

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 13, 2025 Contact: Max Geide, Senior Manager – Communication Strategy and Membership, CAADPE Email: max@caadpe.org

Providers Across California Offer Pro-Bono Therapy Sessions for First Responders and Fire Victims of the Los Angeles Fires

Sacramento, CA – In the wake of the devastating Los Angeles fires, mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers across California are stepping up to support first responders and individuals directly impacted by this tragedy. Through an unprecedented collaborative effort, providers are offering pro-bono therapy sessions to help those affected process trauma, rebuild resilience, and recover from the emotional toll of the fires.

The fires have forced numerous provider facilities to evacuate, displacing both residents and staff, and disrupting vital treatment services. While the full impact of the fire remains unknown, the danger is very real, and the immediate needs of those affected continue to grow. Providers are rallying to address these challenges and ensure continuity of care for those who need it most. This statewide initiative brings together over 50 organizations and individual practitioners, ensuring access to crucial mental health support. A full list of participating providers and services can be accessed <u>here</u>.

The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE) applauds its member organization, CRI-Help, for going above and beyond during this critical time. CRI-Help has opened its facilities to over 150 individuals whose treatment services were interrupted by the fires, providing them with safe shelter and continuity of care.

L.A. CADA's Recovery Bridge Homes and Treatment Sites Impacted

Another CAADPE member, Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol & Drug Abuse (L.A. CADA), has suffered significant damage from the fires. Three recovery bridge homes and one treatment site have been affected. Tragically, one property has been confirmed as completely lost, while another has sustained severe damage due to uprooted trees.

Despite these devastating losses, L.A. CADA has successfully evacuated and relocated all patients to ensure their safety.

How You Can Help L.A. CADA

Currently seeking donations to support L.A. CADA patients and staff who have been displaced by the fire.

- **To donate**, please contact Priscilla Rodriguez at **prodriguez@lacada.com**, or use this link: <u>Donate via PayPal</u>.
- **Items Needed:** Clothing, shoes, and other essentials. You can view and contribute through their <u>Amazon wishlist</u>.

Your contributions will directly support the individuals and families impacted by this crisis. We will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available.

"Our thoughts are with L.A. CADA, their staff, and the patients impacted by this tragedy," said **Robb Layne, Executive Director of CAADPE**. "Their resilience and unwavering dedication in the face of such challenges embody the very heart of our community. We are inspired by their commitment to serving those in need and proud to see providers like CRI-Help across the state working tirelessly to address the mental health and recovery needs of first responders, fire victims, and all those affected. We encourage everyone to support their recovery efforts during this difficult time."

How to Access Pro-Bono Therapy

Individuals seeking support can contact participating providers directly through the <u>shared</u> <u>resource list</u>. Services include individual and group therapy, crisis counseling, and traumafocused interventions, with a focus on addressing the unique challenges faced by first responders and fire survivors.

How to Support Other Recovery Efforts

For those looking to assist, The Washington Post has published a comprehensive guide on how to help those affected by the Los Angeles fires. The article includes information on donating to vetted organizations, volunteering, and providing direct aid to victims. Resources focus on supporting first responders, fire survivors, and affected communities. Visit <u>The Washington Post</u> for more details on how you can make a difference.

About CAADPE

The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE) represents a network of providers committed to advancing substance use disorder treatment and recovery services. Together, CAADPE members work to create accessible, equitable, and effective care for all Californians.