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# BUTTE STRONG

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## FUND



AARON RODGERS  
NORCAL  
FIRE RECOVERY  
FUND at NVCF



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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 17, 2022**

The Butte Strong Fund has awarded a grant of more than \$500,000 to help the Camp Fire Collaborative continue to do its important work for at least another two years.

The grant of \$501,948 was approved by the Butte Strong Fund citizens committee.

The Camp Fire Collaborative, formerly called the Camp Fire Long Term Recovery Group, performs many fire recovery functions. The organization works with and connects the dozens of organizations aiding in the recovery effort.

One big focus of the Camp Fire Collaborative is case management for fire survivors. The Camp Fire Collaborative manages the complex system, with the ultimate goal of helping individuals and families find housing and other resources. The goal is to restore fire survivors to their pre-disaster housing conditions, as nearly as possible.

The approved grant includes money earmarked for staffing and operations. The Butte Strong Fund and NVCF have already committed more than \$10.5 million to help build a case management system, hire case managers and then provide assistance to survivors.

“We greatly appreciate this support for operational costs through June 2024,” said Bruce Yerman, director of operations for the Camp Fire Collaborative. “This two-year commitment sends a message to the community that we are in business and committed to the recovery. It allows disaster case management agencies, volunteer rebuild organizations, other nonprofits, funders of the unmet needs roundtables and the greater

community to extend their plans accordingly. We still have much work to do and feel fortunate to be able to continue it.”

The Butte Strong Fund is a partnership of fundraising efforts led by North Valley Community Foundation, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. and NFL quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

With this month’s grants totaling \$576,271, NVCF has awarded \$52,188,077 for community recovery since the Camp Fire on Nov. 8, 2018. The Butte Strong Fund will continue to hand out grants for roughly another year and a half, until all donations are exhausted.

Other recent Butte Strong Fund grants awarded include:

- \$49,823 to From the Ground Up Farms for another year of funding for a tree removal and property-clearing program that was established last year. The grant will fund the clearing of woody debris and the purchase of a water trailer. The program has been very successful and allowed From The Ground Up Farms to broaden its collaborative efforts to include the Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council and the CHIPS program out of Calaveras County.
- \$24,500 to Paradise Charter Middle School for a student support program focused on social and emotional growth. The grant funds an on-site counselor for the school for 10 hours a week and a behavioral specialist who is working with the school to launch the My Leap Start project, a behavioral management program that is restorative in nature.

Organizations interested in applying for Butte Strong Fund grants can visit [nvcf.org/buttestrongfund](http://nvcf.org/buttestrongfund) to determine if they qualify for funding. Donations to the fund can also be made on the web page.