9/11 Findings
Depression: 15 Years After 9/11
A study that appears in our 2018 Annual Report describes symptoms and treatments for some of the 52 conditions covered by the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program. In case you missed one or all of the materials, visit nyc.gov/911health and search for health materials.

The Art of Remembrance

Many people can remember where they were in 2001 when they first heard the news of the 9/11 disaster. I was in my bedroom in Vancouver, British Columbia, getting ready for school — a ritual involving blaring my favorite song, “Drain You,” by my favorite Seattle-based band Nirvana.

Growing up on the West Coast of Canada, I idolized the sounds that came out of Seattle. The distorted guitars of grunge and the fury conveyed in the scene felt like the externalization of my rage and my friends’ teen angst. However, it was the spirit of community and inclusiveness of the Seattle music scene that really got me hooked.

In response to a restrictive city-wide Teen Dance Ordinance, which all but banned kids under the age of 21 from attending live music shows, a group of students founded the Vera Project, which hosted their first all-ages concert on a small stage in early 2001 and quickly became an institution of the Seattle music scene. And then the 9/11 disaster happened. “A pall was cast over the city,” said Greg Brennick, a long-time singer in the Seattle-based band Trial. “It was eerie and quiet and no one knew what was going to happen next.”

What followed was a city-wide outpouring of collective emotion, shown in an art form that was and still is signature to Seattle: music.

“After 9/11, people in Seattle’s music scene needed one another. We needed to make music. Not just for entertainment, but for expression,” explained Brennick. “People needed culture, so there was far more music. Grunge and the fury conveyed in the scene felt like the sounds that came out of Seattle. The distorted guitars of grunge and the fury conveyed in the scene felt like the externalization of my rage and my friends’ teen angst. However, it was the spirit of community and inclusiveness of the Seattle music scene that really got me hooked.”

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