



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

George Washington
Memorial Parkway
700 George Washington
Memorial Parkway
McLean, Va. 22101
703-289-2500

National Park Service News Release

Help give Clara Barton National Historic Site an infusion

National Park Service seeking ideas for future use of Clara Barton National Historic Site

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Contact: Aaron LaRocca, aaron_larocca@nps.gov, 202-438-6619

GLEN ECHO, Md. —The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking proposals to help re-envision the use of portions of Clara Barton National Historic Site (NHS). Clara Barton NHS tells the story of Clara Barton and the early years of the American Red Cross, which she founded. The public is invited to submit their ideas in a Request for Expression of Interest (RFEI) starting today through March 11.

This RFEI can help inform the NPS about the potential transfer of some of the operations and maintenance of the site and grounds to a viable partner. Concepts and proposals for future use could include opportunities for outdoor recreation, environmental education, arts programming and special events.

“This is a unique opportunity to re-imagine how we use this historic house and improve opportunities for recreation and learning in the park,” Charles Cuvelier, superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, said. “Submissions should focus on contributing to the park’s vision of creating transformative experiences for visitors and can consider a variety of concepts for site use.”

All interested parties are invited to submit concepts and proposals. All submissions are due on March 11 to the park superintendent and can be submitted via email at GWMP_Superintendent@nps.gov or by hard copy at George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters.

The park will host two open houses for those interested in submitting proposals on Feb. 3 and 10. Anyone interested in receiving more information or attending the site visits must send e-mail to GWMP_Superintendent@nps.gov.

Clara Barton NHS was established on October 26, 1974, making it the first national park dedicated to a woman. Constructed in 1891, the house was more than just her Clara Barton’s home. It also served as a warehouse for relief supplies and the headquarters for the American Red Cross. Clara Barton’s interest in adopting new technologies is visible throughout the house.

Due to a construction project, the house is not currently open to the public.