



Laurie Hutchison
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Date: December 13, 2023

To: Cal Fire Wildfire Prevention Grant Program

Re: Operation Lake Co Ready Application

On behalf of the Lake County Fire Safe Council (LCFSC), please accept this letter of support for Lake County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services and Lake County Fire Chief's Association to submit an application for the Cal Fire Wildfire Prevention Grant Program project: *Operation Lake Co Ready*. If funded, the project will supply critical fire prevention education and supplies to the communities served by each of the fire districts in Lake County.

This project will support the wildfire and disaster resilience of Lake County residents and the Fire Safe Council's mission to educate residents and help better prepare everyone for wildfire. It will provide materials, education and supplies not currently available and will complement the LCFSC's new Defensible Space Program aimed at helping residents better prepare their homes for wildfire, focusing on underserved populations to get tools in their hands and mitigation work done, regardless of their ability to pay

Almost all of Lake County is identified as *very high* or *high* fire severity zones by Cal Fire. Additionally, the County is one of the poorest in the State and has a high concentration of elderly and disabled residents. This project will meet the community in their neighborhoods, provide fire prevention supplies at no-cost and offer outreach that details budget friendly actions each household can undertake to prevent wildfire.

Thank you for considering this application.

Sincerely,

Laurie Hutchison
Lake County Fire Safe Council Coordinator

