## Serving Survivors and Significant Others of Sexual Violence

in Butte, Glenn & Tehama Counties Since 1974

We are open and affirming to all regardless of <u>ability</u>, <u>gender</u>, <u>gender</u> identity or <u>sexual orientation</u>

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Butte/Glenn: 530-891-1331 Tehama: 530-529-3980 Corning: 530-824-3982

Virtual Business Hours: M-F 10am-6pm (excluding Holidays)

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**Collect Calls Accepted** 



## Rape Crisis Intervention of North Central California

aka Rape Crisis Intervention and Prevention

## **CONCOW** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

the county runs through June 30, 2021, and is aimed at tackling the backlog of applicants. Case managers are targeting serving a minimum of 1,400 individual survivors who've been left out, but hope to be able to help more.

"We're very mindful of the unmet needs still in the Concow area," Boston said. "We're here and want to be able to assist folks. We recognize that everyone recovers at their own pace, and it's not an easy load [to bear]."

Bobbie Rae Jones has seen the issues in Concow up close. She's been a disaster case manager for Camp Fire recovery since May 2019, working through the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation, a humanitarian organization that has been providing relief and assistance since the day the blaze ignited.

The nonprofit has two disaster case managers who have taken on a total of 60 households, most in Concow and Yankee Hill. The organization made a shift to focus on these smaller communities this year, Jones said, identifying a greater need in those areas, where living situations like Salinas' are not uncommon.

"We meet people—some of them are in tents and some are in trailers—and they were homeowners. And there's not enough resources to get them back into stable housing, and so it's frustrating," Jones said. "We have a lot of families that would like to build their home and they lack the financial resources right now to do that."

The case managers work hard on connecting families to available financial and material resources, Jones said, but the housing crisis and sheer volume of the need makes it challenging.

"Most everybody we work with is lowincome and doesn't have any money on hand. So then it's sort of problem-solving and taking small steps," she said. "A lot of people are just busy with surviving."

Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation disaster case manager Bobbie Rae Jones (center) meets with a Camp Fire family to help create a recovery plan. The family has since secured housing. PHOTO COURTESY OF HUAN XUN CHAN/BUDDHIST TZU CHI FOUNDATION



Hap Hathaway, whose family has been rebuilding in Concow, says the coronavirus pandemic "just feels like a pile of hot coals on a fire I was trying to put out."

Surviving involves living with trauma every day. That's why Tzu Chi's mission of providing emotional and spiritual comfort is important, Jones said. It's something she witnessed firsthand during a recent visit with a family in Concow. She'd arrived prepped for talking about the steps to rebuild and how to set the process in motion.

"When I got there, we sat down and said our greetings, and she went right into the day of the fire," Jones said.

"It was very emotional. She had been trapped in the fire some time before rescue crews got her out. ... She didn't need to hear about how to build a house right [then]—she just needed a friend to sit and listen and care for her."

Salinas—the mother struggling to rebuild in Concow—has faced barriers with disaster

