



DISASTER RESILIENCE, RELIEF, AND RECOVERY

Disasters and other community crises threaten the vibrancy and sustainability of Northern California and its institutions, organizations, and communities. Frequently, such events disproportionately impact the most vulnerable communities and exacerbate inequity. Nonprofit organizations, which are called upon to provide services to vulnerable communities, often struggle to recover from disasters quickly and efficiently, although their resilience is crucial to community recovery and regional stability.

In recent years, philanthropy has responded generously to meet both immediate and long-term recovery needs in a wide range of disasters and community crises, both near and far. Yet, many philanthropic organizations in Northern California are under-prepared to support communities strategically and effectively after a disaster. As a sector, philanthropy also lacks a comprehensive disaster strategy for the region and the structures, processes, and relationships needed to effectively coordinate and collaborate.

In 2016 Northern California Grantmakers began direct involvement in [Disaster Resilience, Relief and Recovery](#) as a part of our [Regional Vibrancy and Sustainability](#) work to address these challenges and increase the effectiveness of Northern California philanthropic organizations in supporting the resilience of vulnerable communities before a disaster and their recovery afterwards. NCG is focusing on activities in five areas:



Specific NCG activities include:

-  Build a community of interest in disasters, increasing understanding of the roles that philanthropy can play and best practices in the field, through:
 - Resources and tools
 - Convenings, webinars, and other events
 - Articles and blog posts

-  Strengthen philanthropic readiness, supporting planning for institutional recovery and community support
 - Resources and tools for internal planning
 - Best practices and strategies for philanthropy in disaster relief and recovery

-  Develop a regional strategy to support philanthropic action, coordination, collaboration, and connection to other sectors in disaster
 - Framework that details critical roles and activities for NCG and other philanthropic actors
 - Structures, processes, and relationships to support those actions
 - NCG's own disaster plans to ensure its capacity to recover its operations and support the sector

-  Increase strategic support for nonprofits in Northern California that serve vulnerable communities before and after a major disaster
 - Spotlight on role of nonprofits in disaster and support needed
 - Materials on nonprofit disaster support

-  Plan and implement post-disaster responses, with specific actions depending on scale, scope, location of disaster and needs
 - Collect and share information
 - Broker relationships
 - Support and educate philanthropies
 - Support strategic discussions
 - Facilitate coordination and collaboration within philanthropy and with other sectors

For more information, contact Andrea Zussman, Manager, Regional Vibrancy and Sustainability at azussman@ncg.org or 415-872-1024.