

**Dear RCCD Community,**

The wildfires sweeping across Southern California have caused immense devastation, with countless lives disrupted and communities forever changed. Homes, businesses, and cherished spaces have been destroyed, leaving many—including members of our RCCD family—facing profound loss.

We are grateful for the brave firefighters working tirelessly, often under perilous conditions, to protect lives and safeguard communities. Their courage inspires us all. We also recognize and deeply appreciate the contributions of our employees who are assisting displaced Californians with temporary shelter, food, water, clothing, and hygiene kits. Your compassion and dedication embody the spirit of our RCCD community.

Tragically, some of our employees and their families have lost their homes, and we know many others are impacted by the destruction. With more than 153,000 residents under evacuation orders and over 12,000 structures—including homes, schools, and businesses—destroyed, the ripple effects are far-reaching. Evacuees continue to arrive in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and it is essential that we extend care and understanding to our students, employees, and neighbors who are directly affected.

The District has compiled a list of resources to support those in need, which we encourage you to review and share with anyone who may benefit. While we cannot undo the damage, we are steadfast in our commitment to standing by one another as a community.

**Emergency Resources****Federal**

- Biden-Harris Administration Supporting Robust [Response Efforts to California Wildfires](#)
- FEMA [Fire Management Assistance](#) Granted for the Palisades Fire
- FEMA [Disaster Assistance](#): Information on grants, loans, and recovery services

**Wildfire Preparedness and Recovery**

- [Listos California Resources](#)
- [Wildfire 'Go Bag' Checklist: Your Emergency Supply Kit | CAL FIRE](#)
- [Post-Wildfire Recovery Assistance | CAL FIRE](#)

**Emergency Shelters and Assistance**

- 211 LA is partnering with Airbnb to offer free temporary shelter for people displaced from their homes by fire. Start by [filling out this form](#).
- Red Cross Los Angeles: [Find a Shelter](#)

### **Metal Health and Emotional Support**

- Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 for free, confidential support.
- [California Hope](#) Crisis Counseling

### **Real-Time Information and Alerts**

- [Alert California](#)
- [WatchDuty.org](#) (Download the app for real-time updates on wildfires and emergency response.)

### **Air Quality and Health Recommendations**

- Download the South Coast AQMD app, visit the [South Coast AQMD website](#), or sign up for alerts at Air Alerts to monitor air quality.

### **Support Services for RCCD Employees and Students**

- RCCD [Employee Assistance Program](#): Confidential support for employees.
- [Crisis Helplines](#): Available 24/7 for immediate support.

During these challenging times, let us continue to show empathy and support for one another. If you are personally impacted and need assistance, please contact your instructors or work supervisors to discuss accommodations. Know that you are not alone, and help is available. Together, with resilience and compassion, we will navigate this crisis and move forward with hope.

In solidarity,

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