



## **Carr Fire Disaster Relief - FAQ**

### **Do I have to have construction skills to participate?**

No, many of our volunteers started with little to no construction experience, and have learned the skills as they go. However, we are always in need of those that have framing, roofing, general contracting, drywalling, and finishing work skills. These volunteers will be given priority on our teams. General tasks for new volunteers will be helping those who are skilled and learning how to do basic tasks such as drywall, laying flooring, ripping off roof shingles, etc.

### **What kind of homes will we be working on?**

All homes that the team will be working on will have been vetted by Northern Valley Catholic Social Service (NVCSS) case managers. IRT's policy for working on homes in disaster areas is that at least 50% of the damage was caused by the disaster. With the Carr fire in the Keswick area, only two homes remained after a wildfire came through. Thus all homes will be new "stick" builds.

Framing the new "stick" homes will be IRT's main role in this disaster. These new homes will require drywall, mudding, floors, doors, windows, cabinets, and other finishing work to be done inside, and roofing as well.

### **What tools do I need to bring?**

Power tools will be provided, but we suggest you bring: hammer, tool pouch, utility knife, pliers, screwdrivers (Phillips and Flat), tape measure, putty knife, and catspaw. Ear plugs, knee pads, and gloves are suggested as well.

### **What will the week be like?**

Volunteers depart from their hometown and will meet at the Sacramento airport on Sunday. From there they will drive to the host site where they will be staying for the week. The work

week consists of full days Monday through Friday, a half day of work on Saturday and returning home on Sunday. Volunteers will be transported to, and from the host site to the various job sites by rental vans provided by IRT.

### **Where does the team stay?**

The team will be staying at Simpson College, which is equipped with showers and sleeping spaces. Please bring your bedding, pillows, toiletries, and towels. The team will be staying in dorms on campus with beds.

### **How do meals work?**

Volunteers are responsible for their meals. Redding Christian Church has a kitchen available for your use and is roughly a 10-minute drive from the college. The team will be responsible for maintaining the kitchen facilities and doing your own shopping and cooking. If the kitchen does not have dishes and eating utensils available, IRT will provide these goods.

Most team members participate in a group buy where everyone pitches in for meals. This is roughly \$50-60 per week. Some nights the group does go out to eat.

### **How do I sign up?**

Please contact:

Brett Schwemmer  
International Relief Teams  
4560 Alvarado Canyon Rd, Suite 1H  
San Diego, CA 92120

Tel: (619)284-7979  
Fax: (619) 284-7938

E-mail: [bschwemmer@irteams.org](mailto:bschwemmer@irteams.org)  
Website: [www.irteams.org](http://www.irteams.org)