

Community Helpers Keep Us Safe

On October 8, 2017 wildfires started burning land and buildings in Northern California. For many people it was a very scary time.

But the good news is that as soon as the fires started, first responders jumped into action. First responders are fire fighters, police officers, medical teams and other people specially trained to help in emergencies.

They drove by people's homes to tell them to get away from the fires, or evacuate. They even helped people find their horses, dogs, cats and kittens.

Ready To Help!

Sometimes scary things happen, and that is why our government hires trained people to help out during a disaster.

Volunteers also help out during disasters. The Red Cross quickly set up shelters for people who had to leave their homes. Community volunteers donated food as well as blankets, pillows, bottled water, toys, clothes and pet supplies to the shelters.

During difficult times people come together to help their neighbors and fellow citizens.



Photo courtesy of Robbi Pengelly / The Sonoma Index-Tribune

The Red Grape restaurant turned into a distribution center for donated food from local restaurants, grocery stores and bakeries. Food was then distributed to evacuation centers in the fire areas as well being given to firefighters and police.



Ava, and 8-year-old girl in the East Bay, collected donations for people affected by the wildfires.



Sonoma Valley Rotary Club put a call out for donations and truckloads of goods came in from all over the Bay Area and from as far away as Phoenix, Arizona!



Colorful signs created by grateful adults and kids thanking first responders began popping up all over Sonoma and Napa counties on road signs, shop windows and fenceposts.



Photos: Vivien Whittington

YOU Can Help, Too!

A note or card from a young person is a great gift that rewards our first responders and volunteers. Write a note or make a card and send it to us. We'll give these to the wonderful people helping our communities stay safe.

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