



For Immediate Release

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona Donates \$10,000 to Mining Community of Bagdad, Arizona

Tucson, Ariz. (June 2, 2021) – United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona announced today that it has donated \$10,000 to United Way of Yavapai County which will use the funds to support the small mining community of Bagdad, Arizona, recently hit hard by the Spur Fire. The fire, now extinguished, destroyed 13 Bagdad homes and an additional 10 non-occupied structures, and forced an evacuation of many residents of the town.

Located northwest of Phoenix, Bagdad is a copper mining community with just under 2,000 full-time residents, many of them employees of the mining company Freeport-McMoRan. The donated funds will support the purchase of food, clothing, and other needs of the residents displaced by the fire.

“We are humbled to be able to help our fellow Arizonans in Bagdad through this donation to our partners with United Way of Yavapai County,” said Tony Penn, President and CEO of United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona. “In times of emergency, we come together to support each other and our neighbors. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Bagdad now as they work to rebuild their homes and restore their community,” he concluded.

“Our heartfelt thanks and blessings go out to our United Way family in Tucson and Southern Arizona,” stated Patty Bell-Demers, Executive Director of United Way of Yavapai County. “This beautiful investment of support will go far in helping us help our families as they recover from this fire and carry on with their lives,” she concluded.

United Way of Yavapai County is raising funds for this emergency response and the public is invited to donate by visiting [Bagdad Emergency Response Fund | United Way of Yavapai County \(harnessapp.com\)](#)

About United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona is building a thriving community by uniting people, ideas, and resources. We respond to our community's needs, transforms individual lives, and brings long-lasting, systemic change to the community by focusing on the key, underlying issues. We fight for education, financial wellness, equality, and healthy communities for every person in Tucson and Southern Arizona from birth to end of life. Our role as community convener enables us to form strategic partnerships, mobilize the best resources and be the catalyst for needed, positive change. Learn more at www.unitedwaytucson.org

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