



LA COUNTY PARKS CARE CAMP 2025 EATON FIRE RESPONSE



LA COUNTY PARKS CARE CAMP

Care Camp Timeline

Tuesday, January 7
Eaton Fire ignites

Friday, January 10
LA County Parks staff see first-hand displaced families and organize emergency LA County Care Camp

Saturday, January 11, 8am
Care Camp registration opens
50 LA County Parks staff train to support Care Camp
100 staff work through the weekend on procurement, registration and set up

Monday, January 13
LA County Parks Care Camp opens at five locations

About Care Camp



Care Camp opened on Monday, January 13, to support families who lost their homes or were evacuated. Care Camp gave parents/guardians a nurturing safe space for their children, while they sought help from the impacts of the fires.

- For youth and teens ages 5 to 17. Open 8 am to 5 pm (7 pm for teens)
- 1 staff for every 5 youth/teen allowed focus on trauma, play and recovery
- Care Camp were at parks near the Altadena community at: LA County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, Descanso Gardens, Pamela Community Park, Crescenta Valley Park, and Arcadia Community Park
- The programming services and needs at Care Camp were evaluated daily and developed to meet youth and family needs
- Care Camp offered parents flexibility to pick up or drop off their child any time throughout the day. Youth could attend one day, or the entire three weeks.
- For many families, Care Camp evolved into a new community, reuniting former classmates and neighbors. For others, Care Camp formed new bonds of unity, where children, parents and staff grew closer to each other every day

“You guys are absolutely incredible. I cannot thank you enough for the amazing impact you’re making in our kids lives during this difficult time. I have never seen community like this is my entire life. We are so grateful for you all. I cried today at the Arboretum- tears of joy and gratitude I’ve never felt before. Thank you, forever.”

— Parent Testimonial

CARE CAMP STAFF



Over 300 staff and partners worked at the 5 Care Camps, 5 days a week, and on special weekend events.



1 staff for every 5 children ensured each youth received individual support, care, and focus on trauma, play, and recovery.

CARE CAMP MEALS AND SNACKS SERVED TO YOUTH AND TEENS



BREAKFAST 10,120



SNACK 10,120



LUNCH 13,444



DINNER 1,950

ACTIVATED CARE CAMP



CARE CAMP

- 1) THE LAC ARBORETUM AND BOTANIC GARDEN
- 2) ARCADIA COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARK
- 3) CRESCENTA VALLEY COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARK
- 4) PAMELA COUNTY PARK
- 5) DESCANSO GARDENS

REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE



Over 500 registrations within the first 24 hours.



550-650 daily attendance.



Care Camps served youth from 16 different impacted schools.



Care Camps served over 2,700 registered youth during the 3-week period

“

This camp has been a lifesaver for me and my kids!! Thank you for everyone involved!!! ”

— Parent Testimonial

CARING FOR CHILDREN



Arboretum

Arboretum

- Free Movie Night at the Arboretum
- Concert by Grand Performances featuring award winning band Las Cafeteras and Food by World Central Kitchen
- Camp Boutique provided Care Camp families with free essentials, school supplies, clothing, toys, books, backpacks, produce and food boxes
 - All items were donated by sponsors and through a one-day drive which collected over 21,000 brand new donations
- LA Tar Pits Mobile Museum brought the wonders of prehistoric life directly to campers, offering hands-on experiences with fossils, scientific discoveries, and the rich history of the Tar Pits.



A photograph of two people, a man and a woman, crouching on a concrete sidewalk. They are using chalk to draw a large, stylized cloud. The man, on the left, is wearing a dark blue jacket, tan pants, and a dark cap. The woman, on the right, is wearing a grey hoodie, tan pants, and has her hair in a bun. The cloud they are drawing is composed of several overlapping loops, with some loops containing a small 'x' mark. The background shows a brick wall, a tree in a brick planter, and a parking lot with several cars.

