

For Immediate Release Friday, January 10, 2025

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# <u>Pathways LA Provides Critical Support for Families in Need During Los Angeles</u> County Firestorm

As Los Angeles County grapples with one of the most devastating firestorms in recent history, Pathways LA is committed to supporting families during this challenging time. With over 1,000 homes and businesses destroyed and thousands displaced, we recognize the hardship facing our communities. Our organization is here to provide resources for childcare and assistance to help families navigate this crisis, ensuring they have access to the critical services they need.

"Our hearts go out to all those impacted by these catastrophic fires. We understand the difficulties our families are facing right now, and we want them to know that Pathways LA is here to offer support and assistance throughout this difficult time," said Tamika Farr, President and CEO of Pathways LA.

## Pathways LA Services Available for Families:

For families needing childcare arrangements, Pathways LA offers no-cost childcare referrals throughout Metro LA and support in selecting the program/services that meet the family's needs. Qualifying families may have a portion, or all their childcare costs reimbursed by Pathways LA directly to their selected childcare provider.

Additionally, the **Pathways LA Child Development Center**, a high-quality, inclusive child development center serving children from 6 weeks to entry to kindergarten, centrally located in Downtown Los Angeles, has immediate openings.

We also offer **community referrals** for a wide range of services, including housing, food, crisis services, mental health support, medical services, and more.

Our **Family Engagement Program** provides parent education and training, including trauma-informed care training, to support families navigating difficult times.

### **How to Access Support:**

For assistance, families are encouraged to contact our **Resource & Referral Department** at (855) 481-9220 or visit our website at <a href="https://www.pathwaysla.org">www.pathwaysla.org</a> to learn more and request help.

## Safety and Evacuation Information for Affected Areas:

We urge all residents in fire-affected areas to prioritize their safety and follow the guidance of local authorities. The following safety instructions are critical to ensuring well-being during this emergency:

- Follow all evacuation orders or advisories immediately.
- Stay informed through local news and official channels for up-to-date information and safety guidance.
- Avoid traveling to affected areas unless necessary to allow emergency responders to do their work.
- Keep doors and windows closed to limit exposure to smoke and ash.
- Avoid outdoor activities that could stir up smoke or ash.

#### **Additional Resources:**

- For emergency assistance and evacuation updates, visit <u>LA County Emergency</u> Services.
- Families in need of shelter or support can contact the American Red Cross
- For additional resources, contact <u>211</u>

At Pathways LA, we are dedicated to helping our families access the resources and support they need. Our thoughts are with everyone affected by the wildfires, and we remain committed to assisting our community throughout this crisis.

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About Pathways LA: Pathways LA is committed to the healthy development and school readiness of young children from disadvantaged communities. Driven by data and innovation, our experts support the continuum of care that includes parents, childcare providers, community partners, and policymakers. Learn more at: https://pathwaysla.org.