award* in the Humanitarian category from former Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu
- May 2011: Received "T.R.I.P. Day Of Service" Proclamation from former Mayor Shirley Gibson from City of Miami Gardens, FL
- August 2012: Featured in *Ebony* magazine
- October 2013: Featured in *Upscale* magazine





T.R.I.P. board member Sheneekra Adams (left) and Executive Director Corliss Hill (right) receive a "T.R.I.P. Day of Service" Proclamation from Mayor Shirley Gibson of the City of Miami Gardens, FL.





**A** look back at T.R.I.P. USA rebuilding and revitalization projects across the country.



**New Orleans, LA - Ninth Ward**



**New Orleans, LA**

# Rebuilding Projects Across the U.S.



**St. Bernard Parish, LA**



**Columbus, OH**





**New Orleans, LA**



**Los Angeles, CA**



**Oakland, CA**



**Atlanta, GA**





Volunteers add some color to the MLK Community Mural Project in the Little Haiti community of Miami.



# Weekend of Service - South Florida



T.R.I.P. volunteers team up with Roots in the City to plant a community garden in the Overtown community; and work with Miami Rescue Mission to clean the grounds and prepare meals for the homeless community.





# Weekend of Service - South Florida



# Weekend of Service - South Florida







In response to Super Storm Sandy, volunteers help to rebuild damaged homes from flood waters with Friends of Rockaway; while others spend their time planting a sustainable food garden with Red Hook Community Garden.



# Weekend of Service - New York City

# Weekend of Service - New York City





**T**.R.I.P. hosted “Weekend of Service” city-wide revitalization projects in Detroit, MI, working with the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Detroit Housing Commission, Greening of Detroit and Detroit Future City.



## Weekend of Service - Detroit



# Weekend of Service - Detroit







**D**uring Mother's Day weekend, T.R.I.P. USA brought ladies together to strut their fashionable Derby Hats in support of its mission. This annual fundraiser and signature affair, held from 2011 to 2013, also became one of Atlanta's top social events.



Shirley Strawberry, author and cohost of nationally syndicated *The Steve Harvey Morning Show*, served as the mistress of ceremonies at the 2012 event.

# Derby Brunch Hatwalk



Hatwalk Planning Committee members

Hatwalk Planning Committee  
Creator and Producer: Corliss N. Hill  
Co-Producer: Tomica N. Young

Committee Members:

Mokeeda Brantley	Jada Plowden
Leta Gibbs	Tina Romans
Suzette LeSane	Pat Seabrooks
Micheal Penn	Taylor Yarbrough

Musicians, Public Relations, Photographers  
and Venue Partners:

Tori Allen, Brainchild Associates  
Julie Bilecky, Villa Christina  
Zarinah Crowder, Platinum Exposures  
Photography  
Phillip Muckle, Sol Factor Music  
Cherelle Scott, The Snappy Diva



**A** special thank you to our partners, corporate funders and foundations who worked tirelessly throughout the years to bring about positive change in communities, cities and municipalities across the country. We could not have carried out our mission without their collaboration and financial support.

## Sponsors

- AARP
- Aetna
- McDonald's
- Miami Gardens Kiwanis Charitable Fund
- Ogilvy & Mather (Atlanta, GA)
- Tavis Smiley Foundation
- UnitedHealthcare
- Upscale Magazine



## Community Partners

- Animal Rescue New Orleans
- Arise Detroit
- Atlanta Habitat for Humanity
- Atlanta Mission
- Historic District Development Corporation (Atlanta, GA)
- City of Compton
- City of Detroit
- City of Miami
- City of Miami Gardens
- City of Refuge (GA)
- Detroit Future City
- Detroit Housing Commission
- Friends of Rockaway (NY)
- Greening of Detroit
- Lifeline Christian Mission – Homes for Haiti
- Little Haiti Neighborhood Enhancement Team (Miami, FL)
- Miami Rescue Mission
- Mid-Ohio Habitat for Humanity (Columbus, OH)
- Mustard Seed Communities (Kingston, Jamaica)
- National Urban League
- Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles
- New Genesis Bible Church - Pastor Charles Garrison (New Orleans, LA)
- New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity
- New Orleans Charter Science and Math High School
- New Orleans Parks & Recreation Department
- New Orleans Sheriff's Department
- New York Cares
- Office of the Lt. Governor, City of New Orleans
- Ogilvy and Mather (Atlanta, GA)
- Recovery School District (New Orleans, LA)
- Red Hook Added-Value Community Garden (NY, NY)
- Roots in the City (Overtown community - Miami, FL)
- Tavis Smiley State of The Black Union Builds Day
- Trinity Christian Center (New Orleans, LA)
- United Way – Volunteer Project Overcoat (Atlanta, GA)
- Wayne County (MI)

