WEBVTT

1 00:00:01.300 --> 00:00:02.420 - So, hi everyone,

2 00:00:02.420 --> 00:00:03.460 welcome to join us

3 00:00:03.460 --> 00:00:05.080 and thank you for your patience

4 00:00:05.080 --> 00:00:08.530 and welcome to the Yeltsin town country

5 00:00:08.530 --> 00:00:09.850 to the house seminar,

6 00:00:09.850 --> 00:00:12.850 I'm today's moderator, Kai Chen,

7 00:00:12.850 --> 00:00:14.100 Assistant Professor

8 00:00:14.100 --> 00:00:16.420 at the Yale School of Public Health.

9 00:00:16.420 --> 00:00:19.180 If you have any questions during the presentation,

10 00:00:19.180 --> 00:00:21.550 please use the chat box

11 00:00:21.550 --> 00:00:24.380 and the speaker will answer them

12 00:00:24.380 --> 00:00:26.490 at the end of the seminar.

13 00:00:26.490 --> 00:00:28.370 So today, we're very pleased

14 00:00:28.370 --> 00:00:32.260 to have Dr. Michael Mendez join us

15 00:00:32.260 --> 00:00:34.750 who will talk about the vulnerabilities

16 00:00:34.750 --> 00:00:36.520 of Latino communities

17 00:00:36.520 --> 00:00:40.430 during the Thomas Fire in California.

18 00:00:40.430 --> 00:00:44.260 So Dr. Mendez is an Assistant Professor

19 00:00:44.260 --> 00:00:47.210 at the School of Social Ecology

20 00:00:47.210 --> 00:00:50.740 of the University of California, Irvine.

21 00:00:50.740 --> 00:00:53.840 So he has more than a decade experience

22 00:00:54.860 --> 00:00:57.360 in the public and private sectors

23 00:00:57.360 --> 00:00:59.710 and he was recently appointed

24 00:00:59.710 --> 00:01:02.300 by the National Academy of Science,

25 00:01:02.300 --> 00:01:04.350 Engineering and Medicine

26 00:01:04.350 --> 00:01:06.940 to the board on on Environmental Change

27 00:01:06.940 --> 00:01:07.893 and Society.

28 00:01:08.980 --> 00:01:11.010 He recently has a new book published

29 00:01:11.010 --> 00:01:14.280 by the Yale press

30 00:01:14.280 --> 00:01:16.900 named ”Climate Change from the Streets”,

31 00:01:16.900 --> 00:01:20.610 which provides an urgent and timely analysis

32 00:01:20.610 --> 00:01:24.430 of the continuous policies

33 00:01:24.430 --> 00:01:26.880 of incorporating environmental justice

34 00:01:26.880 --> 00:01:29.200 into global climate change process.

35 00:01:29.200 --> 00:01:30.510 So without further ado,

36 00:01:30.510 --> 00:01:33.810 I’m handing over to Dr. Michael Mendez

37 00:01:33.810 --> 00:01:36.920 and looking forward to his talk.

38 00:01:36.920 --> 00:01:37.840 - Great, good morning.

39 00:01:37.840 --> 00:01:40.440 Thank you, such a pleasure to be back at Yale

40 00:01:40.440 --> 00:01:41.970 at least through Zoom.

41 00:01:41.970 --> 00:01:44.210 So thank you to Robert

42 00:01:44.210 --> 00:01:47.390 and everyone with the Climate and Health Center

43 00:01:47.390 --> 00:01:49.530 at the Yale School Public Health

44 00:01:49.530 --> 00:01:51.640 and sorry, I’m a little bit late,

45 00:01:51.640 --> 00:01:54.396 I got mixed up with the time so but I’m happy.

46 00:01:54.396 --> 00:01:57.350 It’s online when I got the email.

