

CARe, Inc. Sets 4/19 Followup Meeting for Insurance Help

Special note to SCV wildfire victims

SANTA CLARITA, Calif., April 9, 2008 -- The next CARe, Inc. meeting to help SCV wildfire victims with insurance-related issues is set for Saturday, April 19, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, 22900 Market Street, Newhall 91321, in rooms A1 and A2.

Diane Green, SCV Coalition coordinator, will send a reminder email a few days before the meeting, but asks that everyone who needs help mark their calendars.

CARe, Inc. requests the following preparation for the meeting:

- Bring all correspondence from your insurance company that is loss/damage related.
- Bring written estimates from contractors for repairs for partial loss damages, and estimates to rebuild for those that sustained a total loss. More than one contractor's estimate is advisable.
- Have your insurance policy with you.
- Bring documents showing any improvements done to your home such as remodeling kitchen, bathrooms, adding square footage, upgrades in flooring, windows, etc.
- Please suspend further contact with your insurance company until after the next meeting. Respectfully ask that they give you a little space at this time and you will contact them within the next 30 days or so.
- Be totally honest in your personal content loss inventory and all other matters regarding your loss. Any embellishments to your claim will weaken your position.

"I strongly encourage those that were unable to attend the March 29 meeting to attend the April 19 meeting,"

Green said. "The counselors who will assist you are experts in the language of your policy and it could mean the difference between what your insurance company wants you to accept as a settlement versus what you are entitled to."

For those insured by California Fair Plan, a counselor who is an expert dealing with that insurance provider will attend the meeting.

"I understand that many of the documents listed above were lost in the fire, but if you can recreate any of these files, it would be extremely helpful," Green said.

"Even if you are near the end of your negotiations or have received a final settlement, you should attend."

For more information, contact Diane at 661-753-6160 or coordinator@scvcoalition.com.