**Whether you made a donation, traveled on a T.R.I.P. volunteer-vacation or participated in a community project in your city, you made a positive impact in someone's life. THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts!**

\*Traveled on a T.R.I.P. volunteer-vacation

## **GOLD LEVEL Supporters**

**\*Dr. Sheneekra Adams**  
**Anayo Afolabi**  
**\*Surlenza & Deryl Alexander**  
**Scheron Brown**  
**\*Corey & Tabeier Hamilton**  
**\*Corliss Hill**

**Michelle Jervey**  
**\*Rhea Norwood**  
**\*Dawn Oliver**  
**\*Janae Oliver**  
**\*Kristi Rodriguez**  
**Lennie Smith & Dr. Carmen White**

## **SILVER LEVEL Donors**

Patricia Adams  
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 Tori Allen  
 \*LaDale Anderson  
 \*Keva Anderson-Konsker  
 Kisha Barton  
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 Malinda Bell  
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 Tracy Bookhard  
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 Regina Christie  
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Dawn Comer  
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 Crystal Crawford  
 Renee Daily  
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 Luann Dino  
 Jemea Dorsey  
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 Sandra Edwards  
 Patricia Ethridge  
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 \*DeAnn Ligens-Faulkner  
 Mary Fortinash  
 \*Dr. Tanya Geiger  
 Frances George  
 Crystal German  
 Leta Gibbs  
 Saray Gill  
 Barbara Glover  
 Monica Grant  
 Christine Greathouse  
 Erika Green  
 Rachelle Thomas-Green  
 Sharlene Gumbs  
 \*Jacob Hall  
 \*Rashida Hanif



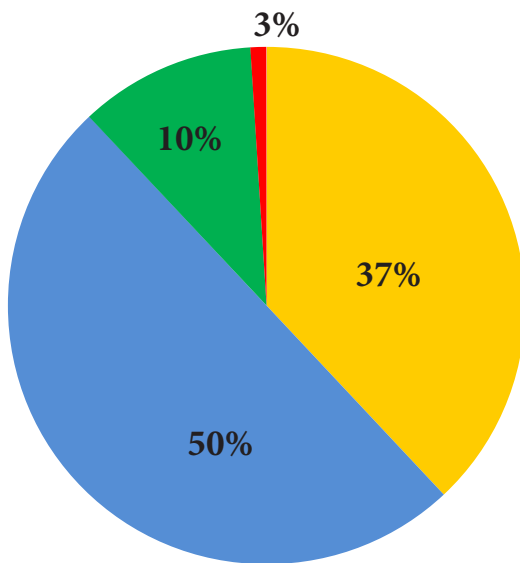
\*Bridget Harper  
 \*Dr. Rahsaan Harris  
 Marc & Tonya Harris  
 Jennie Harrison  
 Sharron Hastie  
 Nichelle Henderson  
 \*Candace Herring  
 Jimmie Hill  
 \*Sam & Dorothy Hill  
 Ron & Nadene Holloway  
 \*Tracey Humphreys  
 Frances Hunt  
 Allistine Hurst  
 Tamala Hutcherson  
 \*Tony & Kim Johnson  
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 Mallory Jones  
 T.A. Joyner  
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 \*Torance & Suzette LeSane  
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 Allicia Lord  
 Dr. Annesha Lovett  
 Kimberly Lovett  
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 \*Jamila Mack  
 Tanisha Mallett  
 \*Karen Good Marable  
 \*Dia Martin  
 Heather McDaniel  
 \*Tyretta Meadows  
 Melody Miller  
 Aisha Moore  
 \*Danisha Moore  
 \*Tamara Moore  
 \*Selena Morant  
 Shawne Morgan  
 Christopher Myles  
 Janice Nall  
 Cedric Nelson  
 Jazmyn Newson  
 Shonda Newson  
 Taylor Newson  
 Vinnie Newson

