



**American
Red Cross**

California Wildfires: 2017-2018 **ONE & TWO-YEAR UPDATES**

November 2019



“We are comfortable; we are able to take care of each other,
and the Red Cross volunteers couldn’t be nicer.”

Josiah Murillo

When relentless blazes devastated communities across Northern and Southern California over the last two years, more than 7,000 American Red Cross disaster workers from across the U.S.— 90 percent of them volunteers—were there for tens of thousands of people in their darkest hours.

They provided shelter, relief and comfort for wildfires survivors like the Murillos, who were living in Ojai, California, when the massive 2017 Thomas Fire threatened, and saw their new community of Magalia, California, struck by 2018’s deadly Camp Fire.

Cover: Woolsey Fire survivor Damaris Aquino meets with Red Cross worker Marilyn Jimenez Davila in the Canoga Park neighborhood of Los Angeles. Damaris and her family received Red Cross assistance after losing their home to the wildfire. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

Above: The Murillo family shares a moment with Red Cross volunteer Vicki Eichstaedt at the Butte County Fairgrounds shelter in Gridley, California. Photo by Daniel Cima/American Red Cross

A Letter from Gail McGovern, President and CEO, American Red Cross



Over the last two years, multiple devastating wildfires have brought disruptive evacuations, terrifying escapes and heart-wrenching losses to families across California. For months on end, relentless blazes—including the deadliest and most destructive wildfires ever seen in the state—threatened cities, towns and rural areas, forever changing lives.

Whether in Paradise or Santa Rosa, Ventura County or suburban Los Angeles, I'm proud that, wherever there was suffering, dedicated American Red Cross workers were there, bringing vital aid to tens of thousands of wildfire survivors. Powered by the remarkable generosity of our donors, they helped deliver safe shelter, food, water and essential supplies for individuals and families in need, along with health services, emotional support, spiritual care and more.

When I visited a shelter and recovery center in Butte County just a few weeks after the horrific Camp Fire, people shared harrowing stories of narrow escapes, with flames practically licking at their heels. And across these tight-knit communities, I met residents who had experienced tragic losses—homes, friends and loved ones. The shock and trauma these survivors felt was heartbreaking, but I was also deeply moved by their determination and resilience. So many had lost everything, but they were grateful to be together with their families.

At the same time, I was awestruck by the heroic efforts of the Red Cross and community volunteers and law enforcement—many of whom had suffered losses of their own—as well as local, state and federal agencies, area businesses, non-profits and faith-based organizations, all working together to help people in some of the darkest hours of their lives. Red Crossers stood with survivors as they sifted through the ashes of ruined homes, and we have stayed by their sides as they walk the long road to recovery.

Thanks to our donors, we've provided millions of dollars in financial assistance to meet the urgent needs of residents who lost homes and belongings to the flames. We've also awarded millions more in grant assistance to partners doing important work in the affected communities—from rebuilding homes, to providing mental health services for survivors and preparedness training for children and their families.

For survivors coping with the tangible losses and emotional scars of these terrifying and destructive wildfires, recovery and healing can be a difficult process. But with the commitment of our supporters and the compassionate care of our employees and volunteers, they don't have to face these challenges alone. On behalf of those we serve, thank you for your trust.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gail McGovern". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gail McGovern



2018 California Wildfires



More than **379,400 meals and snacks** served with partners



More than **71,900 relief items** distributed



More than **73,300 individual care** contacts made



More than **69,400 overnight shelter stays** provided with partners



Over **10,000 damaged or destroyed households** provided with immediate and recovery **financial assistance totaling approximately \$35.8 million**

—Cumulative figures as of October 28, 2019

In fall 2018, the horrific Camp Fire—named for its origin point on Camp Creek Road in Butte County—devastated the small Northern California town of Paradise and nearby communities, including Concow, Pulga and Magalia. The deadliest and most destructive wildfire in state history, this fast-moving firestorm traveled 17 miles in less than 12 hours on November 8, taking 85 lives and reducing thousands of homes to ash and cinders.

