



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

# NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Executive Office (707) 463-4441

TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA

FR: MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

**Ukiah, California: September 17, 2015**

## ***MENDOCINO COUNTY EMERGENCY SHELTER ANNOUNCES CLOSURE AND PROVIDES DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION REGARDING THE VALLEY FIRE***

The County of Mendocino's Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) emergency evacuation shelter that has been located at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah since September 13, 2015, will be closing on September 18, 2015, at 12:00 p.m. Since opening, the shelter has provided assistance with obtaining replacement medication, mental health services, referrals to donations within the community, served meals and provided accommodations for animals. At this time, in coordination with Red Cross, it has been determined to close the Ukiah shelter. Several evacuation notices have been lifted allowing some shelter guests to return home. This has created space within shelters in Lake County and resources are best used in shelters within the county that is experiencing the disaster. We have been honored to serve our neighbors in this capacity. The County will post information at the shelter site for those seeking assistance, including contact information for lodging, food, and Red Cross assistance.

The County will continue to provide information to evacuees through Mendocino County's 211 emergency system (Dial 211). Additional resources can be accessed at the sources below:

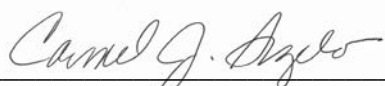
- Lake County's 211 can be accessed as follows: (707) 565-2108 or (800) 325-9604
- Lake County Emergency Operations Center:  
<http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Administration/OES.htm>
- Mendocino County Facebook Page - County of Mendocino
- Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency on Facebook
- Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency (707) 463-2000/(707) 463-7900

Due to the significance of this catastrophic event, it is anticipated that the relief effort will continue for some time. Monetary and other donations are critical and much needed to assist with the disaster relief effort and can be found at the following locations and/or organizations:

- Redwood Credit Union is accepting donations online by following this link: [www.redwoodcu.org/lakecountyfirevictims](http://www.redwoodcu.org/lakecountyfirevictims). Donations can also be made by visiting any of the bank's branches or by mail with a check payable to Lake County Fire Victims, RCU Lake County Relief c/o Redwood Credit Union, P.O. Box 6104, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

- Mendo Lake Credit Union is partnering with North Coast Opportunities for relief efforts. You can make monetary contributions at any of their branch offices or via a PayPal link on their website at [www.mlcu.org](http://www.mlcu.org). You can also visit the website for North Coast Opportunities at [www.ncoinc.org](http://www.ncoinc.org) and click on the fire relief photo at the top of the page.
- Savings Bank of Mendocino County is accepting financial donations on behalf of North Coast Opportunities to assist with fire recovery efforts. Checks made payable to North Coast Opportunities with Valley Fire on the memo line may be dropped off at any of their 10 branch locations in Lake and Mendocino counties or mailed to P.O. Box 3600 Ukiah, CA 95482.
- Red Cross ([www.RedCross.org](http://www.RedCross.org)). By making a charitable donation to the Red Cross, assistance can be provided to those facing this catastrophic emergency and can help them as they rebuild their lives.
- Donations can also be made through the agencies contained in the public listing at [www.lovelakecounty.org](http://www.lovelakecounty.org) which contains the most up to date list of donation centers.

The County will continue active communications with the Lake County Office of Emergency Services (OES) until the disaster relief efforts have been completed.

Released by:   
Carmel J. Angelo  
Chief Executive Officer