



COMMUNITY ASSISTING RECOVERY, INC.

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California Non-Profit, CARE, Succeeds in Additional \$46 million Sayre Fire Insurance Recovery

Date: April 20, 2009

Community Assisting Recovery, Inc. (CARE), formed following the 1994 Northridge earthquake, was instrumental in AIG and its subsidiary, New Hampshire Insurance Company, to pay an additional \$46,000,000 of insurance settlement funds to Oakridge Sayre Fire homeowners.

CARE is a non-profit (501c3) volunteer service organization working since 1994 to restore disaster struck communities, such as the Oakridge community in the 2008 California wildfire. By educating disaster victims, CARE provides essential insurance settlement information and “in the trenches” insurance settlement strategies necessary for the often prolonged and complicated insurance settlement process.

CARE worked in conjunction with Los Angeles city councilman’s office, Richard Alarcon, to identify and resolve insurance settlement issues that resulted in the California Department of Insurance announcement of \$46,000,000 in additional insurance funds for at least 360 residents of the Oakridge Mobile Park community.

Through a series of public meetings and one-on-one individual meetings, Oakridge homeowners brought their New Hampshire insurance policies to CARE for review. CARE volunteer, Gary Stephen, who has been active in the disaster recovery process since the 1993 Altadena fire, saw potential issues with the New Hampshire Insurance fire policy issued to hundreds of Oakridge residents.

Alarcon’s public meetings generated the organization and understanding of the serious insurance issue. By focusing on the underinsurance and partial loss issues within the Oakridge community, the Department of Insurance was notified. Action by the Department resulted in the multimillion dollar agreement with AIG and New Hampshire Insurance Company.

CARE continues its disaster recovery work through the generous donations of the California Community Foundation, through Community Partners, and United Way.

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