



## Soberanes Fire Fund GRANT GUIDELINES

### ABOUT

The Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC) established the Soberanes Fire Fund in response to the Soberanes fire that began on July 22, 2016. Grants from this special purpose fund will support nonprofit organizations assisting with relief, recovery and rebuilding efforts for individuals and organizations affected by the fire.

Please contact Laurel Lee-Alexander at [laurel@cfmco.org](mailto:laurel@cfmco.org) or 831.375.9712 x112 if you have any questions regarding the Soberanes Fire Fund.

### GRANT CRITERIA

Grants are considered for the following types of activities:

#### **Relief**

Funds may be provided to organizations providing immediate direct relief to individuals impacted from the fire.

Some possible activities might include:

- Support for emergency shelters
- Monetary compensation to those evacuated
- Efforts to support firefighters
- Food and water for evacuees, volunteers and firefighters

#### **Recovery**

Recovery funds can be used for medium term needs of organizations to assist the community as it moves between crisis towards rebuilding.

Examples might include

- Water system restoration
- Waste removal
- Reimbursement of equipment and supplies
- Rehabilitating roads

#### **Rebuilding**

Due to the size and scope of this fire, we expect the rebuilding efforts to be long-term.

Some possible activities might include:

- Assistance to individuals who lost property (items not covered by insurance)
- Environmental projects to repopulate the forest
- Preparedness projects to help the community in case of future emergencies

## **SELECTING GRANTS**

We expect the needs generated by this fire will exceed the available funds. To assist with the selection of grants, a volunteer grant committee comprised of local residents from the fire-impacted area will review the applications on a monthly basis as needed and make recommendations to the CFMC President/CEO.

## **GRANT AWARDS**

We expect grants to range in size from \$5,000 to \$50,000. Organizations may apply for more than one grant during the calendar year, as this fund is intended to be responsive to the ongoing needs of the community.

### **Eligibility:**

- Grants are open to 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations and other public agencies serving the community affected by the Soberanes Fire.
- Businesses and individuals are not eligible at this time. If the fire spreads outside of Big Sur and individuals suffer additional losses, the process may be revised to include individuals.

### **Exclusions:**

- Activities that are non-secular or promote a religious doctrine
- Academic or medical research
- Funding to schools and public agencies that would supplant tax-supported, mandated services
- Annual fundraising campaigns or events
- Creation of, or addition to, endowment funds
- Payment of debt or legal settlements
- Political or partisan purposes

*CFMC does not support organizations that discriminate in their employment practices, volunteer opportunities, or delivery of programs and services on the basis of race, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, or any other characteristics protected by law.*

## **SUBMITTING A GRANT PROPOSAL**

Soberanes Fire Fund grant applications can be submitted at any time while funds are still available. Grantmaking decisions will typically be made within six weeks of receipt of the proposal.

## **EVALUATION**

Organizations that are awarded a Soberanes Fire Fund grant are encouraged to stay in close contact with the CFMC on the progress of their efforts. A final grant report will be required to share the impact of the grant.

For questions regarding Soberanes Fire Fund grants, contact Laurel Lee-Alexander, Vice President of Grants & Programs, [laurel@cfmco.org](mailto:laurel@cfmco.org) or 831.375.9712 x 112.

**Please visit our website at [www.cfmco.org/apply](http://www.cfmco.org/apply) for the grant application, instructions and all materials needed to submit a proposal.**