Disaster Recovery Report
December 2019

Legal Aid of Sonoma County
144 South E Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 542-1290
www.legalaidsc.com
Attendees came to town hall meetings and public venues and received information, updates and tools to better advocate for themselves.

318 Fire Clients
These clients received in-depth legal services to address fire related issues. Fire clients have been insurance; housing; and, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

11,411 client contacts
$5,480,000 in funds for survivors

Community OUTREACH

82 People improved their housing stability

5,440 Attendees
People came to town hall meetings and public venues and received information, updates and tools to better advocate for themselves.
Jack is 93-years old and lived at the Journey’s End Mobile Home Park. He lives on a small fixed income, receiving only SSI benefits and Medicare. Although his mobile home was not destroyed, the destruction of the park’s infrastructure made his home uninhabitable.

Jack’s insurance company argued that no “physical damage” existed beyond loss of use, so they refused to pay his claim. While Legal Aid worked with Jack to ensure the insurer paid his claim, Legal Aid helped Jack get $13,000 in FEMA funds to initially support him. Then, after months of negotiating with the insurance company, Legal Aid obtained the full policy amount of $132,000 for Jack!

Because of our help, Jack is housed and not homeless.

R & G are Journey’s End residents whose home burned. The Legal Aid helped R & G get their initial insurance funds and stabilized their temporary housing with FEMA support.

Legal Aid helped them obtain a Veteran’s Administration Housing Voucher and receive their remaining insurance funds.

Our social worker obtained financial support from a private donor, to help them cover increased living costs, and helped R & G negotiate down their debts.

Finally, our legal team assisted R & G with a small-claims suit against Foremost, obtaining them the $10,000 they were owed.

“We now feel like we have reason to get up in the morning” – R & G
KPIX CBS 5, October 10, 2018
Battle Begins to Extend Deadline For Wine Country Wildfire Survivors Living In FEMA Trailers

Press Democrat, October 2, 2018
Fire survivors from Santa Rosa’s Journey’s End feel ‘like we’ve been abandoned’

KGO ABC 7, February 11, 2018
Santa Rosa mobile home park residents in limbo after North Bay Fires

The Press Democrat, February 9, 2018
Sonoma County fire survivors struggle to secure aid from FEMA

KPIX CBS 5, February 9, 2018
FEMA Rejects Applications for Aid by Wine Country Wildfire Victims

KPIX CBS 5, January 19, 2018
Wine Country Survivors victimized by skyrocketing rents

Los Angeles Times, January 1, 2018
After the flames, allegations of rent-gouging fly in devastated wine country communities

KPIX CBS 5, December 21, 2017
Santa Rosa residents who escaped wildfires receive eviction notices

Press Democrat, January 23, 2020
Group of fire survivors in Santa Rosa’s Coffey Park accuse contractor of errors, incomplete work

Press Democrat, November 4, 2019
Some ways to get help in Sonoma County after the Kincade fire