



UpValley Family Centers - Valley Fire response

September 18, 2015

Media Contact:

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Locations:

- 1500 Cedar Street Calistoga, CA 94515
- 1705 Washington Street Calistoga, CA 94515
- 1440 Spring Street St. Helena, CA 94574

Responding to Valley Fire Families in Crisis

From Jenny Ocón, UpValley Family Centers Executive Director:

"Since Sunday, September 13th, our 15 staff, and many more additional trained volunteers are actively engaged in responding to hundreds of Valley Fire victims' needs both on site at the Calistoga Fairgrounds as well as in our Calistoga offices, a 5 minute walk from the Fairgrounds.

Because our normal daily work involves connecting individuals and families to resources and information in English and Spanish, we are playing a crucial role in assisting victims of the Valley Fire. We have an Emergency Assistance Fund and have procedures in place to make limited distributions to those in need, after coordinating access to all other resources available through local agency partners. Aid is limited to those who work or attend school in Napa County and appointments must be scheduled. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 942-6206.

We are so grateful for the extraordinary support received by the Napa Valley Vintners and the community at large that make this emergency assistance possible.

It's going to be a long journey for so many. We are here for the long run to connect people of all ages and their families to the resources they need. It's what we do."

If you would like to stay informed of UVFC developments or share information, [like our Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/upvalleyfamilycenters) or visit our website: www.upvalleyfamilycenters/emergency-assistance/.

UpValley Family Centers – Calistoga, CA - Friday, September 18, 2015

Mission:

Our mission is to ensure community members have the resources to create healthy, happy lives for their families, to achieve self-sufficiency, and to develop the skills they need to participate fully in the community.

Organizational Overview:

- We operate family resource centers in Calistoga and St. Helena, serving over 3,500 individuals annually in our rural communities. Approximately 35% of up valley residents use our services and 80% of those are living below the poverty line.
- Our clients live and work in the rural areas of Deer Park, Angwin, Pope Valley, Lake Berryessa, Oakville, Rutherford, Calistoga, and St. Helena.
- Our 15 staff provide services in English and Spanish to promote healthy, positive outcomes for individuals of all ages.
- We also collaborate with over 42 social service partners throughout Napa County to coordinate the services our clients need.

6 Program Focus Areas offered in Spanish & English:

- Community Connections: Guided Resource and Referrals
- Economic Success: Emergency assistance, free tax preparation, financial literacy classes, employment assistance
- Immigrant Integration: Citizenship and DACA outreach and application assistance, community involvement, ESL classes
- Health & Wellness: Counseling, domestic violence assistance, health insurance applications, drug and alcohol prevention and education
- Education: Parent education, school readiness/summer bridge, early literacy programs, parent/child playgroups, youth mentoring (CLARO/CLARA)
- Seniors: Guided referrals, case management, resource fairs, educational workshops

History:

The UpValley Family Centers was established in February 2014 resulting from a merger between the Calistoga Family Center (founded 1999) and the St. Helena Family Center (founded 2005).