In Southern California, the Woolsey Fire ignited on the same day, killing three people and forcing more than 295,000 residents from their homes in Los Angeles and Ventura counties. Thousands more people were afflicted by multiple blazes over the preceding summer, including the Carr Fire in Shasta and Trinity Counties and the vast Mendocino Complex Fire.

American Red Cross volunteers and employees joined local partners to deliver relief and comfort to wildfire survivors, many of whom had lost nearly everything. They helped open and staff shelters, offering refuge for tens of thousands of evacuees, and provided warm meals, relief items and cleanup supplies—as

well as sorely needed emotional support and spiritual care for heartbroken residents and the families of fire victims. In addition, specially trained volunteers offered support for people with disabilities and those with access and functional needs—a community that is often disproportionately affected by disasters.

Powered by the generosity of our donors, we also provided immediate financial assistance totaling \$8.7 million to thousands of severely impacted survivors in the weeks after the fires struck. This timely aid helped them pay for urgent needs, such as clothing, utilities, groceries and more.

For more than a year, the Red Cross has continued to offer compassionate care and critical resources for people affected by the 2018 California wildfires. Hundreds of displaced Butte County residents found temporary homes at Red Cross and community shelters, remaining for months as they sought scarce housing in nearby towns. Through these dark days and weeks, we continued to provide meals, personal care items and other necessities for these fire-weary survivors.

Above: Essence, Anna (age 9) and Corey evacuated at 2 a.m. after the Woolsey Fire threatened their home. They took refuge at the Red Cross shelter in the Woodland Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles. Photo by Roxanne Schorbach/American Red Cross

Supporting Recovery for Wildfire Survivors and their Communities

Our work doesn't end when the fires are contained and the smoke clears. Recovering from disasters of this magnitude takes time, and the Red Cross has worked alongside a wide range of partners, including government agencies, non-profit groups, faith-based organizations, area businesses and others, to coordinate relief and recovery efforts for people with unmet needs.

In the year since the 2018 wildfires upended the lives of thousands of people, we have continued to stand with the survivors, providing financial assistance to help the most severely affected residents get back on their feet and supporting the vital recovery work of partners with specialized expertise through community grants.

Recovery Financial Assistance

As of October 28, 2019, the Red Cross had provided financial assistance totaling over \$27 million to more than 10,000 individuals and families who were most severely impacted by the 2018 California wildfires. This support funded some of their most pressing needs, such as home repairs, replacing lost appliances and furnishings, paying for temporary housing, clothing for children, transportation costs and more. The following stories were graciously shared by a few of the thousands of impacted residents who received this recovery assistance.

Janelle DiMartino, Paradise (Camp Fire)

Janelle DiMartino, a longtime area resident, and her now three-year-old daughter, Bella, had little warning before the devastating Camp Fire swept through Paradise. "The panic was just so real," she said. "After calling my family, I started hearing people scream, 'Get your stuff, get your stuff, you need to get out!'"

Janelle grabbed diapers and a few toys for Bella before fleeing with her daughter, never thinking it would be the last time she'd see their apartment. She met other family members in nearby Chico, and later slept on the floor at a friend's house. Soon after, Janelle learned that her apartment and all its contents had been consumed by the inferno.

"The Red Cross really helps people. I'm so incredibly grateful."

Janelle DiMartino, Camp Fire survivor

Nevertheless, she felt fortunate. "My family is okay," Janelle said. "That's really all that matters."

The Red Cross provided financial assistance that helped Janelle settle into a new apartment and purchase a bed, since she and Bella had been sleeping on the floor. Today, Janelle works near Chico and Bella attends school there, but she hopes to return to Paradise someday.

She told us that she has "no idea" where she'd be without support from the Red Cross, other community partners and neighbors. "Most everything in my house has been donated to me. I don't really have a lot of money because I'm a single parent."

"The Red Cross really helps people," she added. "I'm so incredibly grateful!"



Janelle DiMartino (right) lost her home when the Camp Fire swept through Paradise. Now living in nearby Chico, she received financial assistance from the Red Cross to help get back on her feet. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

Damaris Aquino and family, Canoga Park, Los Angeles (Woolsey Fire)

Damaris Aquino and her husband could see helicopters dropping water in the hills near their Los Angeles-area home as they responded to the Woolsey Fire, but she was told her neighborhood wasn't in immediate danger. The next morning, as Damaris began to see flames along with the smoke, she realized the family—including her then-1-year-old son J.D.—had to go.



