

## Sonoma County Resilience Fund: How It Works

After the frenzy and chaos of a disaster such as the devastating fires we have experienced in Sonoma County, the long road to recovery and rebuilding begins—and it is here that philanthropy can play a distinct and critical role. With our deep relationships with local nonprofits, government officials, and community leaders, community foundations are often in the best position to hold funds, make grants, and support our communities over the medium- to long-term.

In recognition of our critical role, Community Foundation Sonoma County has launched the **Sonoma County Resilience Fund** to address the mid to long-term needs of our community after the devastating fires.

As funders with 34 years of experience in grantmaking in Sonoma County, we will rely on our thorough due diligence process to identify and vet organizations to receive funding.

In the aftermath of a disaster, the immediate relief needs are clear—shelter, food, cash, and other basic needs. Recovery and rebuilding is more complex and depends on each community's needs. While we can't yet predict what those needs will be, we will use our experience to:

- Convene our nonprofit partners who are working with people impacted by the fires
- Collaborate with a diverse range of leaders and agencies to support our community
- Conduct a strong due diligence process to effectively support those who need us the most

In other communities, recovery efforts have included basic needs as well as longer term economic, health and social supports.

Our nonprofits provide critical services across the county, providing shelter and long-term housing, economic and rental assistance, legal services, education, healthcare, and more. These nonprofits will be supporting fire victims directly and will need the capacity to grow their services to meet the need. Our funds will support these nonprofits who are providing direct services to those impacted by the fires.

Through all of our grantmaking we strive to also address issues of disparity in our community. Many low-income families and individuals were already struggling to make ends meet in Sonoma County before this disaster struck, and we are committed to supporting those who need our resources the most.

Donations to the Resilience Fund will be used across our county and will be directed to the areas of greatest need.