California Fire Safe Council

2021 County Coordinators Grant Opportunity Webinar

Presented by:
Julia Marsili, Staff Grant Specialist
Amber Gardner, Clearinghouse Manager
Hedi Jalon, Executive Director
Zoom Poll

All answers are anonymous
Agenda

1. Intro to CFSC and our team
2. Important Dates
3. Grant program overview & eligibility
4. Goals/Deliverables/Expectations
5. Grant Application/Selection/Award Process
6. Q & A
Acknowledgements

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The County Coordinator Grant is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing GHG emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities. For more information, visit the California Climate Investments website at: www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov.
The California Fire Safe Council (CFSC), a California non-profit corporation, was first formed as a project of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in 1993.

**Vision:** Eliminate Destructive Wildfires

**Mission:** To be California’s leader in wildfire risk reduction and resiliency
Fire Mitigation Organizations

• Fire Safe Councils
  - Local Fire Safe Councils (FSC) are grassroots, community-led organizations that mobilize residents to protect their homes, communities and environments from catastrophic wildfire.
  - Fire Safe Alliances are composed of multiple FSCs and can be county-wide.

• Resource Conservation Districts
• Fire Agencies
• Firewise Communities
The Grants Clearinghouse

- **Created by the California Fire Alliance and CFSC**
  - California Fire Safe Council has provided over 900 grants totaling over $100 million to organizations and agencies located throughout California since 2014.

- **Agencies That Have Traditionally Funded the CFSC the Grants Clearinghouse**
  - U.S. Forest Service
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - National Park Service
  - Fish and Wildlife Service
  - State Farm Insurance
  - CAL FIRE
California’s leader in community wildfire risk reduction and resiliency.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amber Gardner</strong></td>
<td>Clearinghouse Manager</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:agardner@cafiresafecouncil.org">agardner@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Julia Marsili</strong></td>
<td>Staff Grant Specialist</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:jmarsili@cafiresafecouncil.org">jmarsili@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dan Lang</strong></td>
<td>Senior Grant Specialist</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:dlang@cafiresafecouncil.org">dlang@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thomas Shumaker</strong></td>
<td>Senior Grant Specialist</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:tshumaker@cafiresafecouncil.org">tshumaker@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dave Farley</strong></td>
<td>Senior Grant Specialist</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:dfarley@cafiresafecouncil.org">dfarley@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liron Galliano</strong></td>
<td>Senior Grant Specialist</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:lgalliano@cafiresafecouncil.org">lgalliano@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Becca Joyner</strong></td>
<td>Staff Grant Specialist</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:bjoyner@cafiresafecouncil.org">bjoyner@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
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### Programs & Outreach Team

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth LaMar</td>
<td>Programs and Outreach Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elamar@cafiresafecouncil.org">elamar@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mala Arthur</td>
<td>Southern California Regional Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marthur@cafiresafecouncil.org">marthur@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooke McAllister</td>
<td>Central California Regional Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bmcallister@cafiresafecouncil.org">bmcallister@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Wilson</td>
<td>Northern California Regional Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mwilson@cafiresafecouncil.org">mwilson@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
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### Additional Support:

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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dalonna Scott,</td>
<td>IT &amp; Data Administration Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dscott@cafiresafecouncil.org">dscott@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Kniss</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skniss@cafiresafecouncil.org">skniss@cafiresafecouncil.org</a></td>
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We’re Here to Help!
## Important Dates

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PART 1:

County Coordinator Grant Program Overview & Eligibility
California's leader in community wildfire risk reduction and resiliency.

State Government
- Governor/State Legislature
- Department/Agency (CAL FIRE)

Recipient/Pass-through
- CFSC: Grantee and Pass-through Organization

Subrecipient
- Applicant County
- County’s designated recipient organization, if applicable

Beneficiaries
- Local and regional fire mitigation groups that are supported by the grant activities, as well as the communities they serve
County Coordinators Grant Program

Assisting counties with wildfire mitigation outreach and coordination.

