



BUTTE STRONG

FUND



AARON RODGERS
NORCAL
FIRE RECOVERY
FUND at NVCF



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The Butte Strong Fund has awarded more than \$1.1 million to five projects that will clear brush and trees in the Camp Fire footprint.

Creating defensible space was identified by the Butte Strong Fund citizens committee as one of the top priorities for the final year of grants. Organizations applied in February and five projects received grants:

- \$245,286 to the Fuel Reduction Assistance Program operated by Paradise Alliance Church. The program has operated on the ridge for more than a year, clearing trees and brush for free.
- \$250,000 to the Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council to clear properties and create 200 acres of fuel breaks.
- \$186,000 to From the Ground Up Farms, which clears properties in Concow.
- \$249,583 to the Butte County Fire Safe Council, which has a long history of creating defensible space in the region.
- \$200,000 for All Hands and Hearts, a national organization that mobilizes volunteers to create defensible space.

“Even more than four years after the fire, the necessity to clear defensible space around homes and clear lots of flammable material is as important as ever,” said Chris Copeland, NVCF program officer who worked with all applicants on their proposals. “There are dead, burned trees still standing and others that have fallen that need to be removed. Many homeowners don’t have the financial means to do this work. These proposals will help people in need.”

For more information about the programs and how to inquire about getting assistance, contact the organizations that are receiving grants.

In addition to the large grants for defensible space, the Butte Strong Fund made the following awards through its Small Grant Program:

- \$50,000 to the Paradise Ridge Chamber of Commerce for a comprehensive marketing campaign to draw new residents to the ridge and stimulate business attraction and retention.
- \$50,000 to the Butte-Glenn Community College District for a project called “Breaking Cycles and Creating Change,” which provides tools and skills for employees and caregivers to deal with the trauma caused by wildfires.
- \$45,589 to Tiny Pine Foundation for structural improvements to tiny homes that were previously funded by Butte Strong Fund grants. The funding will create overhangs around the structure and a small covered porch.
- \$15,000 to Mindful Littles to provide farm to school experiences for nine schools. Through this program, students will get to experience a farmers market on their school site and get to choose fresh produce from local farmers.

With the latest grants, NVCF has funded \$58,917,295 through grants and projects since the Camp Fire on Nov. 8, 2018. The Butte Strong Fund is a partnership of NVCF, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. and the Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Fund.

The next quarter’s focus is land acquisition for low-income housing, along with resource centers that collect and distribute goods to fire survivors. Applications will be open in April with a May 1 deadline to apply.

Learn more about 2023 grant cycles and how to apply at www.nvcf.org/buttestrongfundapply.