47 00:01:57.350 --> 00:01:58.590 So today I’m gonna be talking

48 00:01:58.590 --> 00:02:00.760 about some research I actually started

49 00:02:00.760 --> 00:02:02.380 at the Yale School of the Environment,

50 00:02:02.380 --> 00:02:04.250 I’m looking at the ”Disparate Impacts

51 00:02:04.250 --> 00:02:06.950 of Wildfires on Undocumented Immigrants”

52 00:02:06.950 --> 00:02:08.670 and specifically looking at ”Lessons

53 00:02:08.670 --> 00:02:10.180 on Inclusive Disaster

54 00:02:10.180 --> 00:02:12.087 and Climate Adaptation Planning”,

55 00:02:13.770 --> 00:02:16.440 so as many of you know, in California,

56 00:02:16.440 --> 00:02:18.960 over the last four or five months,

57 00:02:18.960 --> 00:02:20.030 we have been experiencing

58 00:02:20.030 --> 00:02:22.570 major climate change crises

59 00:02:22.570 --> 00:02:24.880 and in the last two months alone,

60 00:02:24.880 --> 00:02:27.950 millions of people have been impacted by fires,

61 00:02:27.950 --> 00:02:32.320 blackouts, heat waves, worsening air quality

62 00:02:32.320 --> 00:02:35.250 and of course, the ever present COVID-19 pandemic

63 00:02:35.250 --> 00:02:37.770 and of course, loss of life and property.

64 00:02:37.770 --> 00:02:39.820 These are all major life events

65 00:02:39.820 --> 00:02:43.860 and the five of the 10 largest wildfires

66 00:02:43.860 --> 00:02:46.990 by acreage ever recorded in California

67 00:02:46.990 --> 00:02:49.870 occurred within the last three months.

68 00:02:49.870 --> 00:02:51.500 These compounds of disaster

69 00:02:51.500 --> 00:02:53.810 have a corresponding health,

70 00:02:53.810 --> 00:02:56.290 social and economic impacts to people,

71 00:02:56.290 --> 00:02:58.120 especially people of color

72 00:02:59.950 --> 00:03:03.170 and these individuals have suffered multiple weeks

73 00:03:03.170 --> 00:03:05.370 of unhealthy air,

74 00:03:05.370 --> 00:03:07.670 and that has been worsening throughout California.

75 00:03:07.670 --> 00:03:09.230 So today, I'm gonna be speaking

76 00:03:09.230 --> 00:03:11.240 about some of the research that I did,

77 00:03:11.240 --> 00:03:14.110 I co-authored it with community based organizations

78 00:03:14.110 --> 00:03:15.530 on immigrant rights group,

79 00:03:15.530 --> 00:03:17.130 a migrant rights group

80 00:03:17.130 --> 00:03:18.890 as well as an environmental justice group

81 00:03:18.890 --> 00:03:20.340 that were on the front lines

82 00:03:20.340 --> 00:03:24.660 during the 2018 Thomas wildfire,

83 00:03:24.660 --> 00:03:26.400 so our presentation is gonna talk

84 00:03:26.400 --> 00:03:28.500 about how these individuals

85 00:03:28.500 --> 00:03:30.810 on these community groups stepped up

86 00:03:30.810 --> 00:03:33.390 when there was no official government response

87 00:03:33.390 --> 00:03:35.470 for undocumented immigrant communities.

88 00:03:35.470 --> 00:03:39.110 So these individuals were rendered invisible,

89 00:03:39.110 --> 00:03:40.750 not because they live in the shadows,

90 00:03:40.750 --> 00:03:42.850 not because people didn't know they were there

91 00:03:42.850 --> 00:03:44.440 but they're rendered invisible

92 00:03:44.440 --> 00:03:46.160 because of systemic racism

93 00:03:46.160 --> 00:03:48.580 and cultural norms of who's considered

94 00:03:48.580 --> 00:03:50.560 a worthy disaster victim

95 00:03:50.560 --> 00:03:53.528 and oftentimes, undocumented immigrants

96 00:03:53.528 --> 00:03:55.490 are not considered worthy disaster victims,

97 00:03:55.490 --> 00:03:57.300 therefore, they're rendered invisible

98 00:03:57.300 --> 00:03:59.310 and important resources,

99 00:03:59.310 --> 00:04:01.940 government resources, disaster relief,

100 00:04:01.940 --> 00:04:04.180 therefore is withheld from them,

101 00:04:04.180 --> 00:04:05.920 which makes them more vulnerable

102 00:04:05.920 --> 00:04:09.960 to disasters such as wildfires.

