



## Camp Fire Fund - Grant Program Guidelines 2024

After five years of grants and more than \$67 million committed to Camp Fire recovery, North Valley Community Foundation will be focusing on a grant program to support the ongoing issues of recovery. The grant program will make grants to qualifying nonprofit organizations and government agencies that remain active in recovery in the Camp Fire burn scar. These grants will typically range from \$500 to \$10,000. These grants focus on community recovery to help Paradise, Magalia and Concow recover and thrive. Grants in health and wellness, education, housing, community development and economic development will be considered.

We are particularly interested in projects and initiatives that serve the most vulnerable members of our community – those with the least resources and most needs, who have the most challenging time recovering post-disaster. We also seek to fill gaps – providing shorter-term, catalytic funding that is not available elsewhere and has the potential to leverage longer-term ongoing support. We want to ensure that our investments leverage – but do not duplicate – other funding streams and lead to significant and measurable positive benefit for impacted households and the region as a whole.

### PROGRAM AREAS

- Health and Wellness
- Housing
- Education
- Community Development
- Economic Development

### ELIGIBILITY

1. **Tax Status:** Qualified applicant organizations include federal- and state-recognized tribes, unrecognized tribes with a fiscal agent, nonprofit organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, programs fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3), or units of local government (including public schools). Qualified entities include churches that serve congregations of at least 100 people if the proposed projects or programs are not denomination specific and meet the specific criteria. Other organizations may also propose projects that meet the specific criteria but may be required to partner with a 501(c)(3) entity.

2. **Non-Discrimination:** Organizations must offer programs and services without discrimination based on age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, physical ability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religious belief.
3. **Geography:** Programs and projects must clearly benefit Butte County residents who have been directly and/or indirectly impacted by the Camp Fire.
4. **Use of Funds:** Our funds are deployed strategically where other sources of funding are not available. As much as possible, we leverage our grants by first tapping into federal and state aid programs and insurance. The project must not supplant public funding or fill gaps that the government and/or private insurance have committed to address.
5. **Restrictions:** The Camp Fire Fund will not consider grant requests for fundraising events, annual funds, endowment funds, political lobbying, individuals or activities that are restricted to members of a faith community. Capital improvements such as new structures, repair of damaged structures, or acquisition of structures will generally not be considered.
6. **Frequency:** Eligible entities may not apply for more than one grant for the same program or project within a 12-month period.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

Projects and initiatives will be evaluated by the following selection criteria, and priority given to those that most strongly meet the following criteria:

1. **Vulnerable Populations:** Multiple studies have shown that disaster recovery is not equal and that vulnerable populations have greater needs, fewer options and longer recovery time frames. The following will be prioritized: projects that target lower-income households, particularly those that include seniors or children; individuals with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities; and/or populations that lack access to resources or reside in isolated areas with limited services.
2. **Camp Fire Connection:** Projects that directly benefit those most impacted by the Camp Fire will be prioritized.
3. **Demonstrable Impact:** The project's approach is tailored to meet the specific needs of the target population(s) and has a reasonable timeline for implementation. Projects that result in significant outputs and outcomes – either through addressing a broad range of the community's needs and/or resulting in an enduring positive impact for individuals and households – will be prioritized.
4. **Collaboration:** Projects that partner with other organizations and stakeholders to maximize impact and minimize duplication are desired. Organizations with strong track records of collaboration will be prioritized.
5. **Organizational Capacity:** Applicants need to demonstrate their capacity to implement the proposed project in terms of leadership, staffing expertise and financial health.
6. **Leverage and Sustainability:** The project is supported by a diversity of funding sources and/or has the capacity to leverage additional sources. It is financially feasible with a realistic and viable strategy for sustainability through other ongoing sources.

## GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS

Typical grants will range from \$500 to \$10,000. Amounts above this range may be considered by invitation only.

## ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

Proposed grant budgets may include project staff and other programmatic expenses needed to plan and implement the programs and provide the proposed services.

## GRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL AWARDED GRANTEES

### 1. Grant Agreement

Upon approval of your application, you will receive a formal, legally binding grant agreement, which will require your signature. This will include the final scope of work, timeline for outcomes, grant budget, the reporting schedule and other legal assurances.

### 2. Monitoring and Evaluation

The Camp Fire Fund requires grantees to report for all grants on project progress and financial expenditures. Please note that timely grant reports will assist NVCF in fulfilling its stewardship responsibility to our donors and the community.

### 3. Grant Payments

Grants will be paid upon execution of the grant agreement.

### 4. Public Acknowledgment of Grant

Must be coordinated with the Camp Fire Fund and consistent with the guidelines provided in the grant agreement. Contact David Little, executive vice president, at [dlittle@nvcf.org](mailto:dlittle@nvcf.org) with questions.

## GRANT PROPOSAL APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

### **1. Camp Fire Fund - Grant Program**

Eligible organizations that seek funding for qualified programs may apply to the Camp Fire Fund Grant Program. This process requires applicants to upload a complete project budget showing sources of income for the proposal as well as all projected expenses. Applicants must also provide a certificate of liability insurance.

## **CONTACT**

If you have questions regarding the grant application process or the guidelines, contact our grants team at [grants@nvcf.org](mailto:grants@nvcf.org).