

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**NAPA VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
APPROVES MORE THAN \$2 MILLION FOR WILDFIRE RECOVERY AND PREVENTION**

*Grants will offer long-term aid to those affected by last year's wildfires,  
and staff-up county-wide fire prevention efforts*

**Wednesday, June 23, 2021, Napa, CA** - Napa Valley Community Foundation's Board of Directors today approved nearly \$2.2 million in new wildfire grants. The largest grants, up to \$2 million in total, will help last year's wildfire survivors with continued rebuilding and long-term recovery. Two grants totaling \$175,000 were approved for the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation (NCFF). The grants will enable the organization to hire its first paid staff, including its first Executive Director, at an opportune moment: NCFF is slated to receive and spend at least \$35 million over the next five years for county-wide fuel mitigations projects including shaded fire breaks, focus on safe egress and ingress routes, and other projects.

Of the amounts above, \$2.1 million will be distributed from the Napa Valley Community Disaster Relief Fund; and \$75,000 will be distributed from the Oakville Fund, a donor advised fund administered by NVCF that was established by a local family who once farmed the Berryessa Valley, and proudly continues a multi-generational commitment to land stewardship with its support of the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation.

Prior to this newest slate of grants, Napa Valley Community Foundation's response to the 2020 wildfires included disbursements of \$1.9 million for immediate relief services and cash assistance. As of June 15, more than 3,000 county residents affected by last year's wildfires have received services like medical care, temporary shelter and help to navigate insurance claims; and 1,912 households have received cash assistance in amounts ranging from \$50 to \$7,500. A previous grant for \$90,000 to the Napa Communities Firewise Foundation made it possible for the group to purchase the LIDAR system used to map high-hazard fire zones and build the county-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

"We are very grateful to Napa Valley Community Foundation for their support," said Napa Communities Firewise Foundation President Christopher Thompson. "They understand what nonprofits need to get the job done; and we are eager to get to work on our five-year Community Wildfire Protection Plan with their help."

Napa County survivors whose primary residence was damaged or destroyed by the 2020 wildfires are encouraged to call UpValley Family Centers at 707.965.5010 to learn about resources for rebuilding and long-term recovery. Assistance is available in English and Spanish.

**About Napa Valley Community Foundation**

Napa Valley Community Foundation works side-by-side with local donors and nonprofits to tackle the most important challenges our Valley faces. Now celebrating 26 years of service to the community, the Foundation has distributed more than \$85 million in grants to improve the quality of life for residents of the region, and currently serves as the philanthropic partner to thousands of individuals, families, nonprofit agencies and corporations in Napa Valley and beyond.

**About the Napa Valley Community Disaster Relief Fund**

The Napa Valley Community Disaster Relief Fund is managed by Napa Valley Community Foundation and was established with a \$10 million lead gift from Napa Valley Vintners following the 2014 South Napa Earthquake. So far, the Fund has distributed more than \$25 million for relief and recovery from recent disasters.

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