\*Rahcyne Hill Omatete  
 Judy Owens  
 Liz Paul  
 \*Micheal Penn  
 \*Monika Pitts  
 Katrina Postell  
 Keri Pridgeon  
 Nina Purse  
 Martha Ragin  
 Pamela Render  
 Erica Roberts  
 Lula Roberts  
 \*Lloyd & Tina Romans  
 Pat Seabrooks  
 Janis Shelton  
 \*Treshawn Shields  
 \*Herbert & Betty Shine  
 \*Jarrett & Kyna Shine  
 \*Charis Simms  
 Evelyn & Jason Smith  
 Alshante Squires  
 \*Kimberlee Summers  
 Charisma Taylor  
 \*Dr. Nailah Thompson  
 Tarra Thompson  
 \*Tyrone Tilson  
 Athena Villarreal  
 \*Dina Walker  
 Teri Walker  
 Craig Washington  
 \*Karen Webster  
 \*Rylan Webster  
 \*Ken & Charmaine West  
 Sherman Whites  
 Kelly Wiggins  
 \*Toye Wigley  
 Belle Williams  
 Carolyn Williams  
 Joy Williams  
 Keshia Williams  
 Sonya Williams  
 \*Wendell Williams  
 Sophia Wolf  
 \*Jocelyn Wright  
 Taylor Yarbrough  
 Reginal & Tomica Young

#### Community Group Liaisons

Veronica Adams  
 Tiffany Britton  
 Denise Brooks  
 Renee Crichton  
 Dr. Marvin Dunn  
 Teanisha Eli  
 Pastor Charles Garrison  
 Najah Husser  
 Luther Keith  
 vonCarol Kinchens  
 Seana Williams Page  
 Daniel Rosemond  
 Heaster Wheeler

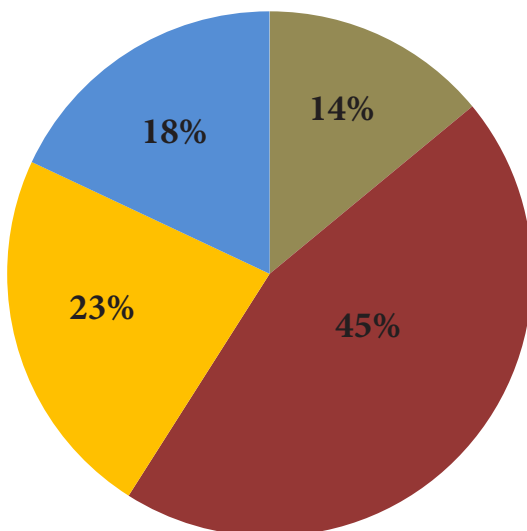
# Ten Year Financial Report



## REVENUE 2007-2016

Cash donations (Individuals and corporations)	\$45,773.19
Fundraising Events	\$34,609.70
Income (Other)	\$9,721.00
Value of non-cash tangible donations	\$2,800.00

**Total: \$92,703.89**



## EXPENSES 2007-2016

Volunteer Projects	\$41,482.08
General and Administrative	\$20,966.93
Fundraising Efforts	\$16,939.74
Partner Donations & Community Grants	\$12,452.59

**Total: \$91,841.34**

*990-N forms available upon request*



## THANK YOU FOR TRIPPIN' WITH US!

**O**n behalf of Corliss, Tabeier and the T.R.I.P. USA Board of Directors, thank you for your support, hard work, dedication and love. You helped to make a positive difference in the lives of others and communities across the country. Just as we started out 10 years ago, we set out to do God's work and it was a wonderful journey!



*First Photo: T.R.I.P. Co-founders Corliss and Tabeier kicking off the first project in 2006 in New Orleans.*

*Second Photo: The culmination of ten years of working in the community.*



## *Take a T.R.I.P. with us down Memory Lane*













A photograph showing the back of a person's head and shoulders. They are wearing a white t-shirt with a printed message. The person has a thin gold chain around their neck. The background is dark and out of focus.

**VOLUNTEER!**

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your community today!

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