

August 6, 2019

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**UPDATE!**

## **"GILROY GARLIC FESTIVAL VICTIMS RELIEF FUND"**



*From the Desk of Executive Director Donna Pray*

It has been a little over a week since the tragic event of July 28, 2019 on the grounds of Christmas Hill Park during the closing hours of the 41st Annual Gilroy Garlic Festival.

These days have been ones filled with many emotions for all of us in the community we love so much.

But among those emotions is a feeling of great pride and the love of Gilroy from residents, from those who grew up here, from those who have long ago moved away-and even from those that only know of Gilroy and the Garlic Festival. The many phone calls, emails, and messages of generous support for the victims and the local organizations that are supporting them has been so overwhelming!

Just yesterday, we had five groups come into the office carrying cash or bringing us a check from money they have raised over the past week. Others have called to set up a time to come by with their donation. Our Bay Area sports teams have pledged their support; Silicon Valley corporations have let us know they will be sending donations; realtors, business owners, travel groups, artists, families, fitness centers....and on and on.....everyone wants to do SOMETHING!

Gilroy Foundation is most grateful to Silicon Valley Community Foundation, our investment partner, who made the original donation of \$10,000 to start the fund. They have also pledged staff support from their offices in Mountain View to our office in Gilroy.

Thank you to the members of our Board of Directors who have spent time going to events to accept checks or just be present. They have been our advisers and our support during this very intense time.

As we move forward with the process of collection of donations, we look ahead to the next step: providing financial relief for victims. Protocol and applications forms are being developed. More information will be available to the community very soon.

*#GILROYSTRONG*  
*#GiveWhereYouLive*  
Thank you!



## CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES

As quickly as we can total and report numbers, more calls, visits and pledges come into our office. But, to give you an idea of where we stand.....as of Tuesday, August 6 at 11AM: We are very proud to report that money raised and pledges total over \$620,000!

Much more has been pledged and we anticipate significant gifts from other entities--foundations, corporations, etc.--who have expressed interest.

The response to the Gilroy Garlic Festival Victims Relief Fund has been so overwhelmingly amazing!

If you would like to make a donation, know that 100% of what you give will go directly to the victims. An Oversight Committee has been established at Gilroy Foundation; they will determine eligibility and relief fund awards. All relief fund awards are left to the discretion of the Oversight Committee.

- Donations may be made online at [gilroyfoundation.org](http://gilroyfoundation.org)
- Donations may be mailed to Gilroy Foundation, P.O. Box 774, Gilroy, CA 95021
- If you would like to bring a donation to the office, phone 408.842.3727 to find a mutually agreeable time.
- If you would like a Gilroy Foundation representative to be present at your event, email [director@gilroyfoundation.org](mailto:director@gilroyfoundation.org).

Thank you!

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