Crescenta Valley

Crescenta Valley

- Hip Hop Class
- Science Show presented by Right Design
- Performance by Asia Houston, World Adventures with my harp
- Field Trip to National Historic Museum
- Roller Hockey Demo with LA Kings
- Drum Circle
- Environmental Seed Planting, with Tree People
- E-Sports
- Obstacle Course
- Puppet Show



Pamela Park



Pamela Park

- E-Sports
- Calming Zone - provided by Department of Mental Health
- Sofi-Stadium Field Trip
- Theater and Improv Games
- Performance by the Alley Cats
- Parent Support Workshop - provided by Department of Mental Health
- Yoga and Meditation
- Hand made journals and bookmarks
- DJ classes - provided by Give a Beat



A child with long brown hair, wearing a light blue surgical mask and a white shirt, is playing a board game. The child is holding a black and blue electronic board game device with a digital screen and buttons. The device has a grid of holes and a small circular display. The child is placing a red piece into one of the holes. In the background, there is a blue plastic board game stand with many circular holes. To the right, there is a yellow box labeled 'PICTIONARY' and a pile of red and yellow circular game pieces.

Descanso Gardens

Descanso Garden

- Music Center: INCA, the Peruvian performance
- Garden Excursion and Scavenger Hunt
- Train Garden Tour
- Parent Workshop – provided by Department of Mental Health
- Snake Presentation
- Sarah Little Performance and Instrument Demo
- Creative Wellbeing Classes from Homeboy Art Academy



A child in a white long-sleeved shirt and dark grey pants is running on a paved surface, holding a purple hula hoop. Another orange hula hoop is on the ground near a small brown die. The child has a name tag that says "Ava" and the number "7". In the background, another child's legs in purple pants and brown boots are visible. The scene is set outdoors on a paved area with a brick pattern in the background.

Arcadia Park

Arcadia Park

- CTG Theater Games and Art Making
- Parent Workshop – provided by Department of Mental Health
- Creative Wellbeing Classes with Street Poets and African Soul International
- Therapy Dogs Classes
- Ellen Shuzle Visual Art Show/Class
- La Brea Tar Pits Mobile Museum
- LA Kings Ball Hockey Games



Incredible Power of Partnerships and Community Support

The Care Camp created trauma-informed safe places where children could “heal through play” with an incredible array of rich programming. **Over 80 partners** mobilized to ensure Care Camp would blossom with programs that would educate, soothe, nurture, entertain, and bring joy to children. Within 24 hours of the Care Camp launch, sponsors, and donors pledged in-kind donations of field trips, artist experiences, concerts, music classes, food, clothing, home supplies and much more.

“You guys are doing incredible work. Our daughter, who was quite sensitive the first day, felt welcomed, loved and safe.”
— Parent Testimonial

CARE CAMP PROGRAM PARTNERS	
Center Theatre Group	Coordinated teaching artists at all camps to provide demos, performances and workshops for photography, poetry, theatre games, improv, clowning, drum circle, art making, storytelling, visual arts, and crafting.
The Music Center	Provided weekly 45-minute live performances at all camps. Featured artists included Alley Cats, Futa Toro West African Dance Ensemble, Inca the Peruvian and a writing and storytelling performance by Aja Houston.
The LA Opera	Provided an opera experience at three camps with artists Nandani Sinha and Melodee Fernandez.
Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA)	Brought their youth-centered programming to camps with visual arts workshops by artists Andrea Castillo, Maria Ahverdyan, and Patricia Yossen.
Segerstrom Center for the Arts	Provided workshops and classes for Hip Hop and storytelling.
The LA Philharmonic	Coordinated performances by the Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles
Department of Arts and Culture	Coordinated performances by African Soul Nation, Give a Beat, Street Poets, Versa Style Dance Company, No Easy Props, Justice for My Sister, Spirit Awakening, Homeboy Art Academy, AnworxLA across camp sites.
Grand Performances	Provided a family concert with award-winning band Las Cafeteras.
No Easy Props	Taught youth workshop for Hip Hop Dancing.
Right Design	Provided face painters, balloon twisters, glitter tattoo artists, and bubble shows to entertained children at all camps.
Science of Sport	Hosted sports and STEM-related workshops at all camps.
Dodgers Training Academy	Ran sports clinic with baseball activities and coaching.
Los Angeles Kings	Created a Roller Rink experience by providing skates and equipment to play hockey.
LA Brea Tar Pits	Brought Mobile Museum experiences featuring exhibits from the La Brea Tar Pits and Natural History Museum.
WOW! That's STEM	Started a STEM initiative a few years ago and provides programs at libraries, YMCA, Boys and Girls club to increase access to STEM.
LA Stem Collective	Activated network of STEM-focused organizations to provide programming.
Innoplaytion Environerd LA ZOO Round House Aquarium Tree People Discovery Cube Columbia Memorial Space Center	Provided STEM-related activities and workshops as part of LA STEM Collective
Go Team Therapy Dogs	Brought therapy dogs to camps to provide comfort for children.
Altadena Libraries	Created a quiet library space for each camp site providing books, reading corners, storytelling and crafts in a quiet setting.
The Broad	Organized teaching artists to provide visual arts programming and art-related workshops.
Center for Empowerment of Families	Provided origami art workshops for children.

