

I strongly oppose reducing the budget to the fire safe counsel community agency in Mendocino County. We have developed a momentum as a county with neighborhoods working together to reduce fire risk to our homes and formally become certified firewise communities.. This agency has facilitated our organizational meetings and helped us purchase and post CDF recommended street signs and SO evacuation tags and much more. As our Sheriff Kendal pointed out at the lower Deerwood meeting these type of community emergency notification groups help not only with wild fire evacuations but also in other emergency situations where the SO knows which communities will be prepared to evacuate or care for each other in a crisis in our large county. This is really very little money when you look at the value of the organization and oversight they provide to this county. Using funds to organize community members is more cost effective than hiring firemen and officers to work alone in a confused unorganized community. I don't understand the need for a \$75,000 proposed cut to something that is spreading and working. Carrie Brown attended our meeting and can speak to the effectiveness of the assistance from this county funded agency. We need to prioritize fire reduction efforts.

Sincerely

Jean Glentzer

Upper Deerwood Firewuse Community Board Member