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## **Autism Society of Ventura County (ASVC) Offers Resources for Thomas Fire Evacuees with Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Camarillo, Calif. (December 6, 2017) - The Autism Society of Ventura County, a leading autism organization for individuals impacted by autism in Ventura County, is offering assistance to people with Autism Spectrum and related disorders forced to flee for safety from recent wildfires and to agencies providing shelter for these individuals.

Wildfires continue to ravage large portions of Ventura County and surrounding areas, destroying over 100 properties and prompting nearly 150,000 residents in its path to seek shelter and leave the only homes many have ever known. Officials estimate it could be days before fire are under control. Natural disasters and other unplanned occurrences can cause high stress and anxiety for people with autism.

“The Autism Society of Ventura County is at the ready to help facilitate a safe and orderly evacuation for families and individuals with special needs seeking refuge from the fires,” said Carly Fulgham, Autism Society of Ventura County Board of Directors President. “Our organization is here to collaborate with government agencies and relief organizations to reinforce capacity to meet the unique needs of autism families.”

ASVC is available to replenish supplies for left behind for displaced residents requiring assistance including weighted blankets, communication aide devices, sensory friendly resources, and autism-related items to ease the transition during this difficult time. Residents requiring assistance should contact the ASVC Resource Hotline at (805) 437-9856 or the Office at (805) 496-1632.

### ***About the Autism Society of Ventura County (ASVC)***

The Autism Society of Ventura County was founded in 1994 by local parents, educators and professionals to help support newly-diagnosed families and develop needed local resources. First known as the Ventura County Autism Society (VCAS), the organization is a non-profit affiliate of the Autism Society of America. For more information, visit [autismventura.org](http://autismventura.org).