

**The Gilroy Garlic Festival Oversight Committee read many applications submitted by victims of the tragedy. Here are a few of the victims' comments on the applications.**

*"There have been many days that I am unable to work due to anxiety caused by the Garlic Festival shooting."*

*"I attended the Gilroy Garlic Festival with family as I always do. I had just bought food to take home when I heard gun shots. People started running and screaming. It was a horrible experience that caused me to miss work because I didn't want to leave my house."*

*"My daughter and I were volunteering at the Garlic Festival right near where the shooter came in. Since this tragedy we both still struggle on a daily basis to just to deal with day-to-day things. I haven't been able to go to work. My daughter and I have been attending support groups at a local church. Getting back to feeling normal is a challenge. We won't go into crowds."*

*"My wife was working in a booth all day. I went to get food, then I heard the shots coming from the area where my wife was. She wasn't in the booth anymore. No one knew where she was. Some ladies with kids were screaming and I helped them hide behind a freezer. Then I saw my wife, so I went to bring her back to safety with the others. I got as many people as I could behind the freezer as we heard the gunshots."*

*"I was volunteering at the Festival when the shots rang out. I ran towards the shooting victims. I came across one of them, so me and a couple of others performed CPR and medical aid to the person. We tried our best until the EMTs arrived. I didn't go to work for two weeks. Many sleepless nights. Trying to get through this slowly by talking to someone for help. I feel guilty even asking for help, as I feel I'm not a victim since I wasn't shot."*

*"The shooter was between me and my son. When he was reloading, I ran to get my son and we hid behind the blow-up slide as the bullets were ricocheting off the structure holding the slide up. Then we ran through puddles of blood while people were screaming and running. I haven't been able to go back to work, and it's been four weeks."*

*"I was a food vendor at the 2019 Gilroy Garlic Festival. My booth was about 40 feet from the incident. I immediately told my wife and son to get as low as possible and then I jumped on top of them to help protect them. We remained low and tried to position ourselves out of line of site if he were to enter the back of our booth. This was a terrifying experience. After about 7 minutes, we were told to exit our booth and run to the right. We left everything: wallets, keys, cell phone, our laptop and all our cash behind we had made that day. We slept at a local high school for 3 days. The Red*

*Cross was fantastic and so supportive emotionally as well as providing food and cots, etc. Then, the FBI flew us back to Southern California. My truck and trailer and all our things in our booth were under lockdown in Gilroy for 10 days. The FBI kept in touch with us and flew us back to Gilroy to get our things to drive home. I'm 100% self-employed with festivals as well as a small distributing company. We missed many festivals we had signed up for over the next several weeks. This has been a huge financial burden as well as an emotional one for our family."*