



BUTTE STRONG

FUND



AARON RODGERS
NORCAL
FIRE RECOVERY
FUND at NVCF



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Dec. 18, 2019

The Butte Strong Fund committee approved several grants this month, including money to pay for an upper ridge development plan and funding to keep the Magalia Community Church's Resource Center in operation for an additional six months.

With the latest grants, the North Valley Community Foundation has awarded more than \$29.8 million for community recovery via the Butte Strong 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 Aaron Rodgers, the Green Bay Packers quarterback and Chico native.

Butte County was granted \$250,000 based on the county's request to develop a planning blueprint for Magalia and the upper ridge – the unincorporated area north of Paradise town limits. The county would like to work with business and property owners on what would be an extension of the county General Plan, which was adopted in 2010.

The county plans to host community meetings, then develop a land-use blueprint for post-Camp Fire recovery. The plan aims to provide policy direction for growth, circulation, infrastructure, conservation and development. The county would like to encourage a variety of housing types, including affordable housing.

The town of Paradise did its own post-fire development plan earlier this year with the help of a Butte Strong Fund grant.

Other grants approved this month included:

- Magalia Community Church Resource Center: A \$102,101 grant will help the church keep its resource center open an additional six months. The church serves thousands of Camp Fire survivors each month. The church offers food, clothing, housewares, counseling services, and laundry and shower facilities. It also hosts 24 recreational vehicles belonging to survivors.
- Paradise community dinners: A grant of \$22,728 will help Paradise Alliance Church continue free weekly dinners that serve as a gathering place for fire survivors who live on the ridge.
- Internet connectivity for Concow schoolchildren: A \$7,540 grant will pay data rates for students in the Golden Feather Union Elementary School District. T-Mobile donated 29 digital MiFi devices to students and additional devices to staff. These devices facilitate cellular connection and provide students with access to web-based learning materials.
- Concow community barbecue: A \$2,000 grant helped From The Ground Up Farms Inc. host a barbecue and events on the anniversary of the Camp Fire.
- Oroville Police Department K-9 Program: A \$20,000 grant will help Oroville police add one K-9 team to help the city address a population that increased significantly after the Camp Fire.
- Recovery and resiliency: A \$40,259 grant will help Chico State University develop a Resiliency Collaborative, which will focus on supporting research, securing resources, implementing projects and telling stories focused on the recovery and resiliency of our region.
- Student supplies: The Bidwell Junior High School Foundation requested \$5,000 to help 50 students enrolled at Bidwell whose families were directly affected by the Camp Fire. Based upon recommendations from school counselors or case managers, students could be provided with P.E. clothing, backpacks, school supplies, hygiene kits, clothing, shoes and other needs.
- Concow sheds: A grant of \$24,250 will help From The Ground Up Farms Inc. provide 30 sheds to protect pump houses for fire survivors in Concow, Yankee Hill, Jarbo Gap and other affected areas. The sheds will help ensure that people don't lose their water supply over the winter.

The Butte Strong Fund provides funding for eligible organizations or local government entities that are directly serving people affected by the Camp Fire. Individual assistance is handled through those organizations with a centralized case management system.

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.