103 00:04:09.960 --> 00:04:11.360 So it's important to understand

104 00:04:11.360 --> 00:04:14.270 that Disaster Risk Reduction starts first

105 00:04:14.270 --> 00:04:17.550 and foremost with social integration of migrants.

106 00:04:17.550 --> 00:04:18.840 I just mentioned that

107 00:04:18.840 --> 00:04:21.530 how these migrants were undocumented immigrants

108 00:04:21.530 --> 00:04:22.792 were rendered invisible

109 00:04:22.792 --> 00:04:23.740 because of systemic racism

110 00:04:23.740 --> 00:04:24.650 and cultural norms

111 00:04:24.650 --> 00:04:27.360 of who they were they disaster victim,

112 00:04:27.360 --> 00:04:30.010 so if you bring in undocumented immigrant,

113 00:04:30.010 --> 00:04:32.710 if you really wanna address Disaster Risk Reduction

114 00:04:32.710 --> 00:04:34.170 before disaster you have

115 00:04:34.170 --> 00:04:36.330 to acknowledge the existing inequalities

116 00:04:36.330 --> 00:04:39.230 that undocumented immigrants experience

117 00:04:39.230 --> 00:04:41.710 their pre-disaster marginalized status

118 00:04:41.710 --> 00:04:42.850 and try to integrate

119 00:04:42.850 --> 00:04:45.000 and reduce those inequalities

120 00:04:45.000 --> 00:04:46.720 before disaster happens

121 00:04:46.720 --> 00:04:49.073 because when a disaster happens,

122 00:04:49.073 --> 00:04:52.700 that compounds in exasperates existing inequality

123 00:04:52.700 --> 00:04:54.390 so the point is to understand

124 00:04:54.390 --> 00:04:57.163 their pre-disaster marginalized status,

125 00:04:59.340 --> 00:05:00.270 as I mentioned before,

126 00:05:00.270 --> 00:05:02.361 this is some research that, first

127 00:05:02.361 --> 00:05:04.960 that was recently published by Geoforum,

128 00:05:04.960 --> 00:05:07.040 which is the leading human geography

129 00:05:07.040 --> 00:05:09.130 on journal in the field

130 00:05:09.130 --> 00:05:12.760 and we call it "the Invisible Victims of Disaster"

131 00:05:12.760 --> 00:05:16.840 and I chose a community based on research project

132 00:05:16.840 --> 00:05:19.140 and giving the migrant rights group

133 00:05:19.140 --> 00:05:21.210 and environmental justice groups authorship

134 00:05:21.210 --> 00:05:22.650 of this research

135 00:05:22.650 --> 00:05:24.840 and we worked jointly and collaboratively

136 00:05:24.840 --> 00:05:26.160 on the research questions,

137 00:05:26.160 --> 00:05:27.990 the data and of course, the analysis

138 00:05:27.990 --> 00:05:29.613 and throughout the publication.

139 00:05:33.720 --> 00:05:37.413 Oh, my God, this is the older version.

140 00:05:38.900 --> 00:05:42.760 So I just wanna show you some issues

141 00:05:42.760 --> 00:05:46.363 about disaster recovery resources here,

142 00:05:47.260 --> 00:05:50.600 this is an outline,

143 00:05:50.600 --> 00:05:52.930 that minus one of the assembly members

144 00:05:52.930 --> 00:05:55.450 where my parents live in Sylmar, California

145 00:05:55.450 --> 00:05:58.580 which is in the northeast part of Los Angeles

146 00:05:58.580 --> 00:06:00.010 and Sylmar, California

147 00:06:00.010 --> 00:06:02.690 is the working class immigrant community

148 00:06:02.690 --> 00:06:04.280 but it's important to note here

149 00:06:04.280 --> 00:06:08.750 when you go for disaster assistance of funds,

150 00:06:08.750 --> 00:06:10.590 you need to have a social security number

151 00:06:10.590 --> 00:06:12.000 and you need to have a bank account

152 00:06:12.000 --> 00:06:14.370 to receive federal disaster relief funds.