Damaris Aquino and her family lost everything to the Woolsey Fire. Financial assistance from the Red Cross helped the family meet urgent needs, pay for groceries and buy clothes for her son, J.D. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

Damaris was reluctant to evacuate, but the fire kept getting worse. Damaris' brother, who lives up a nearby hill and lingered longer, told her the bad news: "You're going to lose everything."

After 14 years of marriage and with another child on the way, Damaris and her husband suddenly had no home. To make matters worse, their home was not insured. The family was in shock and didn't know what to do. "We had no clothes," she said. "We lost absolutely everything."

A friend from church helped connect the family with the Red Cross, and they received financial assistance that paid for food for the family, clothes for J.D. and helped meet other living expenses. The family was also able to buy a small trailer, where they are living while they seek additional support to rebuild a more permanent home.

Damaris was thankful for the assistance the family received from the Red Cross. "I didn't know what good people were out there until I met some of the people that work at the Red Cross," she said. "There are many people out there, like myself, that need help in a disaster."

Bonnie Castro, Redding (Carr Fire)

Bonnie Castro, a recently retired building materials inspector, was living in a senior home park in Redding with her 26-year-old son when the Carr Fire threatened the community. Her son, who goes to school in Sacramento, grabbed some personal items as they made their way to the car, along with two neighbors and Bonnie's dog, Bernie.

"I'll never forget that moment," Bonnie said, explaining how her son turned to her and asked, "Mom, do you want to go inside one more time for anything?" "Drive," she said, realizing they had no more time to spare. Bonnie lost her home and all its contents that night.

Bonnie was impressed with how the Redding community came together during this time. "It's the little things," she explained, speaking of how neighbors stepped up to help neighbors. She was also impressed by the support she received from the Red Cross.

With the park where she used to live wiped out, Bonnie moved closer to her daughter and young grandson. With Red Cross financial assistance, she purchased an air conditioner and redid part of the flooring in her new home. Bonnie also used some of the Red Cross funds to buy materials for a picket fence that matches the one at her former residence destroyed by the fire. She keeps a charred piece of that old fence with her as a reminder of the home she lost, but also her good fortune to be alive.



Bonnie Castro tells Red Cross volunteer Rosemarie Nobili about her narrow escape from the Carr Fire—holding a charred piece of fence that is all she has left of her former home. Bonnie received Red Cross assistance that helped her settle into a new home. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

Grants for Community-Based Recovery Services

Along with recovery financial assistance for severely affected residents, the Red Cross is also supporting community-based recovery efforts in California through strategic grants to non-profit organizations with a strong track record of providing vital services. This includes organizations able to provide home repair and rebuilding services, and others that provide mental health services across the affected counties, with a focus on the needs of children and youth.

In addition, the Red Cross is helping fund other recovery services such as Long-Term Recovery Committees, financial counseling, and programs that assist people with disabilities, the elderly and underserved communities. With more than \$5.8 million awarded as of October 28, 2019, grant recipients are providing a wide range of services across Northern and Southern California.

For example, the Red Cross is providing a local nonprofit, the North Valley Community Foundation, with a grant of nearly \$3.4 million to support services across multiple areas, including housing repair and relocation, community resiliency, support for vulnerable populations and more.

One recipient awarded funding under this grant, the Rebuild Paradise Foundation, is led by Charles Brooks, himself a former Paradise resident and Camp Fire survivor. After losing a neighbor and a cherished community to the wildfire, he was determined to return, and founded Rebuild Paradise to assist others who wish to reconstruct homes in the devastated Paradise Ridge communities with the considerable upfront costs involved, such as building plans, assessments, permits and pre-work needed before construction can begin.

In addition, the Red Cross has awarded more than \$675,000 to local Habitat for Humanity chapters in Butte County, Los Angeles County and Yuba County to acquire land and support construction of new houses for residents who lost their homes to the 2018 fires.

