



BUTTE STRONG

FUND



AARON RODGERS
NORCAL
FIRE RECOVERY
FUND at NVCF



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The Butte Strong Fund has approved more than \$600,000 in new grants, including \$250,000 for Habitat for Humanity to buy home lots in Paradise for affordable housing.

The nine grants total \$610,805. The North Valley Community Foundation has now awarded more than \$40 million for community recovery via Camp Fire funds since the devastating fire on Nov. 8, 2018.

The Butte Strong Fund is a partnership of fundraising efforts led by NVCF, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. and Aaron Rodgers, the Chico native and three-time NFL Most Valuable Player.

The grant to Habitat for Humanity of Butte County will help the organization buy lots on the ridge. The organization's goal is to purchase 30 lots and build four to six homes a year for the next five to 10 years.

Other Butte Strong Fund grants awarded this month include:

- \$103,305 for a tree removal project in Concow managed by From The Ground Up Farms. The organization will remove dangerous, deadly trees from Concow properties for families for free. This project would remove dangerous trees in the Highway 70 corridor (Concow, Yankee Hill, Pulga, Big Bend, Jarbo Gap and Cherokee). It also will help with defensible space requirements and lot clearing as needed. The program aims to help 24-36 families at first and estimates it will remove about 1,200 trees.

- \$50,000 for United Policyholders to provide guidance for homeowners trying to navigate rebuilding and insurance settlements. The organization's Roadmap to Recovery Program is free for fire survivors. It includes education workshops, virtual question-and-answer forums, a resource library, and virtual pro bono legal clinics and financial decision-making clinics. The organization also provides help with the ongoing PG&E Fire Victims Trust distribution process.
- \$50,000 in funding to Youth on the Ridge Community Foundation for the recently unveiled "Rediscover the Ridge" video series and public relations initiative designed to draw visitors and homeowners to the ridge.
- \$30,000 to Paradise Gleaners/Butte County Gleaners to provide food and other necessities to fire survivors and at-risk populations. The grant was augmented by \$10,000 from NVCF's North Complex Fire Grant Program and \$10,000 from NVCF's Coronavirus Rapid Response Fund. The effort will take place over a two-month to three-month period and hopes to serve more than 3,000 people.
- \$50,000 to allow Sol Sanctuary to continue to provide community wellness services to Camp Fire survivors. Sol Sanctuary offers both online and socially distanced in-person health and wellness services. Referrals to the program come from community partners, including case managers and Adventist Health.
- \$17,000 for vouchers to help parents in the Concow area transport students to Spring Valley School. The grant funds a collaboration between the Golden Feather Union Elementary School District and the Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council. The program provides gas vouchers for parents in the district, which has 69 students and does not have bus drivers or operational buses.
- \$50,000 for counseling services to adults, seniors and disabled Camp Fire survivors through Caring Choices. The grant will allow Caring Choices to add 30 new clients for in-person and virtual counseling services in the next six months, as well as retain their current clients.
- \$10,500 to the Tzu Chi Foundation to build a food distribution center as part of John and Teri Rubiolo's "I AM's Garden" meal service facility. The grant will pay for the metal building, and Tzu Chi will fund the concrete foundation.

Organizations interested in applying for Butte Strong Fund grants can visit nvcf.org/buttestrongfund to determine if they qualify for funding.