153 00:06:14.370 --> 00:06:18.130 Undocumented immigrants are not eligible to that,

154 00:06:18.130 --> 00:06:21.540 my parents, luckily are now US citizens

155 00:06:21.540 --> 00:06:22.510 they are homeowners.

156 00:06:22.510 --> 00:06:25.450 So their vulnerability is very different

157 00:06:25.450 --> 00:06:29.060 on the other Latino migrant communities.

158 00:06:29.060 --> 00:06:33.940 So oftentimes in disaster relief funding and practices,

159 00:06:33.940 --> 00:06:36.470 these ideas of Latinos

160 00:06:36.470 --> 00:06:39.430 being homogenous is integrated into policies

161 00:06:39.430 --> 00:06:42.680 and it does not effectively address

162 00:06:42.680 --> 00:06:44.510 all the issues that are happening

163 00:06:44.510 --> 00:06:45.800 to these communities.

164 00:06:45.800 --> 00:06:48.310 For example, these are some headlines

165 00:06:48.310 --> 00:06:49.960 that have happened over the year

166 00:06:49.960 --> 00:06:50.910 the Kincade Fire,

167 00:06:50.910 --> 00:06:52.420 which is in Northern California,

168 00:06:52.420 --> 00:06:54.160 Sonoma and Napa area,

169 00:06:54.160 --> 00:06:56.470 it talks about how farm workers had to flee

170 00:06:56.470 --> 00:06:58.810 from their houses, from the worker camps

171 00:06:58.810 --> 00:07:00.490 that they lived without gas

172 00:07:00.490 --> 00:07:03.182 and had to make shift shelters

173 00:07:03.182 --> 00:07:06.560 on nearby beaches and other parks

174 00:07:06.560 --> 00:07:08.270 because they were afraid to go to

175 00:07:08.270 --> 00:07:10.470 on the designated shelters that the county

176 00:07:10.470 --> 00:07:11.730 and local governments did

177 00:07:11.730 --> 00:07:14.770 for fear of deportation of ice,

178 00:07:14.770 --> 00:07:16.360 the Homeland Security coming in

179 00:07:16.360 --> 00:07:17.446 and taking them as well.

180 00:07:17.446 --> 00:07:21.860 There's also issues with language access.

181 00:07:21.860 --> 00:07:23.720 Oftentimes, when you talk

182 00:07:23.720 --> 00:07:25.950 about undocumented immigrants

183 00:07:25.950 --> 00:07:27.250 that are coming from Latin America,

184 00:07:27.250 --> 00:07:30.480 you think they're all Latino or Hispanic

185 00:07:30.480 --> 00:07:32.460 but a lot of them are indigenous,

186 00:07:32.460 --> 00:07:33.780 there were indigenous Mexicans

187 00:07:33.780 --> 00:07:36.290 or indigenous individuals from other countries

188 00:07:36.290 --> 00:07:38.670 and many of them are illiterate

189 00:07:38.670 --> 00:07:40.880 and many of them don't speak Spanish,

190 00:07:40.880 --> 00:07:42.120 let alone English.

191 00:07:42.120 --> 00:07:44.400 So to be able to communicate to them

192 00:07:44.400 --> 00:07:47.130 is quite important in their own languages,

193 00:07:47.130 --> 00:07:49.220 particularly in an oral fashion

194 00:07:49.220 --> 00:07:50.760 and then on the right hand side shows

195 00:07:50.760 --> 00:07:52.160 about domestic workers.