- Goal of the program is to educate, encourage, & develop county-wide collaboration and coordination among various wildfire mitigation groups operating within counties containing State Responsibility Area lands.
- The grant can cover administrative costs relevant to county-wide coordination efforts.
- No match requirement
- 18-month grant term. Start date in September 2021
- $175,000 maximum awarded to approximately 24 counties
- Projects must be located in California
Eligibility: County-level funding

- Counties must determine interest and act as the starting point to apply for County Coordinator Grant funding
  - Board of supervisors
- Counties may choose to direct the application process and funds to the non-profit or public agency that they feel are best to execute the project
  - Local fire mitigation groups
  - A letter of support from the county’s board of supervisors will be required
- Only 1 application per county will be accepted
Eligibility Cont…

- Priority will be given to:
  - Counties with high percentage of Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones
  - History of frequent/damaging fires
  - Higher proportion of disadvantaged and/or low-income communities

- County must contain State Responsibility Area (SRA) land
CAL FIRE FRAP Maps

- [https://calfire-forestry.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=f767d3f842fd47f4b35d8557f10387a7](https://calfire-forestry.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=f767d3f842fd47f4b35d8557f10387a7)

- Reduce Wildfire Risk to Communities Tab (Fire Hazard Severity Zones) tab

- Disadvantaged/Low Income communities tab
Grant Suggested Uses

- Hire/designate a County Coordinator to implement project
- Office space for County Coordinator
- Cost of outreach and mailing materials
- Technology/infrastructure needed to communicate, measure, and/or track groups and collaborative efforts
- Develop plans and recommendations for collaboration, such as County & Community Wide Protection Plans or Local Hazard Mitigation Plans just to name a few.
- Assist in new group formation (i.e. a county-wide Fire Safe Council)
The County Coordinator’s goal will be to help these groups communicate, strategize, and coordinate their wildfire mitigation projects and plans.
PART 2:
Goals, Deliverables, & Expectations
Goals/Objectives

• Build a census of all active wildfire mitigation groups, contact points, collaboration efforts, and projects.
• Analyze gaps in county-wide wildfire resiliency and emergency preparedness and develop recommendations to fill these needs.
• Develop mechanisms to improve outreach and coordination efforts, such as group formation, funding plans, governance structures, and state/regional/local planning efforts.
• Provide a comprehensive final report summarizing the County Wildfire Outreach and Coordination Plans, key issues, successes, outcomes, gaps, and recommendations.
Deliverables/Expectations

• Participate in monthly check-in meetings with CFSC staff and quarterly meetings with state/regional/county coordinators and other interested wildfire mitigation groups.

• Identify, summarize, and report on local groups, grants, and projects within each county at the onset of the grant project, within the grant period, and at the conclusion of the grant project.

• Track and monitor collaborative efforts, tasks, meetings, workshops, and plans developed by the County Coordinator during the project window.

• Submit quarterly programmatic and fiscal reports.
PART 2:

Grant Application, Selection, & Award Process
The Grant Lifecycle

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Application Phase

PREPARATION

- Attend Grant Application Workshop
- Evaluate capacity to manage grant project
- Plan project and budget
- Securing letter from BoS if applicable

SUBMISSION

- Complete Application Package
- Submit by the Deadline
Where do I apply?

https://cafiresafecouncil.org/grants-and-funding/apply-for-a-grant/
Post-award Phase

**Project Implementation**

- Develop County Coordinator job description, goals, accountabilities
- Hire/designate County Coordinator
- Complete Project Tasks
- Monitor and Track Project Accomplishments & Progress
  - Success stories
- Grant Specialist/Regional Coordinator monthly check-ins
- Quarterly reporting

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Post-award Phase

**Proper Grant Management**

Request and Receive Grant Payments

- Submit completed Quarterly Reports *on time*
  - Progress reports and Expense reports
- Track all expenditures
- Maintain an organized grant file

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Closeout Phase

- Complete final progress report
- Complete closeout report
- Success Stories
- Confidential Questionnaire
Things You Can Do NOW To Submit Successfully:

- County Board of Supervisors to determine interest, who will submit application, whether they will direct the application process and funds to another non-profit or public agency
- If you are the designated non-profit or public agency, ensure county is willing to write a Letter of Support to attach to your application
- If you are a local fire mitigation group and your county has not yet expressed interest in applying, we suggest you reach out to a member of your board of supervisors
- Determine what you need to do and make a schedule
- Evaluate what role the County Coordinator will play in your county
- Contact CFSC for assistance or questions
Setup Account

- [https://cafiresafecouncil.org/grants-and-funding/apply-for-a-grant/](https://cafiresafecouncil.org/grants-and-funding/apply-for-a-grant/)

- Create a new account in ZoomGrants

- Once the grant application is open, CFSC staff will send an email. The grant program will appear under the Open Programs tab.
Reach out for help!

Staff Grant Specialist
Julia Marsili
916-538-1852
jmarsili@cafiresafecouncil.org
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