



Kelseyville Presbyterian Church

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Friday, Dec. 8, 2023

Cal Fire Wildfire Prevention Grant Program

Re: Operation Lake Co Ready application

Dear Friends,

Kelseyville Presbyterian Church is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Lake County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services and Lake County Fire Chief's Association's application for the Cal Fire Wildfire Prevention Grant Program Project: Operation Lake Co Ready.

You cannot find an area that is more deserving or more in need of this focused assistance than Lake County. Cal Fire itself has identified nearly all of Lake County as falling within the very high or high fire severity zones.

The church, which is working on its own resilience projects, understands how important prevention is in the battle against wildfire, and this project — if Cal Fire sees fit to fund it — will provide Lake County's many communities with critical fire prevention education and supplies.

Operation Lake Co Ready will meet people in their neighborhoods, supporting the resilience of the county's many communities through outreach at events; educational materials, including budget friendly actions each household can undertake to prevent wildfire; and the provision of prevention supplies such as hand tools and fire extinguishers at no cost.

Making these items available at no cost is especially needed in Lake County, which has one of California's highest poverty rates, along with large populations of seniors, veterans and those with physical disabilities. At the same time, giving people the tools and knowledge to prevent fire exponentially expands Lake County's ability to stop the kind of devastation it has suffered over the past decade and a half.

That's exactly what Lake County OES and the fire chiefs aim to do with this grant. Based on our experience working with these two organizations, we assure you that they will make the highest and best use of the grant funds and achieve the goals outlined in their application.

We offer you our deep gratitude for considering this application, and wish you the happiest of holiday seasons.

Warm regards,

Elizabeth R. Larson
Clerk of Session