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CARR/CAMP FIRE VICTIMS RECEIVE BOOTS AND CLOTHING  
Ariat and local union coordinate community assistance

REDDING – Travis Clements may not have lost his home in the Carr Fire, but he lost everything else on his 2-acre property. The fire blazed 40 feet from his home last year and destroyed his aunt’s home on Iron Mountain Road.

So when the Operating Engineers Local 3 Union Hall called him up to say they had partnered with Ariat to offer him and others in his community some clothing and boots, it brightened his day. Clements has worked as a member of the construction union since 2001, maintaining steady employment for most of his career with Tullis, Inc.

He sees community efforts like the recent boot drive for both the Camp Fire and Carr Fire victims as an example of his union’s desire to reach out to local communities in times of need, regardless if those impacted are union members or not.

Redding resident and Local 3 member Jesse Strickland lost everything in the Carr Fire, and the donations helped him and his family out tremendously.

"We love the stuff. The kids are trying it on right now," said Strickland.

“In all, over 1,700 items of footwear and clothing were processed in and held in secure storage at the Local 3 Sacramento Hall until they could be sent out to the community,” said Local 3 Safety Director Michael Strunk.

“Every little bit helps,” said Clements. “The more the community gets involved to help each other out, the better.”

Operating Engineers Local 3 represents the interests of people who build, serve and protect. Most of Local 3’s 36,000 members work as heavy-equipment operators and construction workers, but the union also represents public employees, such as maintenance workers and police officers. The training program for construction professionals gives employers access to the highest quality of workers, providing their business with a competitive edge while raising the quality of life for Local 3 members. Local 3’s jurisdiction covers Northern California, Northern Nevada, Hawaii and Utah, and its membership makes up the largest construction trades local in the United States. For more information, visit www.oe3.org.

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