



Southern California Disaster Relief Fund Request for Applications (RFA)

Open Date: Friday, November 28, 2018

Closing Date: Thursday, December 20, 2018, 5 p.m.

Award Announcement: On a rolling basis through January 3, 2019

On November 9, 2018, United Way of Great Los Angeles (UWGLA) opened the Southern California Disaster Relief Fund (Fund), in partnership with the United Way of Ventura County (UWVC) and United Ways of California (UWCA). It is a regional fund with the purpose of supporting low-income^a residents, communities, and workers affected by the devastating impact of the Woolsey and Hill fires in Ventura and Los Angeles counties. The Fund will be administered by UWGLA, with allocation and distribution decisions made in partnership with UWVC.

UWGLA is seeking grant applications from qualified nonprofit organizations that have the capacity and experience to provide direct financial assistance and intermediate relief services to low-income residents, workers, and communities impacted by one or more of the referenced incidents. Funds will be granted through two grant processes: 1) the first is intended to stabilize the economic and housing situation of low-income families and workers experiencing economic hardship due to the fires, and 2) the second is intended to support improvements to impacted homes and community spaces. This is the first of two RFAs^b.

Please review the enclosed guidelines carefully. The online application can be accessed and submitted electronically on UWGLA's [website](#). Incomplete, late, emailed, or hard copy applications will not be considered. Questions and comments can be emailed to relieffund@unitedwayla.org.

I. Use of Funds

Grants are intended to stabilize the economic and housing situation of low-income^a families directly impacted by a referenced incident, including workers who do not reside in an impacted area but rely on the area for wages. Funds can be used to provide direct financial assistance to an impacted household or to a third party providing services. Eligible costs must fall into one of the following categories:

- Relocation and move-in costs
- Housing and rental assistance
- Essential household items (e.g. appliances, cleaning supplies, medicine)
- Recovery and clean-up costs (e.g. debris removal, repairs related to water damage)
- Workforce development services and supports (e.g. assistance finding a job, tools/equipment, childcare)
- Health services, including mental health
- Basic needs (food, clothing, utility assistance, transportation, etc.)
- School-related items (e.g. backpacks, uniforms)
- Financial assistance due to economic hardship resulting from a referenced incident (e.g. job loss, injury)

Organizations may use up to 15% of their grant to cover staff and overhead costs. Funds granted through this RFA must be expended by March 29, 2019. Extensions may be granted upon request per UWGLA's discretion.

II. Organizational Eligibility

To be eligible for a grant, at minimum, an organization must be a 501(c)(3), demonstrate a successful history of working with low-income families^a in the community they are proposing to support, and be in good financial standing. The following items must be included with your application:

- IRS determination letter of 501(c)(3) status
- Most recent audited financial statements
- Most recent IRS Form 990
- Proposed budget
- Copy of non-discrimination policy
- List of other grants received for this recovery effort, including funder name and amount granted

III. Awards

UWGLA, in partnership with UWVC, will make award and funding decisions. Determinations will be based on:

- Amount of funds available
- Need of community proposed to be served
- Ability of applicant to identify and serve low-income families and individuals
- Alignment of proposed support with funding categories
- Applicant's previous success delivering proposed services
- Financial health of applicant organization

The amount of funds available for each county will be determined based on the number of damaged or destroyed structures. The maximum amount organizations can apply for varies by county^c.

IV. Reporting

On a monthly basis, funded organizations will provide UWGLA with a report that includes the following data and information:

- Number of low-income families assisted
- Type of assistance provided
- Description of how economic status is determined for families and individuals assisted
- At least one success story, including a photo

^a For purposes of this Fund, “low-income” is defined by the following income guidelines:

Family Configuration	Los Angeles County	Ventura County
1 adult	\$26,328	\$25,872
1 adult, 1 child	\$50,028	\$49,788
1 adult, 2 children	\$66,240	\$65,220
1 adult, 3 children +	\$92,268	\$92,736
2 adults	\$42,060	\$40,440
2 adults, 1 child	\$63,216	\$61,788
2 adults, 2 children	\$79,512	\$77,268
2 adults, 3 children +	\$104,220	\$103,416

Income eligibility guidelines are based on United Ways of California’s Real Cost Measure. Unlike the official poverty measure which does not accurately account for local costs of living, the Real Cost Measure factors the costs of housing, food, health care, child care, transportation and other basic needs to determine what it really costs to live in California. More information on the Real Cost Measure can be found at <https://www.unitedwaysca.org/realcost>.

^b The second grant application process will open in January 2019.

^c

County	Maximum Grant Request
Los Angeles	\$100,000
Ventura	\$60,000