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American Society of Human Genetics steps up to help San Diego fight fires

As wildfires continue to threaten the areas around San Diego County, attendees at the [American Society of Human Genetics \(ASHG\)](#) are providing relief assistance by asking attendees to double-up on hotel rooms so that local evacuees could find lodging. They have also volunteered to provide medical assistance and set up an emergency relief fund through their Web site to collect donations. More than 6,000 are attending the ASHG event. The ASHG event is being held October 23-27 at the [San Diego Convention Center](#).

Carol Wallace, President and CEO of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation (SDCCC), says, "We have been deeply touched and appreciative of the incredible efforts made by ASHG attendees and the ASHG organization which has gone above and beyond in their efforts to support the relief efforts currently underway in San Diego."

Officials from the SDCCC are mobilizing resources to ensure attendees, exhibitors and meeting planners are updated on the impact of the wildfires in San Diego County on events occurring or planned over the next two weeks at the convention center. Event attendees are urged to continue their schedules.

Only one large group has canceled its meeting because of the fires. Sharp Healthcare's annual employee meeting was expected to draw between 12,000 and 14,000 local attendees. Primarily healthcare providers from the area, attendees were asked to mobilize in response to the fires.

Jerry Sanders, San Diego Mayor, says, "Public safety and responding to these devastating fires continue to be our top priorities; however, we encourage those who are scheduled to attend events at the convention center to move forward with their plans."

The Big Money Expo/The Learning Annex is scheduled for October 26 at the convention center and is expected to draw 950 attendees.

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