



January 13, 2025

To: California State Alliance of YMCA's and Local Media Outlets
From: Vince Iuculano, Chief Executive Officer
Re: YMCA of the Foothills Response to the Eaton Fire

As our Y community begins the process of recovering from the Eaton Fire, we remain committed in our support, our constant thoughts and our prayers for our members, participants, volunteers, staff, and supporters across our service area, especially those deeply impacted in Altadena, La Cañada Flintridge, and parts of the foothill region of unincorporated Los Angeles County.

We are also mindful of the impact this fire has had on our friends and neighboring Y, the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles, both here in the foothills and their service area in the Pacific Palisades. I have been in contact with Victor Dominguez, President and CEO, and have pledged our support and assistance in any way that is needed to him, his staff, and his Y members.

As we continue to monitor the ongoing effects of the Eaton Fire on our community, our YMCA community's response to help lift some of the burden this fire caused has been nothing short of amazing. As part of our overarching "**FOOTHILLS STRONG**" response initiative, an abundance of basic needs supplies has been collected at all three of our YMCA locations and are in the process of being deployed out to those in need. Additionally, our Eaton Fire Emergency Assistance Fund is growing by the day and will provide much needed financial support to our staff and members who have lost their homes or have been displaced due to the Eaton Fire. As of Monday January 13th, the staff most impacted have already received direct funds from this campaign and members are due to receive in the coming days and weeks.

Below is how the Eaton Fire has impacted our Y members and community partners:

- 196 Y members who live in Altadena have been directly impacted by the fires and either lost their homes or are dealing with long-term displacement.
- 2 Y staff members have lost their homes and 3 have been displaced.
- 32 La Cañada Unified School District Teachers and Staff have lost their homes or have been displaced, including 6 who are Y members.
- 3 Glendale Unified School District Teachers and Staff have lost their homes or have been displaced, all of which are Y members.

This is how the YMCA of the Foothills has responded in benevolence and support for our community:

- Creating the **FOOTHILLS STRONG** Emergency Assistance Fund to provide direct financial relief to staff and members who have suffered loss and displacement.
- We have mobilized over 150 volunteers and staff members in support of community wellbeing
- Chaplain & Community Outreach Specialist available to any community member in need



- Providing free childcare at the CCY for 75 La Cañada Unified School District teachers, staff and parents while school operations have been suspended.
- Partnering with Pasadena Unified School District on providing lunches to children in our care who have been impacted by the fire
- Membership forgiveness to all 196 members who reside in Altadena so there is no financial burden during this time to pay for a Y membership.
- A drop-in clothing and food center has been established at the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA at 6840 Foothill Blvd, Tujunga Ca 91042 for anyone who has lost their home or has been displaced during the fire to pick up these basic need's items.
- A community pick-up center at the Crescenta-Cañada Family YMCA at 1930 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada Flintridge CA 91011 providing curated boxes of basic support items, clothes, and nonperishable food/drinks.
- Working with local faith based organizations, the Salvation Army and school districts on direct basic needs support to impacted families.

Knowing that short-term assistance plays an important in the days after an natural disaster event, we are also aware that a long-term response and support effort is also needed. As we transition out of supplying basic needs and services, our Y is encouraging our community members who have the ability to donate a monetary gift do so to our **2025 FOOTHILLS STRONG: Eaton Fire Emergency Fund**, [click here](#) and select the 2025 Foothills Strong: Eaton Fire Emergency Fund option.