The Peg Taylor Center's Camp Fire Response

The Camp Fire disaster this past November touched every part of our community, with older adults being particularly affected. As such, it was vital that the Peg Taylor Center remain open and functioning as a community resource in the aftermath of the fire. We were able to do so thanks to the efforts of many, including our dedicated staff.



Peg Taylor Participant Karen Reilly, who evacuated during the Camp Fire, with Social Worker Kelly Laugenour

During this community-wide emergency, we:

- **Safely sheltered participants from Paradise** on the day the fire broke out and facilitated a rapid reunion with their families
- **Provided a clean-air shelter** for all of our participants during the emergency air quality conditions, helping to ensure that medically fragile adults were protected until the dangerous air quality had passed
- **Provided continuity of care for participants who had lost their family homes** by offering health care, companionship, and healthy meals during the day. As caregivers began the full-time job of connecting with FEMA and other disaster relief agencies, finding temporary lodging, etc., they knew their family members were safe and had their needs met here at the Peg Taylor Center
- **Distributed N95 masks** to everyone and anyone in need of them
- **Fielded more than 200 calls** from families seeking help with urgent needs such as replacing critical medical equipment and connecting with relief services

During a time of incredible stress in our community, the Peg Taylor Center was able to remain a calm and happy place, a safe harbor from the trauma of evacuation and loss. We truly believe that the care and attention provided by the center's staff team prevented many medical emergencies during this time. Sharing the company of others, enjoying a nutritious noon dinner, and remaining connected to the multi-generational environment created through extensive student involvement were all beneficial to the health and recovery of the older adults we serve. We are very grateful to everyone who assisted.

The Peg Taylor Center
for Adult Day Health Care

124 Parmac Road, Chico CA 95926

(530) 342-2345

www.pegtaylorcenter.org