

AARON RODGERS NORCAL FIRE RECOVERY FUND at NVCF

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Spring Valley School near Concow will get a new playground with the help of a \$100,000 donation from Aaron Rodgers and the North Valley Community Foundation's Butte Strong Fund.

After the Camp Fire on Nov. 8, 2018, forced Concow School to close, students from Concow were relocated to Spring Valley School on Pentz Road near Highway 70. Spring Valley School had been closed since 2010 due to declining enrollment and fell into disrepair from lack of use. One of the items at the top of the wish list for the reopened kindergarten through eighth-grade school was a playground.

Josh Peete, superintendent of the Golden Feather Union School District, also serves as principal at Spring Valley. The school submitted a grant request to the Butte Strong Fund to cover part of the estimated \$250,000 cost for playground equipment. The Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Fund, held at NVCF, and the Butte Strong Fund each contributed \$50,000.

"The playground structure at Spring Valley School is about 25 years old and it's falling apart," said Peete. "We are so thankful to North Valley Community Foundation and Aaron Rodgers for this very generous donation toward a new playground for Golden Feather students.

"Play is an important part of healing. Our new playground will encourage the habit of exercise and foster the healthy physical development of children in our community," added Peete.

The school noted that the playground equipment poses safety hazards, including the lack of safe "fall zone" materials. The new playground will have physical fitness equipment, a play structure and a seesaw, which was a coveted student request.

The Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Fund and NVCF also combined to issue a \$100,000 grant for the Camp Fire Shed Project. The project is building 200 large, weather-proof sheds to provide storage for residents living on their property in

recreational vehicles and other temporary housing. The sheds are being built by Paradise Adventist Church and Maranatha Volunteers International.

With the latest grants, the North Valley Community Foundation has awarded more than \$29.3 million for community recovery via the Butte Strong Fund, Aaron Rodgers Fund, Camp Fire Relief Fund and donor-designated funds.

The Butte Strong Fund is a partnership of fundraising efforts led by NVCF, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. and the Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Fund.

The Butte Strong Fund provides funding for eligible organizations or local government entities that are directly serving people affected by the Camp Fire.

Organizations interested in applying for Butte Strong Fund grants can visit ButteStrongFund.org to determine if they qualify for funding. Those that do can submit a brief grant inquiry before being invited to submit a full application. Staff at NVCF will facilitate the application process.

The Butte Strong Fund is still receiving donations. Tax-deductible donations can be sent to Butte Strong Fund, 240 Main St., Suite 260, Chico, CA 95928 or by visiting www.buttestrongfund.org.