Another Red Cross grantee, Youth for Change, is working in collaboration with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the North Valley to provide therapeutic learning and engagement programs to Paradise and Magalia youth coping with grief and loss after the traumatic impact of the Camp Fire. They are offering classes and trainings around resilience, stress reduction and other coping skills and techniques for parents and guardians, as well



Charles Brooks (above) and Kelly Doty (below), both survivors of the Camp Fire that devastated Paradise Ridge communities, are supporting recovery through their leadership of Red Cross community grantees the Rebuild Paradise Foundation and Youth for Change. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

as providing children with counseling, creative activities to process grief and trauma, afterschool expanded learning programs and more.

Youth for Change executive director Kelly Doty, who, like Charles Brooks, is a wildfire survivor, welcomed the funding support and case manager provided by Red Cross donors. “On so many different levels, the Red Cross is involved,” she said. “Now more than ever, we need to take the approach that we’re in it together.”

To learn more about our 2018 California Wildfires recovery grants, including a list of grantees to date, please visit [redcross.org/californiawildfires2018](https://www.redcross.org/californiawildfires2018).

Compassionate Donors Fund Relief and Recovery for 2018 Wildfire Survivors

None of our response or recovery assistance would be possible without the extraordinary support of our donors. The Red Cross has raised \$65.8 million, including the value of critical donated goods and services, to help people affected by the 2018 California Wildfires. As of October 28, 2019, the Red Cross had

programmed approximately \$53.2 million on emergency relief and recovery efforts for the 2018 California Wildfires. The remaining funds will be used to fund recovery initiatives through our trusted partners to help with unmet needs for individuals, families and communities affected by the 2018 wildfires.

2018 California Wildfires Expenses and Commitments (in millions)

As of October 28, 2019 (\$65.8 million raised)

Expense Categories	Food, Shelter and Relief Items	Health and Emotional Support	Immediate Financial Assistance	Individual and Community Recovery	Total	Expense %
Financial assistance, food and other relief items	\$2.0	\$0.2	\$8.7	\$27.1	\$38.0	71%
Deployment and maintenance of volunteers and staff (includes airfare, lodging, meals and vehicles)	\$3.2	\$0.6	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$4.0	8%
Long-term recovery grants to help meet unmet needs ¹	—	—	—	\$1.7	\$1.7	3%
Kitchen, shelter and other logistics that enable service delivery	\$1.2	—	—	—	\$1.2	2%
Full-time Red Cross employees	\$0.6	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.3	\$1.1	2%
Freight, postage and warehousing	\$0.8	—	—	—	\$0.8	2%
Temporary disaster hires	\$0.1	—	—	\$0.6	\$0.7	1%
IT, communications and call centers	\$0.1	—	\$0.2	\$0.3	\$0.6	1%
Equipment, maintenance and fueling of Red Cross emergency vehicles and rented trucks	\$0.3	—	—	—	\$0.3	1%
Total Program Expenses	\$8.3	\$0.9	\$9.1	\$30.1	\$48.4	91%
Management, general and fundraising ²					\$4.8	9%
Total Expenses					\$53.2	100%
Program dollars remaining to be spent (includes grant funds awarded but not disbursed)					\$11.5	
Management, general and fundraising remaining to be applied					\$1.1	
Total Budget					\$65.8	

¹\$4.1M remaining to be disbursed on grants already signed. Does not include partner organizations' administrative costs related to the grant, which are approximately 1–3 percent of the awarded amount. These costs are reflected in the management, general and fundraising rows.

²Management, general and fundraising expenses support our work at its core and are indispensable to running the organization and helping people in need. They include the people and systems to maintain our enterprise-wide computer and telecommunications, HR and payroll systems to support our more than 20,000 employees and approximately 300,000 volunteers, fundraising and communications functions, and other support services across all program lines.

