

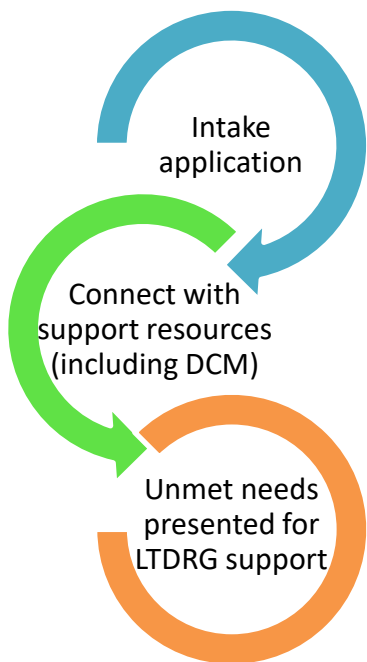


FACT SHEET

Background: The Ventura County Long-Term Disaster Recovery Group (VC LTDRG) is a collaborative that was formed out of the catalytic efforts of FEMA, Ventura County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VC VOAD), California Office of Emergency Services and local social service agencies and community groups. Based on experience with communities facing the impact of disasters it was recommended that key community organizations create a coordinating body to marshal resources needed for long term recovery. The aim for the VC LTDRG is to establish and maintain a diverse network of nonprofits, faith-based, governmental, business and other community organizations to create a framework that helps build, strengthen and sustain a more resilient community. The VC LTDRG is implementing strategies that have been successful in other regions with careful consideration of the unique challenges and opportunities that exist in Ventura County.

VC LTDRG member organizations provide money, materials, and services available to the recovery effort. They cooperate to identify unmet needs, develop recovery plans, and verify and distribute resources.

Our focus: The collaborative is working together to coordinate long term recovery efforts and simplify access to support for community members that have been impacted by the Thomas, Hill or Woolsey Fires who do not have adequate personal resources for unmet needs due to the disaster.



How to access VC LTDRG resources and assistance:

Phone and two-way text support is available in English and Spanish. If an individual or family is struggling with housing or financially due to losses caused by the Thomas, Hill or Woolsey Fires contact 211 -either call 2-1-1, email 211@icfs.org or text 898211 with your zip code.

A 211 Contact Specialist will collect basic information on your situation, and a disaster case manager (DCM) from one of the VC LTDRG partners will contact you to get you connected to resources and the assistance for which you qualify.

VC LTDRG organizations work to address unmet needs through volunteer assistance, in-kind donations as well as limited funds to apply to unmet needs once all other avenues for support have been exhausted.

A comprehensive list of organizations providing assistance to those impacted by wildfires is maintained by 211 Ventura County, a program operated by Interface Children and Family Services at <http://www.211ventura.org> .

How we operate

The work of the VC LTDRG is conducted by committees that focus on specific aspects of recovery. A steering committee consisting of the chairs of each committee meets regularly to coordinate and direct operations. The committees are:

- Case management: Works to coordinate unduplicated efforts to clients affected by the disaster including assisting with recovery plans and referrals to respective agencies to match needs with services.
- Communications: Coordinates communications with the community.
- Community Needs Assessment: Canvases the community to identify recovery gaps and unmet needs.
- Finance, Fundraising, Allocation Table: Works to secure grants, donations and other resources for the VC LTDRG and coordinates with other entities (i.e. manufacturers, supplies, etc.) to secure donations and funding.
- Housing: Oversees the coordination of resources on rebuilding and scheduling of rebuilding projects for VC LTDRG cases.
- Community Wellness: Works to organize resources in the areas of mental health, physical health, spiritual wellbeing, financial and legal services, and the involvement of local social services agencies.
- Volunteer Coordination: Works to utilize experienced groups and unaffiliated volunteers to recovery projects (i.e. construction) to match the volunteer skills with project needs.



Leadership

The VC LTDRG is led by **co-chairs** Kelly Brown, 2-1-1 Ventura County, a program of Interface Children and Family Services and Nicholas Minh Nguyen, The Salvation Army. Anne Whatley serves as Facilitator supporting the steering committee in coordination, strategic direction and planning as well as documentation of processes and policies that can inform future recovery planning. The United Way of Ventura County Volunteer Engagement/Disaster Recovery Manager, Lora Kline is providing administrative and logistical support.

Committee Chairs:

Case management: Nicholas Minh Nguyen, The Salvation Army and Heidi Amundson, UMCOR805-California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church

Communications: Anne Whatley, CLU Center for Nonprofit Leadership, Nonprofit Leadership Council Steering Committee

Community Assessment: Jim Rivera, Ventura County Community Foundation

Community Wellness: Carrie McGurn, Jewish Family Service

Finance/Fundraising/Allocation Table: Susan Englund, United Way of Ventura County

Housing: Jill Shaffer, Habitat for Humanity Ventura County

Volunteers: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

If you want to learn more about the LTDRG and ways to get involved in recovery efforts please visit our website at www.vcthomasfirelongtermrecovery.org or email VenturaCountyLTRG@gmail.com

Participant Organizations (see website for most up-to-date list)

2-1-1 Ventura County, a program of Interface

Children & Family Services

American Red Cross

Auxiliary Communications Service

Buddhist Tzu Chi

Cal State University Channel Islands

CA Governor's Office of Emergency Services

California H.O.P.E.

California Lutheran Univ. Community Counseling

CLU Center for Nonprofit Leadership

California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Church of Scientology

City of Camarillo

City of Ventura

County of Ventura Board of Supervisors

County of Ventura Human Services Agency

County of Ventura Public Health – Emergency

Management Services

County of Ventura Sheriff's Department, Office of

Emergency Services

FEMA

Food Share of Ventura County

Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County

Jewish Family Service, Ventura County

Kaiser Permanente

Mennonite Disaster Service

Mixteco Indígena Community Organizing

Project/El Proyecto Mixteco / Indígena

Organización Comunitaria (MICOP)

Our Lady of Assumption

New Creations Community Church

The Salvation Army

805Help.com

Totally Local VC/Local Love Project

Small Business Development Center

UMCOR805-California-Pacific Conference of the

United Methodist Church & UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

United States Housing & Urban Development

United Way of Ventura County

Ventura County Community Development

Corporation (VCCDC)

Ventura County Community Foundation

