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Camp Fire Relief Fund grants, focused immediately after the fire on short-term relief needs, will transition to longer-term healing and recovery efforts with grants issued through the new NVCF Camp Fire Healing Initiative and the existing Butte Strong Fund.

The NVCF Camp Fire Healing Initiative will focus on healing trauma by promoting mental, emotional, physical and spiritual wellness.

“There are so many pressing needs in our community since the fire, but one overwhelming urgency is addressing the trauma and supporting the mental and emotional healing of our community members,” said Alexa Benson-Valavanis, president and CEO of the NVCF. “This healing can take many forms, but the fact is people, especially children, continue to suffer the long-term effects of this catastrophic event.

“Our team at NVCF feels a need to dedicate additional resources to this healing. After six months working around the clock to address the needs of people impacted by the Camp Fire, we believe the NVCF Camp Fire Healing Initiative is the next best step to take, in conjunction with the Butte Strong Fund.”

The NVCF Camp Fire Healing Initiative will dedicate \$1 million from Camp Fire Relief Fund donations over a 12-month period. The grants will go to local organizations, agencies and schools working with residents affected by the Camp Fire and living in Butte, Glenn, Tehama and Colusa counties.

More information on the new initiative will be released in the coming weeks.

Since the Nov. 8 fire, the NVCF’s board of directors has approved about \$3 million in grants of \$50,000 or less through the Camp Fire Relief Fund and more than \$10 million total in all funds.

About 200 Camp Fire Relief Fund grants have been made to schools, organizations, government agencies and businesses providing immediate relief to those affected by the fire. That grant program will cease this month.

The last applications for Camp Fire Relief Fund grants must be received by 2 p.m. April 12. The final ones will be awarded April 29, then eligible applications can go to either the NVCF Camp Fire Healing Initiative or the Butte Strong Fund.

The Butte Strong Fund is a partnership of the NVCF, Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. and the Aaron Rodgers NorCal Fire Recovery Fund. It has awarded nearly \$6 million so far for long-term recovery focused on six areas: housing, health and wellness, education, community development, children and youth services, and business recovery.

See information on how to donate and how to apply for Butte Strong Fund grants at ButteStrongFund.org.