



Town of Palm Beach United Way

44 Cocoanut Row, M201
Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-655-1919

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Town of Palm Beach United Way receives new matching gifts from Christine and Alan Curtis and Mayor Danielle Moore to support wildfire relief efforts in Southern California

The LA County Wildfires Fund has already raised over \$200,000 thanks to initial challenge gifts from Susan and Dom Telesco and Sandy and George Garfunkel

For Immediate Release – Friday, January 17, 2025

Contact: Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919 or aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

As wildfires in Southern California continue to burn, the Town of Palm Beach United Way is rapidly raising and deploying funds to support residents and first responders impacted by the unprecedented blazes. **Christine and Alan Curtis** and **Mayor Danielle Moore** are the latest Palm Beach residents to each offer \$50,000 challenge gifts to encourage donations to the United Way's LA County Wildfires Fund. The donors will match community donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$100,000.

"Having witnessed this destruction first hand and knowing the heartbreaking toll it is taking on individuals and families, we felt compelled to offer help, and to encourage others to do so as well," said Christine and Alan Curtis.

Couples **Susan and Dom Telesco** and **Sandy and George Garfunkel** each offered \$50,000 matching gifts to kickstart the wildfires fund. Those matches were met within four days. To date, the LA County Wildfires Fund has raised \$225,450.

Grants are currently being distributed to Americares, Global Empowerment Mission, Los Angeles Fire Department Foundation, and World Central Kitchen. These vetted nonprofits are providing food, water, medicine, medical supplies, hygiene kits, masks, firefighting equipment, financial assistance, and other emergency aid to individuals, families, and first responders in Southern California. The Town of Palm Beach United Way will continue to identify additional partners on the ground to support the needs of LA County residents.

"The destruction from these fires is just horrific," said Mayor Moore. "Homes, schools, businesses, houses of worship – entire communities gone. The impacts will be lasting. As always, the Palm Beach community is remarkable at stepping up to help others in their greatest time of need. I hope this matching gift continues to help raise funds to support the LA community overcome this crisis."

To donate to the LA County Wildfires Fund, visit <https://www.palmbeachunitedway.org/la-county-wildfires-fund>. Checks will also be accepted. Please make checks payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way with "LA Fires" in the memo and mail to 44 Cocoanut Row, Suite M201, Palm Beach, FL 33480.

Donations are tax deductible and 100% will benefit communities and residents in Southern California. For more information call 561-655-1919.

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