Building Stronger Communities

CARE CAMP SPONSORS



- LA County Parks Foundation
- California Community Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente Foundation
- Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Live Nation Hewitt Silva

CARE CAMP IN-KIND DONORS

FOOD

Unity Meals
World Central Kitchen
La Michoacana Ice Cream Truck
Danette Miller
Mita Mita Creations
Irv's Burgers
Sodexo
YMCA Monrovia
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
Chuck E. Cheese
Van Leeuwen Ice Cream
LA County Office of Food Equity

DONATION-ITEMS

Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation
Clippers Foundation
LA Philharmonic
Grand Performances
The Clean Out Group
Independence Capital LLC
Gasol Foundation
Humanity Heroes
Midas Express
LA County Library
City Inner Arts
Justice for My Sister
7-Eleven
Imagen Solutions
DSW

FIELD TRIP PARTNERS

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
LACMA
Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation
Los Angeles Rams

FAMILY CONCERT

Grand Performances
Las Cafeteras
International Alliance of Theatrical
Stage Employees (IATSE)

CREATIVE ARTS

Altadena Libraries
No Easy Props
Right Design

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Science of Sport
LA Dodgers Training Academy
Los Angeles Kings

STEM

LA Brea Tar Pits
WOW! That's STEM
LA Stem Collective
Innoplaytion
Environerd
LA ZOO
Round House Aquarium
Tree People
Discovery Cube
Columbia Memorial Space Center

WELL-BEING

LA County Department of Mental Health
Go Team Therapy Dogs

MUSICAL AND VISUAL ARTS

Center Theatre Group
LA Philharmonic
The Music Center
LA Opera
The Broad
Center for Empowerment of Families
Department of Arts and Culture
Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA)
Segerstrom Center for the Arts
Grand Performances

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM
OF
NATURAL HISTORY

LACMA FIELD TRIP

School Groups

THE STORY OF
P-22
L.A.'S MOST FAMOUS FELINE

W. O. W.

Now On View

LACMA

“We’re so grateful for this fun camp! And the special elements - field trips, presentations feel really special right now.”

— Parent Testimonial

Hosted a field trip, including transportation, so youth could explore exhibits, complete a scavenger hunt, and participate in arts and crafts workshops.

“This camp has been a life saver during these challenging times and school closure. Thank you.”

— Parent Testimonial

“We’ve been so happy with our experience here. The staff is amazing and my kids really love the program. Thank you for supporting the impacted families.”

— Parent Testimonial





**LA Dodgers
Foundation**

LA Dodgers Foundation

The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation generously hosted a field trip for Care Camp youth to visit Dodger stadium. The children could select free toys, PPE, sports team clothing, shoes, blankets, and essentials. The event featured many sports teams, mascots, companies and participating foundations/nonprofits such as Mamba/Mambacita Sports Foundation and Baby2Baby.