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American
Cross

Disaster Relief

HOPE
STARTS
WITH US
American Red Cross

California
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TECH





2017 California Wildfires



More than **307,800 meals and snacks** served with partners



More than **216,200 relief items** distributed



More than **30,300 individual care** contacts made



More than **39,200 overnight shelter stays** provided with partners



Over **6,700 damaged or destroyed households** provided with immediate and recovery **financial assistance totaling approximately \$12.8 million**

—Cumulative figures as of October 28, 2019

Two years ago, 2017's then-unprecedented wildfires consumed half a million acres across Northern and Southern California. When these fast-moving infernos forced thousands from their homes and inflicted devastating damage, the American Red Cross worked around the clock to support residents dealing with the stress of displacement and uncertainty about the future.

The October 2017 wildfires—including the destructive Tubbs Fire—had a tragic impact on the city of Santa Rosa and other Northern California communities, killing over 40 people. In addition, thousands of individuals and families saw their homes and belongings damaged or destroyed by flames. Over 90,000 people in Northern California evacuated just ahead of fast-moving fires that devoured homes and entire neighborhoods.

Southern California suffered a second major wildfire outbreak, starting in December 2017 and lasting into the new year. The Thomas Fire—at the time, the largest in

California history—consumed more than 281,000 acres across Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. All told, the Southern California blazes took two lives and forced more than 230,000 people from their homes. The onset of winter rains brought little relief, unleashing massive debris flows from fire-swept hillsides. Terrifying rivers of mud, boulders and other debris killed 21 people, mostly in the Montecito area, and destroyed over 100 homes.

As these tragic disasters ravaged California communities, Red Cross volunteers and employees were on hand, joining with our disaster relief partners to bring help and hope. They provided safe shelter for displaced families, along with warm meals, vital relief and comfort items, cleanup supplies and much-needed emotional support for wildfire survivors coping with almost unbearable grief and loss. The Red Cross also provided severely impacted residents \$3.3 million in immediate financial assistance to help meet urgent needs.

Above: Sisters Selam (left) and Simret (right) play with their cousin, 4-year-old Ruth, to help pass the time while their family seeks refuge from the Tubbs Wildfire at a Red Cross shelter in Santa Rosa, California. Photo by Marko Kokic/American Red Cross

Red Cross Delivers Ongoing Recovery Support after 2017 Wildfires

After the emergency response phase of a disaster operation ends, the Red Cross remains by the sides of the affected individuals and families. Working together with government agencies, non-profit groups, faith-based organizations, area businesses and others, we help coordinate recovery efforts to help people on the long journey to recovery.

Over the two years since the 2017 wildfires ravaged communities and altered thousands of lives, we have supported the ongoing recovery needs of affected residents, providing financial assistance for severely damaged households and helping to fund the critical work of our partner organizations with specialized expertise through community grants.

Recovery Financial Assistance

As of October 28, 2019, the Red Cross had provided financial assistance totaling approximately \$9.5 million to more than 6,700 individuals and families who were most severely impacted by the 2017 wildfires. This support helped them meet some of their most pressing needs, such as home repairs, replacing lost appliances and furnishings, paying for temporary housing, clothing for children, transportation costs and more. The following stories were graciously shared by a few of the thousands of impacted residents who received this recovery assistance.

Ramon Villanueva-Rojas and Leonila Solorio, Ojai (Thomas Fire)

Ramon and Leonila were both at work when the Thomas Fire threatened their home between Ojai and Santa Paula, California—small towns in Ventura County about 90 miles northwest of Los Angeles. “It seemed like the fire was following us,” Ramon recalled of that harrowing day on the ranch where he worked. Ramon barely escaped the fire, driving with a coworker in a 4x4 through the flames as they closed in. Leonila was waiting for him at Ramon’s brother’s house.

The couple’s rental unit was consumed by the Thomas Fire, along with all their possessions. The only things they could salvage were a pair of cooking utensils, which Ramon fashioned into a cross. “It was very devastating. It was so hard,” said Leonila.

“We were so blessed that the Red Cross helped us when we needed it. You never know when it’s going to happen to you.”

Leonila Solorio, Thomas Fire survivor

Ramon pulled out the first assistance card that he received after the fire. He keeps it as a reminder of the support the Red Cross provided. “We are so appreciative of the support the Red Cross has given us,” he said. “It really helped. You were one of the first to help us.”

