OBJECTIVE - The purpose of this report is to highlight the economic injury of businesses affected by the Hill/Woolsey Fire and summarize previous and ongoing outreach and recovery efforts made by the EDC SBDC.

INTRODUCTION - This summary of EDC SBDC response and results has been made possible because of the collaborative effort of many organizations and individuals including College of the Canyons SBDC and our SBA partners. In immediate response to the Hill/Woolsey Fire with the help of additional funding through Go-Biz and the greater SBDC Los Angeles Network, EDC’s SBDC actively deployed business support services and focused outreach to local disaster recovery centers, business support organizations and community disaster recovery meetings beginning November 14, 2018. Since that time our outreach has spread to include all local recovery centers and territory from Camarillo to Malibu. As we began our outreach to impacted communities, it became immediately clear that each community experienced a different level of economic injury but that all were looking for clarity on what resources were available to them and how could they could be accessed.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

While the economic impact of the disaster is still being assessed, early indications are that regional impact across multiple business sectors in Ventura and Los Angeles County has been moderate to severe. EDC has identified that more than $600 million in payrolls were lost or at-risk, looking, on average, at a span of ten days of business interruption in the communities of Agoura, Calabasas, Malibu, Oak Park, Thousand Oaks, West Hills and Westlake Village. Some of these communities, of course, had a shorter term impact; by contrast, some parts of Malibu are still not back up and running.

A comprehensive assessment of direct impacts to business in the burn areas is still underway, though it is known that several businesses did lose property and inventory and the homes of several entrepreneurs and home-based businesses have been lost. Total direct losses won’t be calculated for some time, as insurance claims and other documentation emerges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOOLSEY FIRE</th>
<th>HILL FIRE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Started: November 8, 2018</td>
<td>Started: November 8, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counties Impacted: Ventura, Los Angeles</td>
<td>Ventura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres Burned: 96,949</td>
<td>Acres Burned: 4,531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structures Destroyed: 1,500 – 341 damaged</td>
<td>Structures Destroyed: 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities: 3</td>
<td>Fatalities: 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CAL FIRE [http://www.fire.ca.gov/current_incidents/incidentdetails/Index/2282](http://www.fire.ca.gov/current_incidents/incidentdetails/Index/2282)
SUMMARY OF OUTREACH AND RESPONSE

DIRECT BUSINESS OUTREACH

As the recovery process goes on, the assistance numbers continue to grow. As of December 12, 2018:

- EDC SBDC has worked closely with SBA and resources partners to co-sponsor local business recovery and resource events including convening a stakeholder meeting with city leaders and government officials to create a strategy for business outreach and support. Note: Follow up meeting for continued Ventura and Los Angeles County business recovery scheduled for January 9th.

- Created and distributed Business Recovery Guide through business partners and local chambers to over 8,600 business and 7,760 individuals and businesses through the greater SBDC network.


- Conducted 600 hours of direct engagement with businesses including technical advising and direct door to door outreach in fire affected areas in collaboration with SBDC College of the Canyons. Note: This effort is ongoing.

- Created Disaster Recovery Resources page on EDC website.

- EDC SBDC is currently working with 60 businesses to create short and long term recovery strategies.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT - In direct response to financial need and in addition to traditional loan offerings, the EDC created a Disaster Recovery Micro Loan for businesses up to $50,000 @ 4% interest for those businesses that had lost revenue or inventory as a result of disaster. Note: As of December 10th, SBA reports approval of 17 business loans for $812,200.

CONCLUSION

As partners in recovery we want to thank you again for the work you have been doing to support impacted businesses at this time. If you would like the EDC SBDC to know more about your efforts in economic recovery post disaster, please reach out so that we may work together on behalf of the greater community.

The Economic Development Collaborative hosts the Small Business Development Center in partnership with the Los Angeles Regional Small Business Development Center and is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

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