 **Stadium**

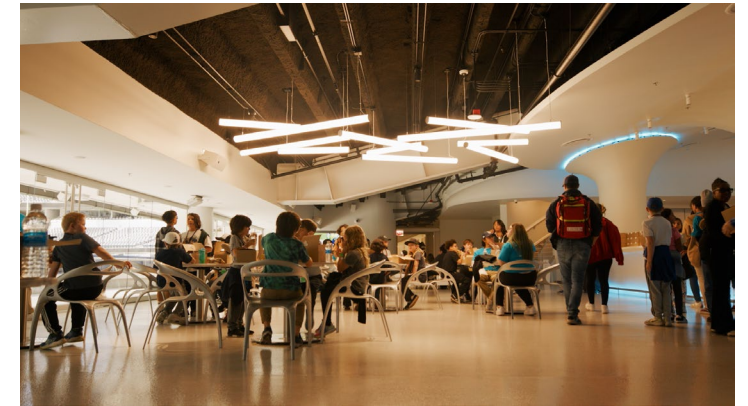
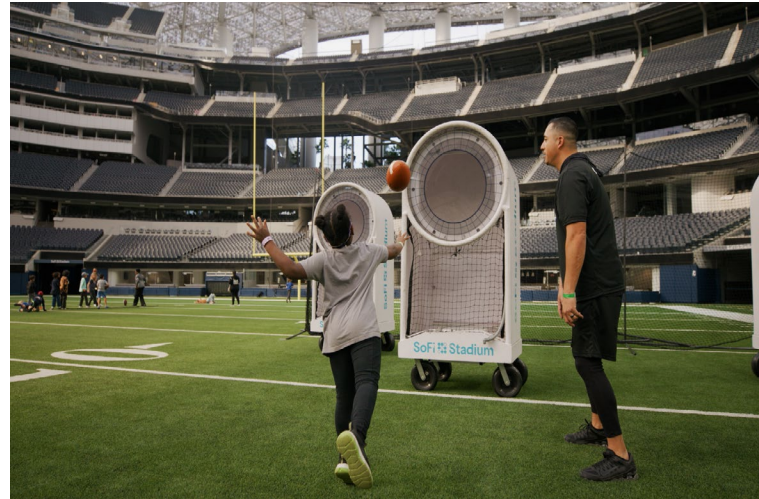
WELCOME
**LA COUNTY
CARE CAMP**



Los Angeles Rams

The Los Angeles Rams

Campers toured the sports field and locker room, engaged in sports clinics, met athletes, and enjoyed lunch. Transportation was provided by Transportation Management Services.





Addressing Trauma, Building Resilience

Addressing Trauma, Building Resilience

Youth voiced their trauma in the loss or separation of their family pets. In response, LA County Parks partnered with Go Team Therapy Dogs to bring dogs as a form of comfort and healing to children.

“This was my daughter’s first time attending any camp, and after just one day, she came home saying, “I had so much fun, and I want to go back tomorrow!” Although she’s a little timid each morning until she sees a familiar face, she truly enjoys her time there.

We cannot thank you enough for providing a safe and fun space, especially during this difficult time of crisis. Your dedication means the world to us. Wishing all of you especially the incredible lifeguards the best of luck (they are such great kids). You are truly amazing human beings!

— Parent Testimonial



The Human Resources Division (DHR) Return-To-Work Unit swiftly identified and contacted LA County Parks staff impacted by the fires and windstorm. Staff were provided the following direct assistance:

- Care Package with donated foods, toiletries, goods, and uniforms
- Temporary housing information through 211 and DHR's voucher program
- Wildfire Emergency Paid Leave to allow time to secure their safety
- Information on accessing critical mental health support, resources and counseling services to assist staff during this challenging time
- Ongoing check-ins on their overall well-being
- The final Care Camp debrief, supported by the Trauma Resource Institute, allowed staff to reflect on their experiences. It also reunited hundreds of Care Camp staff from LA County Parks, county departments, community groups, and cities to share their experiences and support one another

Additionally, LA County Parks partnered with the Los Angeles County Parks Foundation to launch a fundraiser, providing further financial relief for affected staff.

CARING FOR OUR STAFF

