DECEMBER 31, 2021

Helping CU Community Members Impacted by the Marshall Fire

Dear CU Community,

The last 24 hours has brought tremendous pain and loss to so many in our beloved Boulder County and the CU community. The Marshall Fire has forced tens of thousands to evacuate, while destroying hundreds of homes in its path. This is a terrible tragedy, and we will stand together to help those in need.

Many of you know that Michelle and I are longtime Boulder residents. We were driving home to Boulder from Denver yesterday afternoon and saw the billowing smoke and flames. The winds were fierce and the flames were beginning to reach neighborhoods that are now devastated. I’ve spoken to people from the community who have been displaced by the fire. It may be days before we grasp the full toll of this tragedy, but I know for certain that many people are suffering right now, including those in our CU community. If this fire has impacted you, please know you are not alone.

Our homes are not just where we live. They’re filled with memories, milestones and other invaluable, irreplaceable things. As we grieve with those whose homes have been devastated and lost, we recognize the human cost of such destruction. Our hearts go out to all who are suffering.

Tragedy also brings out the best in our community. I’m grateful to the firefighters and first responders who have been working round the clock to fight the fire and help those affected. I’m grateful to our local and state leaders for their caring engagement and quick action to make resources available to the community. I also want to thank CU Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano and his team for everything they are doing for our CU community.
members impacted by this tragedy. The Boulder campus has posted information on its website for those in need of assistance. The campus’ response continues to develop, and any updates will be posted on the CU Boulder website.

While the primary impact is in Boulder, we also have CU community members from the other campuses and system administration who live in the affected areas. We will keep them in our hearts, and are offering support to all CU community members who have been impacted. It’s at times like these that our community is essential, and the CU community is caring, strong and resilient.

Many of you have asked how you can help. Here is a list of community resources to provide support:

- **CU Fund to Assist Affected Students, Faculty and Staff**
- **Boulder Community Foundation**
- **Colorado Responds**
- **Boulder Office of Emergency Management**

The local phone number for information about specific structures and questions is 303-413-7730. The Boulder County Sheriff has asked that non-emergency calls are not directed to 911.

This is a painful reminder of the fragility of life and how quickly things can change for all of us. Let’s take a moment as we approach the new year to be grateful for our friends, family and community. We are deeply thankful that there appears to have been no loss of life.

Let’s hope for a brighter, healthier and safer 2022.

Sincerely,

Todd Saliman
President