Lucky to have family in the area, the couple stayed with Leonila’s mother until they moved into a donated trailer in Ojai, on property where Leonila cleans and manages the owner’s Airbnb, while Ramon works in maintenance on another ranch. Red Cross recovery assistance helped them make upgrades to the trailer’s bathroom, and little by little, they’ve been able to replace what they lost and find a new normal. “Thank you so much for everything,” said Ramon.



Ramon Villanueva-Rojas and his wife, Leonila Solorio, share their story with Red Cross volunteer Carol Mirassou. Ramon and Leonila lost everything they owned to the Thomas Fire. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross



Tubbs Fire survivor Steve Schneider (along with his dog, Bruno) meets with Red Cross youth volunteer Tyler at his new home in Santa Rosa. Steve and his wife lost their former home to the fire. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

Steve Schneider and family, Santa Rosa (Tubbs Fire)

Steve shared a familiar story about a narrow escape from the devastating October 2017 Tubbs Fire in Sonoma County. His wife woke up at 3:30 in the morning and immediately noticed something was wrong. When they opened the door, there was ash swirling down and smoke started coming in rapidly. Looking up at a nearby fire station, they saw it was in flames.

They knew they had to leave; Steve only had time to grab his dog, Bruno, the dog's water bowl and some bottled water. "As much as I wanted to go back into the house, one gulp of smoke almost wiped me out," he said. The couple drove to safety through "a wall of fire." When they later were able to return to their home, all that remained was the front door.

They lived in a 200-square foot hotel room with Bruno for 18 months, experiencing one loss after the next, including their business. "Then the Red Cross comes in," he said. "At this point in my life, there was no one to fall back on. It was as much psychological as financial."

"Being homeless changes your mental state," he added, "so when people start to help, that changes your ability to think clearly." Steve explained that the Red Cross came in with help twice, offering financial assistance immediately after the fire and additional recovery assistance a few months later. "The Red Cross made

me feel like there was someone out there that was caring and giving, and I needed that," he said.

The Red Cross and other organizations provided a variety of support that helped Steve and his wife get into a new home. Steve was also able to use financial assistance from the Red Cross to pay for emergency veterinary care for Bruno, who was having seizures. "I feel like every day is a gift with him. He's been with me through every tough time," Steve said. "I can't thank you enough."

Grants for Community-Based Recovery Services

As with our recovery support for people impacted by the 2018 wildfires, the Red Cross has also funded community-based recovery efforts for residents affected by the 2017 fires across California, awarding grants to non-profit organizations that have a strong track record of providing vital services.

This includes organizations focusing on rebuilding or repairing homes, health, mental health and social services, as well as recovery management and financial planning. In addition, the Red Cross is helping fund the provision of other recovery support, such as local Long-Term Recovery Groups and programs that assist children, underserved communities and people with disabilities. With more than \$3.1 million awarded as of October 28, 2019, grant recipients are providing a wide range of services across Northern and Southern California.

In Sonoma and Napa Counties, funds awarded to grantees On the Move and Latino Service Providers are supporting outreach to the Latinx community. On the Move's "La Plaza" project offers a safe and comfortable space in a wildfire-impacted and lower-income area where organizations offer culturally specific approaches to mental health and wellness. The organization's "Thriving Schools" project is supporting programs focused on wellness and healthy behaviors in six of the area's highest need schools. With Red Cross funding, Latino Service Providers is empowering youth "promotores" with disaster preparedness and mental health education that they then share with their families and the larger community.

The Red Cross has also awarded grants totaling approximately \$900,000 to non-profit partner North Coast Opportunities of Lake and Mendocino counties, supporting major repair and rebuilding of housing damaged or destroyed by the 2017 fires. North Coast Opportunities describes its mission as strengthening

communities through responsive advocacy, engagement and services, with a focus on lower-income and vulnerable populations.

Community Action Partnership (CAP), a social services nonprofit in Santa Rosa, has used a \$400,000 grant award to help fund an additional caseworker and provide support for those now in the rebuilding process that have gaps in their insurance coverage or housing arrangements.