196 00:07:52.160 --> 00:07:55.030 Also domestic workers are also

197 00:07:55.030 --> 00:07:57.570 along with an undocumented farm workers

198 00:07:57.570 --> 00:08:02.180 are often asked to enter mandatory evacuation zones,

199 00:08:02.180 --> 00:08:04.600 when the rest of the general public is asked

200 00:08:04.600 --> 00:08:06.300 to leave and flee for public health

201 00:08:06.300 --> 00:08:07.470 and safety issues.

202 00:08:07.470 --> 00:08:08.780 These individuals are asked to go

203 00:08:08.780 --> 00:08:09.960 into evacuation zones

204 00:08:09.960 --> 00:08:12.310 either if there's a domestic worker trying

205 00:08:12.310 --> 00:08:15.080 to get some of the goods and services,

206 00:08:15.080 --> 00:08:18.420 the goods that are in that house

207 00:08:18.420 --> 00:08:19.830 or undocumented workers

208 00:08:19.830 --> 00:08:21.250 that have to go into the fields

209 00:08:21.250 --> 00:08:24.510 to harvest the crops to protect them

210 00:08:24.510 --> 00:08:27.310 from smoking ash that are coming down.

211 00:08:27.310 --> 00:08:29.150 So it's a lot of inequalities

212 00:08:29.150 --> 00:08:30.480 about individual

213 00:08:30.480 --> 00:08:33.180 and oftentimes, these undocumented workers

214 00:08:33.180 --> 00:08:36.730 cannot file restitution or claims for,

215 00:08:36.730 --> 00:08:38.463 again, fear of deportation.

216 00:08:39.650 --> 00:08:41.990 So quick roadmap of what I'll be covering today

217 00:08:41.990 --> 00:08:45.150 is understanding well fire and inequality,

218 00:08:45.150 --> 00:08:46.930 an overview of the Thomas wildfire

219 00:08:46.930 --> 00:08:49.750 and its impact on undocumented immigrants

220 00:08:49.750 --> 00:08:51.910 and then broader policy implications

221 00:08:51.910 --> 00:08:53.670 and recommendations based on the research

222 00:08:53.670 --> 00:08:56.033 that we did as a community based project again.

223 00:08:57.320 --> 00:08:58.790 According to a recent Proceedings

224 00:08:58.790 --> 00:08:59.930 of the National Academies,

225 00:08:59.930 --> 00:09:02.730 climate change is making wildfire season longer

226 00:09:02.730 --> 00:09:04.010 and more severe.

227 00:09:04.010 --> 00:09:05.450 On average wildfires

228 00:09:05.450 --> 00:09:07.810 in the western United States burn six times

229 00:09:07.810 --> 00:09:10.510 the acreage they did 45 years ago,

230 00:09:10.510 --> 00:09:12.370 in California, Sierra Nevada,

231 00:09:12.370 --> 00:09:14.780 the frequency of wildfires since 1970,

232 00:09:14.780 --> 00:09:18.170 has increased by 256%,

233 00:09:18.170 --> 00:09:20.767 as the mountain snowpack melts earlier

234 00:09:20.767 --> 00:09:23.203 and the fire season extends year around,

235 00:09:24.460 --> 00:09:29.010 here it shows that 50 of the 20 largest wildfire

236 00:09:29.010 --> 00:09:32.930 by acreage in California has incurred since 2000

237 00:09:32.930 --> 00:09:35.000 and then you see here in this graphic

238 00:09:35.000 --> 00:09:36.930 that was done earlier in the year

239 00:09:36.930 --> 00:09:38.230 on the Thomas wildfire,

240 00:09:38.230 --> 00:09:40.180 which happened in December 2017

241 00:09:40.180 --> 00:09:43.990 and ended 40 days later in January 2018.

