



2026 Wildfire Leadership Summit

Schedule at a Glance

When Crisis Hits, Community Leads: Building What Comes Next, Together
The Hanna Center • 17000 Arnold Drive, Sonoma, CA 95476

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

What Matters First: People, Trust, and Leadership in Crisis

11:00 AM Registration Opens + Light Lunch

12:00 PM

Welcome, Day One

The People in Front of You: Leadership, Trust, and Service Under Pressure

KEYNOTE

Mike Wink, Staff Chief, Wildfire Risk Reduction, CAL FIRE - OSFM

From Survivor Voice to Collective Power

PANEL

Kyle Ellison, Executive Director, Mālama Kula

Deana Freres, President, Board of Directors, Santiam Canyon Long Term Recovery Group

Tony Hocking, Volunteer Organizer, Team Palisades

Jane Lawton Potelle, Founder & Executive Director, Eaton Fire Residents United

Brad Sherwood, Block Captain, 2017 Tubbs Fire/Assistant GM, Sonoma Water (Moderator)

2:00 PM Break

Say the True Thing: Communications That Build Trust

PANEL

Laksmi Abraham, Director of Communications, County of Maui

Bree Jenson, Founder & CEO, The Social Impact Firm

Kim Marshall, Co-Founder, S'Well The Agency

Lorez Bailey, Founder, Lorez Bailey Consulting (Moderator)

Called to Show Up: Faith Communities and the Long Work of Recovery

PANEL

Rabbi Amy Bernstein, Senior Rabbi, Kehillat Israel, Pacific Palisades

Heavenly Hughes, Co-Founder, My Tribe Rise

Pastor Amara Ononiwu, Pastor, Clergy Community Coalition

The Reverend Dr. Grace Park, Associate Pastor, Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church

Pastor Adam Peacocke, Senior Pastor, City Life Fellowship (Moderator)

Sponsor Spotlight

Conclusion Day One

5:30 PM Evening Reception at the Plaza

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

The Work Is Local, the Lift Is Shared

9:00 AM *Networking + Coffee on the Patio*

Morning Welcome, Day 2

Anchor Institutions, Real Communities, and the Long Arc of Recovery

KEYNOTE

Edmund Chan, President, Hawaii Market, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan & Hospitals

Keynote

KEYNOTE

Robert J. Fenton, Senior Official Performing the Duties of Administrator, FEMA

When You've Seen One Fire, You've Seen One Fire

PANEL

Robert J. Fenton, Senior Official Performing the Duties of Administrator, FEMA

Paul Lowenthal, Division Chief Fire Marshal, Santa Rosa Fire Department

David Reid, Director, Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience, County of Santa Cruz

Reva Feldman, Strategic Advisor, After the Fire USA *(Moderator)*

Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation

12:15 PM *Lunch Break*

Coalitions That Hold When Recovery Gets Crunchy

KEYNOTE

Sarah Ali, Chief Operating Officer, R&S Kayne Foundation

Showing Up Fast: Care and Stability When Families Need It Most

PANEL

Shawn Brown, Founder and Executive Director, Pasadena Rosebud Academy Charter School

Mikey Latner, Founder & Executive Director, Project:Camp

Lauren Sandidge, Founder and President, Altadena Girls

Casey Taylor, Superintendent, Achieve Charter Schools *(Moderator)*

The Long Road Within: Trauma, Resilience, and the Work of Healing

PANEL

Jonathan Chia, Co-Founder, Reality Center

Susan Farren, Founder & Executive Director, First Responders Resiliency

Dr. Adrienne Heinz, PhD, Clinical Research Psychologist, VA National Center for PTSD and Stanford University School of Medicine

Staci Richard, Sr. Manager, US Emergency Response, Direct Relief

Clara Bergen, Program Development Manager, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services *(Moderator)*

2:45 PM *Networking Break*

The Land Remembers: Water, Fire, and the Systems Beneath Recovery

PANEL

Ralph Bloemers, Director, Fire Safe People Productions

Sara Tekula, Executive Director, Kula Community Watershed

Steven Lee, Senior Scientist and Research Program Manager, Sonoma Ecology Center
(Moderator)

The Relationships That Hold Recovery Together

KEYNOTE

Daniel Aldrich, Dean's Professor of Resilience, Northeastern University

Rena Hanvin, CEO, Resilient Ready

PANEL

When Main Street Burns: Business Recovery as Community Recovery

Anders Corey, CEO, Altadena Recovery and Rebuild Corporation

Leann Hackman-Carty, CEO, Economic Developers Alberta

Lynn Knight, Chief Knowledge Officer, Institute for Sustainable Development *(Moderator)*

Conclusion Day Two

Thursday, September 17, 2026

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

What We Build Has to Last

8:00 AM *Networking + Coffee on the Patio*

Morning Welcome, Day 3

Build Back Better Is Not Enough: Infrastructure for the Fires Ahead

PANEL

Laura Blaul, Sr. Wildfire Fellow, Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS)

Jenni Goodlin, Community Resilience Manager, Mercury Insurance

Angela Grant, Chief Legal Officer, Palomar Holdings, Inc.

Maureen Parish, Head, Consumer Insights, CSAA Insurance Group

Valerie Brown, California Wildfires Fellow, After the Fire USA *(Moderator)*

From Forest to Future: Materials, Markets, and Fire-Adapted Rebuilding

KEYNOTE

Tyler Freres, Vice President of Sales, Freres Engineered Wood

The Ground Game: Ownership, Legacy, and the Fight to Come Home

KEYNOTE

Lori Gay, President & CEO, Neighborhood Housing Services of LA

Money That Moves: Capital, Loans, and the Speed of Recovery

PANEL

Manny Abascal, Partner, Latham & Watkins LLP

Dustin Bramell, Co-Founder & CEO, Pillar

Abby Ross, CEO, Resiliency Company

Kate Bulger, Vice President, Money Management International (MMI) *(Moderator)*

Closing Keynote

KEYNOTE

Richard Bissen, Mayor, County of Maui

Closing Remarks

12:00 - 1:00 PM *Lunch and Networking*
