



Leading to Serve

Outside of work, Todd Adrian leads Region 2 for Team Rubicon USA, a national nonprofit organization that leverages the skills of Veterans, first-responders, and civilian volunteers for immediate disaster response. In his role as the Region Administrator, Todd oversees a 20-person team responsible for organizing and executing disaster response, service projects, and social events engaging over 2,500 volunteers across NY and NJ.

Under Todd's guidance, Team Rubicon Region 2 has completed over 100 projects resulting in more than 8800 volunteer hours over the past 12 months. The activities covered by these efforts included rebuilding homes damaged by Hurricane Sandy, disaster response for flash flooding in Albany, NY, and helping build homes for low income Veterans in NY and NJ. Additionally, Todd deployed to Oklahoma for 10 days to assist with tornado response where he led a team of chainsaw operators responsible for clearing downed trees that threatened homes and property or constrained access for local residents.

WHY TEAM RUBICON

Todd is a Coast Guard Veteran who separated from the service in 2002 to pursue a graduate degree in Marketing Research and subsequently began his career in healthcare insights and analytics.

Although he's had strong professional success and tremendous opportunities in the Private Sector, there always seemed to be something missing. "Like many Veterans, although I had taken off my uniform, I didn't lose the desire to serve. I joined Team Rubicon in 2013 as a way to continue serving communities alongside fellow Veterans, first-responders, and civilian team members outside of my full-time job. The work we do also helps Veterans with the transition to civilian life by providing a renewed sense of purpose and camaraderie through helping others," Todd said.

In 2015 alone, Todd has led over 60 projects that include the following:

Service Projects: Single-day rebuilds, demolition, and clean-ups tied to continued recovery from Hurricane Sandy damage. Todd personally leads Sandy demolition/rebuild projects each month, as well as projects with local Habitat for Humanity affiliates on Veteran and low-income housing initiatives.

Social and Fitness Events: Provide opportunities for volunteers to get to know other team members, learn more about the organization, and hear what it's like to deploy with Team Rubicon.

Deployments: When disasters happen, Team Rubicon responds. Todd has personally deployed to Upstate NY for a flash flooding response and to Oklahoma after a series of tornadoes damaged three towns outside of Oklahoma City.

Todd was also recently honored with Team Rubicon's Veteran of the Year Award for 2015, a peer nominated award for his service within the organization.

IN THE NOMINEE'S OWN WORDS:

"Honestly, through my work with Team Rubicon I've found a renewed sense of purpose and a better sense of who I am as a person. This is exactly why Team Rubicon was formed, and the experience has impacted me in such a positive way. The work I've done leading a region team, engaging with other volunteers, and helping the local community has helped me hone leadership skills and care more about others and about myself.

By all counts, I've had a very easy transition from the military to the civilian world, but the personal and professional relationships I've built through my involvement in Team Rubicon have made me a stronger, better person.

When we respond to communities immediately following disasters or help a family who is still rebuilding from a disaster like Hurricane Sandy, we help bring order to chaos for that community. Time and time again, our teams arrive and find families who are desperately trying to figure out where to start. By the time we leave after cleaning up downed trees, removing debris from damaged structures, or gutting a flood-damaged

home, the homeowners are able to clearly see the path forward...all because we were willing to help.

During my recent deployment to Oklahoma to assist with tornado damage, we were fortunate to be able to help a recent widow of a Marine Veteran. The funnel clouds left her property strewn with downed trees and for the first time in her life, she was alone having to deal with property damage. She was in tears trying to grasp what should be done. I explained the work our team would complete and that, while we couldn't fix everything, we would do everything we could to help her. After we finished clearing nearly a dozen trees from the property she was again in tears, but this time she was smiling as she cried...expressing thanks for helping her with the situation when she didn't know where else to turn.

I am just one of thousands of Team Rubicon members who does this kind of work all around the country, and feel very fortunate to be able to be part of a team that has a tremendous impact on our members and communities."

If you would like to learn more or get involved, go to www.Teamrubiconusa.org.

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Todd Adrian helps rebuild a home damaged by Hurricane Sandy in Broad Channel, NY.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TEAM RUBICON