

NEA Member Benefits – Making Members' Lives Better

Large-scale disasters cause tremendous devastation and strife for NEA Members and their families.

- ❖ Between 2017 and 2020 an average of 1.9 million acres in CA has burned each year
- ❖ Oregon has been the epicenter of property damage from fires this year with over 858 fires with many of them west of the mountains in the more populated areas
- ❖ We have had 23 named hurricanes or tropical storms this year
- ❖ We have had more flooding, hail, tornadoes and even a derecho (kind of a sideways tornado).
- ❖ Eleven western states have had major fires burn more than seven million acres



Our members' safety, property, and livelihoods are coming under increased risk due to weather related events. We learned the value of our being involved in 2005 when we reached out to members in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. We found that giving a member a \$50 gift card would buy them dinner and help them realize that they are not alone.

In responding to members in their time of need

Member Benefits developed a two-pronged strategy.

1. Act as an agent to collect contributions for members impacted by these events and provide grants to affiliates to support their efforts in serving members in a time of need. There are currently two active go fund me projects: Helping LAE members impacted by Hurricane Laura, and Supporting OEA members impacted by the Oregon wildfires.
2. We work with our business partners to allow flexibility or deferral of payments during a natural disaster.

Members in time of crisis need help. The Member Advocacy Center can provide personal assistance to our members. [Click here to learn how you can help.](#) The number to call is **1-800-637-4636**. The Member Benefits motto is to make members' lives better and what better time to do that than during a time of crisis.