I have been working with the Families devastated by the Archie Creek FIre. I spoke with families the first day of the fire, the moment after they saw their property for the first time after the fire and I continue to meet with families daily. As the Executive Director of Glide Revitalization along with the rest of my staff we have been able to meet immediate needs, placed families in temporary housing and continue working with families to develop a recovery plan to return to their new normal.

We appreciate the funding we have received to aid in the recovery process.

Douglas County Commissioners and community leaders have been very supportive and we continue to meet with us on a weekly basis to plan, remove obstacles to aid in the recovery process along with providing support to Glide Revitalization.

The struggle came once we became connected with the FEMA VAL teams to develop a long term recovery committee. This group has been anything but helpful. They have been unprofessional and have taken us away for assisting our families. They have created chaos within our community and our disaster relief partners. The Nonprofit Association of Oregon has tried to educate the VAL team at the state level as to the rules and regulations within Oregon, they have tried several times, but to no avail.

AC Disasters has caused confusion, frustration and stress among our property owners. Glide Revitalization had signed up over 87 ROE's for the second phase of the clean-up process. These ROE's had a confirmed receipt from AC Disasters by December 2020. They promised cleanup would be ready to begin the week after Thanksgiving, November 2020. Lots of promises were made as to when cleanup would begin. The first part of February 2021 we were approached by ODOT to be updated on the cleanup process. Through this update it was brought to our attention that ODOT and CDR were provided conflicting property reports by AC Disasters. We reached out to AC Disasters, they were not receptive and refused to work with us to fix the problem. It was only after several complaints from ODOT and CDR, AC Disasters agreed to speak with us. We provided the results of our investigation identifying AC Disasters were missing 57 ROE's which were previously confirmed receipts from AC Disasters. Since we had copies of the ROE's we assisted our families to reimput the information on all the ROE's. It has taken more than 3 weeks to get an accurate list, only for AC Disasters to blame our organization for the discrepancies.

Our families are hurting and the organizations the state brought in to help have caused additional pain and stress. These families need security in their plans. The state agencies need to all get on the same page and provide accurate information and back the promises made. Funding needs to be provided to those working with families face to face. Help nonprofits like Glide Revitalization with funding to continue the essential work they have been doing. These nonprofits personally know these families, understand their needs and even more importantly, our families are our neighbors and they trust us, they know we are working hard to have their needs met.

## Alison Doty

## **Executive Director**

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