242 00:09:43.990 --> 00:09:45.890 It was the second largest wildfire

243 00:09:45.890 --> 00:09:49.170 until July of this year

244 00:09:49.170 --> 00:09:52.760 but then all the wildfires happen in California

245 00:09:52.760 --> 00:09:56.210 and it got knocked down to six in this graph

246 00:09:56.210 --> 00:09:58.320 and there's a new updated table

247 00:09:58.320 --> 00:10:01.070 that has a Thomas Fire number Seven

248 00:10:01.070 --> 00:10:03.680 as the seventh largest wildfire by acreage,

249 00:10:03.680 --> 00:10:08.680 so in just three months five other wildfires

250 00:10:09.610 --> 00:10:13.500 overtook the Thomas wildfire as being the largest,

251 00:10:13.500 --> 00:10:15.430 so the intensity and severity

252 00:10:15.430 --> 00:10:18.320 of wildfires are happening more and more

253 00:10:18.320 --> 00:10:19.850 here in California.

254 00:10:19.850 --> 00:10:22.080 While climate scientists expect wildfires

255 00:10:22.080 --> 00:10:23.890 to become more frequent and severe,

256 00:10:23.890 --> 00:10:26.260 it is important to explore how some people

257 00:10:26.260 --> 00:10:28.020 and communities are more affected

258 00:10:28.020 --> 00:10:30.350 by these events and others.

259 00:10:30.350 --> 00:10:32.060 Differences in human vulnerability

260 00:10:32.060 --> 00:10:34.470 to wildfire stem from a range of social,

261 00:10:34.470 --> 00:10:37.410 economic, historical and political factors.

262 00:10:37.410 --> 00:10:39.560 These factors include unequal access

263 00:10:39.560 --> 00:10:41.340 to disaster preparedness, knowledge

264 00:10:41.340 --> 00:10:43.830 and resources, contrasts and legacies

265 00:10:43.830 --> 00:10:45.740 of forest management practices,

266 00:10:45.740 --> 00:10:48.110 an expansion of residential development

267 00:10:48.110 --> 00:10:49.253 into the wildland.

268 00:10:50.310 --> 00:10:52.430 Researchers at the University of Washington

269 00:10:52.430 --> 00:10:53.900 recently analyzed

270 00:10:53.900 --> 00:10:56.052 the unequal vulnerability of wildfires

271 00:10:56.052 --> 00:10:57.860 for communities of color,

272 00:10:57.860 --> 00:11:00.330 they use the social ecological approach

273 00:11:00.330 --> 00:11:02.410 to determine wildfire vulnerability

274 00:11:02.410 --> 00:11:06.910 across 70,000 census tracts in the United States.

275 00:11:06.910 --> 00:11:09.390 This map here shows wildfire potential,

276 00:11:09.390 --> 00:11:11.410 as determined by the US Forest Service

277 00:11:11.410 --> 00:11:12.610 by census tract

278 00:11:12.610 --> 00:11:15.830 and they're by and there's 29 million people

279 00:11:15.830 --> 00:11:18.410 that are vulnerable to a wildfire

280 00:11:18.410 --> 00:11:19.700 throughout the United States

281 00:11:19.700 --> 00:11:22.780 and this again, it's only based on landscape risk,

282 00:11:22.780 --> 00:11:25.420 that means how close you live next to a forest

283 00:11:25.420 --> 00:11:27.060 or some type of landscape

284 00:11:27.060 --> 00:11:28.320 that can catch on fire

285 00:11:28.320 --> 00:11:30.970 and does not look at social demographics

286 00:11:30.970 --> 00:11:32.820 or what we call social vulnerability.

287 00:11:34.290 --> 00:11:35.350 The second map,

288 00:11:35.350 --> 00:11:36.390 however, takes into account

289 00:11:36.390 --> 00:11:38.170 both landscape wildfire risk

290 00:11:38.170 --> 00:11:40.100 and socio-economic factors

291 00:11:40.100 --> 00:11:43.230 to determine how likely an area's to adapt to

292 00:11:43.230 --> 00:11:45.050 and recover from a wildfire.

293 00:11:45.050 --> 00:11:46.410 They measure it by using data

294 00:11:46.410 --> 00:11:49.880 from the 2014 census census on race,

295 00:11:49.880 --> 00:11:52.820 income, language, education, housing,

296 00:11:52.820 --> 00:11:54.740 and several other factors.

