

North Valley Community Foundation's Alexa Benson-Valavanis (right) and Giovanni Tricerri have a major role to play in the Camp Fire recovery: managing \$25 million in donations. PHOTO BY ASHIAH SCHARAGA

players it's out of our hands, but we are working on it day and night and have been for weeks now."

Nevertheless, the organization has some leads. Giovanni Tricerri—a longtime communications consultant for the organization who came on board as director for response and recovery after the fire—told the CN&R that NVCF and its partners were scoping out sites suitable for a mix of temporary housing units in Oroville this week. They've been looking at other locations throughout Butte County, as well.

Tricerri said they've been consulting with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, so that they don't duplicate efforts, and are focused on serving those who may not qualify for FEMA assistance.

Their role through the Butte Strong Fund could be to pay for infrastructure, leases or the purchase of land, Benson-Valavanis added.

As the organization works to address long-term recovery in the aftermath of the fire, Benson-Valavanis said it will continue to provide funding for immediate relief efforts, such as sheltering and

supplies, as needed, as there are organizations that still are helping evacuees in this manner.

Though there remains a lot of uncertainty about how the community will move forward, one thing is clear to the foundation's leaders: This has to be a collaborative effort. It is too massive of an undertaking otherwise.

"I was struck early on that in order for us to meet the magnitude of this tragedy, we as a community need to work together on a scale that we have never done before," Tricerri said. "If we move forward 10 years, and look back over 10 years, [my hope is] that we would be able to see a resilient community being rebuilt, and that the Butte Strong Fund would be a catalyst and framework for that rebuilding process.

"It's a daunting task, it's a big one, but I think we're up for it."

—ASHIAH SCHARAGA
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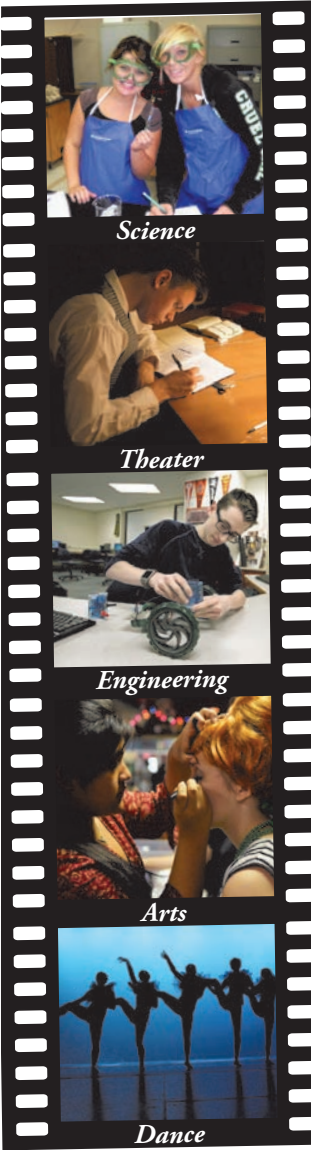
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