

PRESS RELEASE

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Services

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July 3, 2008

Fire Evacuees seeking information regarding public assistance

Salinas, Ca. –

Individuals affected by the Basin-Complex Fire needing information regarding eligibility for public assistance such as **emergency food stamps**, **cash aid**, and **emergency Medi-Cal** are encouraged to contact the Monterey County Department of Social and Employment services at 1281 Broadway Street, Seaside, phone number 831-899-8001.

The Department's Aging and Adult Services staff is working with emergency services personnel and other community organizations in assisting seniors and people with disabilities with special needs. Seniors and people with disabilities are encouraged to call during regular work hours to the Senior Helpline at 1-800-510-2020 for information regarding senior services. In an emergency, people with special needs are encouraged to call 911 for assistance. Staff from the Department will be made available at the Red Cross Evacuation Center as requested by emergency officials.

For people whose jobs have been interrupted by the fire, please contact the [California State] Employment Development Department (EDD) to apply for **unemployment benefits**. Applications can be filed on line or download print and fax at www.edd.ca.gov. Individuals can also apply by calling 1-800-300-5616 Monday through Friday during regular business hours, excluding holidays.