



REBUILD BIDWELL
MANSION FUND

NVCF.ORG

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In response to the devastating fire that destroyed Chico's Bidwell Mansion this morning, North Valley Community Foundation has opened a fund to jump-start the rebuilding effort.

The Rebuild Bidwell Mansion Fund was created in partnership with Tri Counties Bank and California State University, Chico. Tri Counties Bank seeded the fund with a \$50,000 donation.

Donations can be made online at www.nvcf.org/funds/rebuild-bidwell-mansion-fund or at any Tri Counties Bank location. Checks made out to Rebuild Bidwell Mansion Fund can also be mailed to: North Valley Community Foundation, 1811 Concord Ave., Suite 220, Chico, CA 95928.

"Like so many in our community, we were devastated by this news – and of course, when people receive bad news, they want to know how they can help," said NVCF President and CEO Alexa Benson-Valavanis. "We are grateful to partner with Tri Counties Bank and Chico State on a fund to allow us to do just that."

"Our hearts are with the Chico community in the tragic destruction of Bidwell Mansion," said Tri Counties Bank President and CEO Rick Smith. "We encourage Chicoans to join us in a donation to the restoration of our most historic landmark."

"Our Chico State community and generations of alumni share the sadness of what was lost in this fire," said Chico State President Steve Perez. "While the Bidwells have a complex and complicated legacy, the mansion has long stood as a landmark and beautiful gateway to our campus and played a key role in the university's history. We are deeply saddened by its destruction as a historical building and for all the artifacts and cultural items of this region's history that perished in the fire."

Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park is owned and operated by the state, which will make the decision on whether to rebuild. If the mansion is not rebuilt, funds raised could be used for any later effort to memorialize or commemorate Bidwell Mansion.

“We understand State Parks officials are still trying to determine whether Bidwell Mansion can be rebuilt and that might take some time, but our fund and our community are here to help however we can,” said Benson-Valavanis. “The Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris just reopened five years after a devastating fire. That proves there is always hope.”