

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Shasta Fire Fund Moves Into Recovery Phase***

United Way to collaborate with partners, focus on those with highest need

REDDING, CA (September 20, 2018) — United Way of Northern California (UWNC) today announced that its Shasta County Fire Relief Fund is winding down its first phase of general emergency cash assistance and will now focus on those wildfire survivors who lost their homes and face the most significant hardship.

To date, the Fund, launched in partnership with Tri Counties Bank, has provided emergency cash to 969 individuals and families, with \$632,750 dispersed. Eligible households in Phase One included those who had lost their primary residence to the fires; suffered fire damage to their homes, or evacuees who experienced economic hardship greater than \$500. United Way continues to process Phase One applications submitted by the Sept. 14 deadline.

In Phase Two, individuals whose homes were destroyed or suffered substantial structural damage from the Carr and Delta fires remain eligible to apply for emergency cash, as long as no one from their household received assistance from the Fund in Phase One.

Other grants will be made available to households identified as high need, either through individual applications or through referrals from case managers working for partnering non-profits or for the Community Recovery Team, which is coordinating long-term recovery in the region.

The Fund also will support United Way financial stability programs that are being modified to provide direct support to fire survivors.

United Way continues to accept donations to the fund, which overall has raised more than \$1 million. Applications for assistance are available on the United Way website, [www.norcalunitedway.org](http://www.norcalunitedway.org). To donate, visit the website or text CARRFIRE to 91999.

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#### **About United Way of Northern California:**

United Way of Northern California (UWNC) was established in Redding in 1953 and serves nine counties: Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity. Its mission is to fight for the education, income and health of all residents in the community. UWNC raises funds for non-profit agencies and operates two 24/7 human services helplines: 2-1-1 Shasta and 2-1-1 Tehama, collectively known as 2-1-1 NorCal. United Way also operates VolunteerNorCal.org, a volunteer match website. For more information about United Way of Northern California visit [www.norcalunitedway.org](http://www.norcalunitedway.org).