



COMMUNITY WELLNESS TEAM

Committee Objectives:

Through the strength of a collaborative approach of multiple agencies, the Community Wellness Team works with a holistic approach to support the emotional, psychological, and spiritual wellness of our community in response to the Thomas Fire and 1/9 Debris Flow.

Committee Role:

- Collective recognition of the enormity of impact on the emotional, psychological, and spiritual well-being of our community survivors and neighbors impacted, including short and long-term effects
- Coordinated and regular communication between multiple agencies to offer the community a holistic continuum of care that addresses unmet needs throughout the full aftermath trajectory of recent local disasters
- Collectively provide services which range from crisis counseling, grief and bereavement counseling, psychological first aid, spiritual care, first responder critical incident stress debriefing, and short and long term counseling, to intensive outpatient care offered through Cottage Health.
- Provide disaster trajectory education
- Make resources provided through this team easily accessible to the community, including outreach, public workshops, website, and brochures available in English and Spanish
- Coordinated process for assessment of community needs
- Outreach to surrounding areas, allowing greater community to feel cared for and that others are attending to emerging needs
- Collective brainstorming on dynamic, changing, or emerging unmet needs throughout the region
- Sharing and increasing access to resources
- Informing and updating county and city leaders on community needs
- Identifying needs to assist with distribution of grant funding available for those with greatest impact

Operations Plan:

- Ongoing strategizing and re-evaluation of needs to reach various groups impacted
- Offer widespread community messaging on what to expect as a community throughout the disaster response trajectory, as well as where and how to get help for self or others
- Ongoing outreach to identify and provide support for disaster affected community members
- Outreach to and provide support and linkage for individuals who are low-income and/or undocumented
- Strong community presence at events to circulate Community Wellness Team information, offer support, and create linkage to services

- Outreach to those in or near the impacted areas who did not sustain physical home damage, but may have other emotional needs as result
- Provide resiliency training for those in helping roles (professional or volunteer)
- Coordinate with other long term recovery group activities as helpful for individuals (ex: case management, material assistance)

Open Actions:

- Data collection on numbers of participating organizations, persons served, and services utilized, as well as data collection from the HOPE 805 Outreach team on community assessment of need and types of need
- Develop resiliency workshops and educational events for the community
- Regular committee review of assessed needs, allowing service provision to match changing community needs
- Outreach to helping groups to provide education, offer support, and coordinate efforts
- Regular tracking of accomplishments, barriers, and goals of the team