## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Local Community Provides Relief & Gratitude for First Responders Fighting the Raging California Wild Fires

This Saturday in Live Oak, California, local community members, businesses, and citizen volunteers will be assembling First Responder Care Kits for the brave men and women working to control the wildfires in California. There has been an outpouring of love and support for first responders from the communities being affected by this year's record breaking wild fire season.

"Many people watching the news want to get off their couches and help their communities and first responders, but often don't know where to start or how to help," stated Kimberly Goreham, (president of a non-profit disaster relief organization called No Town Left Behind.) "We work with a tremendous network of volunteers, soccer moms & dads, churches, individuals and businesses, nationwide, to fill in where there is a special need for volunteers, rescues or hard to find supplies," said Kimberly.

No Town Left Behind has assisted in 4 hurricanes and 3 wildfire disasters in the last 11 months. This 100% volunteer organization was born from an immediate community need stemming from Hurricane Harvey. To date, this group of passionate volunteers have coordinated and moved over 100 million pounds of donated goods in 4 states and Puerto Rico, and now they are responding to the California Wildfires.

"We were contacted through social media by a fire fighter's wife in the Redding area whose husband was currently on the ridge fighting the fire," said Kimberly Goreham. "This concerned wife was having a hard time finding products on the shelves in her neighborhood to give to her husband. At that time there were close to 4,000 firefighters looking for eyedrops and fresh bandannas," Kimberly stated. "We put the word out to our network and that same day, Bethel Church, BePrepared.com and SERVPRO answered our call for help."

First Responders put their health and safety on the line every day and they will always tell you "they are just doing their job." However, first responder wives paint a vivid picture of what a first responder's body actually goes through. In an environment where any distraction can be a dangerous one, blisters, scrapes, sprains and strains are a regular occurrence.

This Saturday, No Town Left Behind and a large group of volunteers will meet at The Glad Tidings Warehouse in Live Oak, CA to assemble and distribute the First Responder Care Kits. These kits include requested items that will make first responders, out in the field, a bit more comfortable. SERVPRO is also providing a BBQ lunch for all volunteers and first responders who can stop by. If you'd like to come out and help, please visit <u>www.NoTownLeftBehind.org</u> for more details.