



## 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance

Normont Elementary School (Harbor City, CA)

On Sunday, September 11, 2011, Kaiser Permanente partnered with Sharefest Community Development, Inc to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Nearly 150 volunteers - comprised largely of employees from the Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center and their families - participated in the event which took place at Normont Elementary School, where Tracy Joseph is the principal. The day kicked off with welcoming words and very quickly shifted into high gear with volunteers breaking up into two teams for the day's activities: restoring the playground area and painting two large murals. The murals, designed by Vanesa Andrade, capture the restoring power of communities that overcome tragedy by working together.

"Thank you for your service and commitment to Normont Elementary School. Kaiser Permanente is a gift to our community."

- Michael Romero, LAUSD Superintendent

"The work you've done today will encourage and inspire students coming through Normont Elementary for years to come."

- Tracy Joseph, Principal of Normont ES

In addition to the beautification activities, a table was set up where thank you notes could be written to military service people currently stationed overseas in active battle zones.

During lunch, a moment of silence was observed and a short ceremony took place. The volunteers were joined by several distinguished guests from the community who came out to show their support for the work done by Kaiser at Normont Elementary School. Guests included LAFD Chaplain **George Negrete**, LAUSD Board Member **Dr. Richard Vladovic**, Assemblymember **Warren Furutani**, LAUSD Superintendent **Michael Romero**, **Ricardo Hong** from LA Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's office, **Rebekah Kim** from LA County Supervisor (4th District) Don Knabe's office, Colonel **Kurt Driskill**, USAF Director of Operations at the 618th Tactical Airlift Control Center, LAPD Senior Lead Officer **Andrey Wilkins**, and LAFD Captain **Ken Herrera**. **Scott Wildermann** serenaded the gathering with three beautifully rendered patriotic songs, and several firefighters from **Fire Station 85** (Harbor City, CA) brought their rigs to the workday.

