



Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Grant Guidelines 2025

After six years of grants and millions of dollars committed to Camp Fire recovery, North Valley Community Foundation and the Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Fund will be focusing on a grant program to support the ongoing issues of health and wellness of the young people in our community. We are particularly interested in projects and initiatives that serve youth in our community. We are looking for creative, innovative programs that focus on youth and their mental health and wellness. Programs in the Camp Fire burn footprint will be given priority, however we realize our entire community was impacted by the fire and many of our young people have relocated throughout Butte County. We want to ensure our investments leverage – but do not duplicate – other funding streams and lead to significant and measurable positive benefits for the younger population in Butte County. This is an annual grant program that will open on January 6th 2025 and will close on February 28th 2025.

Important Grant Notes:

- We are interested in programs that focus on health and wellness for youth in Butte County.
- These grants will typically range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Grants up to \$50,000 may be possible. Please consult with Director of Strategic Grantmaking Kim DuFour at kdufour@nvcf.org on anything larger than \$25,000.
- Nonprofit and youth-serving organizations are eligible to apply (see “Tax Status” below).
- We are looking to fund innovative projects, not regular ongoing organizational expenses.
- The grant must show a demonstrated plan to ensure sustainability.
- Grant programs must demonstrate how young people will benefit.
- Programs in the Camp Fire burn footprint will be given priority.

ELIGIBILITY

1. **Tax Status:** Qualified applicant organizations include nonprofit organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, programs fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3), units of local government (including public schools), and federal- and state-recognized tribes or unrecognized tribes with a fiscal agent. 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:** This grant program will not consider 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/Youth Focused:** 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 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:** Projects that are supported by diverse funding sources

and/or have the capacity to leverage additional sources are preferred. Projects should be feasible with a realistic strategy for sustainability through other ongoing sources.

GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS

Typical grants will range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. 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 Aaron Rodgers Grant Program 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 Aaron Rodgers Grant Program and consistent with the guidelines provided in the grant agreement. Contact David Little, executive vice president, at dlittle@nvcf.org with questions.

GRANT PROPOSAL APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

1. Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Grant Program

Eligible organizations that seek funding for qualified programs may apply to the Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery 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.