"With the Red Cross funding, we have gone out with our outreach worker and are targeting homes that may have not received help," explained CAP's assistant director, Kathy Kane. "We're also reaching out to people who may have early on said they may not need anything, but come back later."

To learn more about our 2017 California Wildfires recovery grants, including a list of grantees to date, please visit [redcross.org/californiawildfires2017](https://www.redcross.org/californiawildfires2017).



Javier Rivera, of Red Cross grantee On the Move, discusses their "La Plaza" project with volunteer Julie Ito in Santa Rosa. Photo by Scott Dalton/American Red Cross

Generous Supporters Power Relief and Recovery Following 2017 Wildfires

None of our response or recovery assistance would be possible without the extraordinary support of our donors. The Red Cross has raised \$29.3 million, including the value of critical donated goods and services, to help people affected by the 2017 California Wildfires and Debris Flows. As of October 28, 2019, the Red Cross had programmed approximately

\$27.2 million on emergency relief and recovery efforts for these disasters. The remaining funds will be used to fund recovery initiatives through our trusted partners to help with unmet needs for individuals, families and communities affected by the 2017 wildfires and debris flows.

2017 California Wildfires and Debris Flows Expenses and Commitments (in millions)

As of October 28, 2019 (\$29.3 million raised)

Expense Categories	Food, Shelter and Relief Items	Health and Emotional Support	Immediate Financial Assistance	Individual and Community Recovery	Total	Expense %
Financial assistance, food and other relief items	\$2.5	—	\$3.3	\$9.5	\$15.3	56%
Deployment and maintenance of volunteers and staff (includes airfare, lodging, meals and vehicles)	\$2.5	\$0.7	\$0.3	\$0.1	\$3.6	13%
Long-term recovery grants to help meet unmet needs ¹	—	—	—	\$2.3	\$2.3	9%
Freight, postage and warehousing	\$1.3	—	—	—	\$1.3	5%
Full-time Red Cross employees	\$0.4	—	\$0.2	\$0.1	\$0.7	3%
Temporary disaster hires	—	—	—	\$0.5	\$0.5	2%
Equipment, maintenance and fueling of Red Cross emergency vehicles and rented trucks	\$0.4	—	—	—	\$0.4	1%
IT, communications and call centers	\$0.3	—	—	—	\$0.3	1%
Kitchen, shelter and other logistics that enable service delivery	\$0.3	—	—	—	\$0.3	1%
Total Program Expenses	\$7.7	\$0.7	\$3.8	\$12.5	\$24.7	91%
Management, general and fundraising ²					\$2.4	9%
Total Expenses					\$27.2	100%
Program dollars remaining to be spent (includes grant funds awarded but not disbursed)					\$1.9	
Management, general and fundraising remaining to be applied					\$0.2	
Total Budget					\$29.3	

¹\$0.8M remaining to be disbursed on grants already signed. Does not include partner organizations' administrative costs related to the grant, which are approximately 1–3 percent of the awarded amount. These costs are reflected in the management, general and fundraising rows.

²Management, general and fundraising expenses support our work at its core and are indispensable to running the organization and helping people in need. They include the people and systems to maintain our enterprise-wide computer and telecommunications, HR and payroll systems to support our more than 20,000 employees and approximately 300,000 volunteers, fundraising and communications functions, and other support services across all program lines. 91 cents of every dollar received for the 2017 California Wildfires and Debris Flows will be spent on services to people affected by the 2017 California Wildfires and Debris Flows.

You Helped People in their Darkest Hours

The extraordinary generosity of the public helped tens of thousands of people after the 2017 and 2018 California Wildfires. Thank you!



Thank you!

The Red Cross responds to an average of more than 62,000 disasters per year—including single-family or apartment home fires, severe weather, floods and wildfires. Those in need turn to the Red Cross because they know they can depend on us right after the disaster and through their recovery. Your donation helps us fulfill this promise. We are grateful for your trust.



To learn more about Red Cross response and recovery efforts to help California Wildfires survivors, visit redcross.org/californiawildfires2017 and redcross.org/californiawildfires2018



**American
Red Cross**