297 00:11:54.740 --> 00:11:56.280 The research has found that communities

298 00:11:56.280 --> 00:11:58.980 of color specifically those census tracts

299 00:11:58.980 --> 00:12:01.320 within majority black, Latino,

300 00:12:01.320 --> 00:12:05.170 or Native American, are 50% more vulnerable

301 00:12:05.170 --> 00:12:07.990 to wildfires compared to other census tracts.

302 00:12:07.990 --> 00:12:11.270 This research shows that the 29 million Americans

303 00:12:11.270 --> 00:12:13.860 who live in areas with significant chance

304 00:12:13.860 --> 00:12:16.570 of extreme wildfires are white

305 00:12:16.570 --> 00:12:19.360 and social economically secure.

306 00:12:19.360 --> 00:12:21.580 Traditional analysis often obscure the fact

307 00:12:21.580 --> 00:12:22.590 that black Latino

308 00:12:22.590 --> 00:12:25.270 and Native American people have worse prospects

309 00:12:25.270 --> 00:12:26.853 for recovery from wildfire.

310 00:12:28.390 --> 00:12:29.223 In California,

311 00:12:29.223 --> 00:12:32.460 while many of these fire prone places

312 00:12:32.460 --> 00:12:35.700 are largely populated by higher income groups,

313 00:12:35.700 --> 00:12:37.640 they are also include hundreds of thousands

314 00:12:37.640 --> 00:12:39.180 of low income individuals

315 00:12:39.180 --> 00:12:40.560 who lack the resources

316 00:12:42.692 --> 00:12:45.330 to prepare or recover from the wildfire.

317 00:12:45.330 --> 00:12:47.250 These numbers will likely surge according

318 00:12:47.250 --> 00:12:50.860 to the California fourth Climate Assessment Report,

319 00:12:50.860 --> 00:12:53.850 which projects at the state's wildfire burn area

320 00:12:53.850 --> 00:12:57.500 will increase by 77% by the end of the century.

321 00:12:57.500 --> 00:12:59.040 The State of California

322 00:12:59.040 --> 00:13:02.780 recently just updated their own maps

323 00:13:02.780 --> 00:13:05.180 to include social vulnerability

324 00:13:05.180 --> 00:13:06.750 but until recently,

325 00:13:06.750 --> 00:13:10.260 they did not have any wildfire maps

326 00:13:10.260 --> 00:13:12.420 based on social vulnerability.

327 00:13:12.420 --> 00:13:13.810 Understanding social vulnerability,

328 00:13:13.810 --> 00:13:15.690 particularly for undocumented immigrants

329 00:13:15.690 --> 00:13:18.570 is important because even existing social border

330 00:13:18.570 --> 00:13:20.570 building maps such as the one we see here

331 00:13:20.570 --> 00:13:23.710 by the University of Washington are still inadequate.

332 00:13:23.710 --> 00:13:26.740 If we zero in on the communities

333 00:13:26.740 --> 00:13:30.190 and counties of Santa Barbara and Ventura County,

334 00:13:30.190 --> 00:13:32.520 it shows that it has a low level

335 00:13:32.520 --> 00:13:34.670 of social vulnerability to wildfire.

336 00:13:34.670 --> 00:13:36.320 That's because there's a high level

337 00:13:36.320 --> 00:13:39.350 of high income individuals in Santa Barbara Ventura

338 00:13:39.350 --> 00:13:41.990 and moreover, because undocumented immigrants

339 00:13:41.990 --> 00:13:45.490 are often undercounted in the US Census,

340 00:13:45.490 --> 00:13:47.310 so it doesn't accurately show

341 00:13:47.310 --> 00:13:49.210 that the level of social vulnerability

342 00:13:49.210 --> 00:13:50.610 doesn't have that a contextual,

343 00:13:50.610 --> 00:13:54.393 what they call contextual vulnerability analysis,

344 00:13:56.330 --> 00:13:57.210 identifying those

345 00:13:57.210 --> 00:13:58.370 that are most socially vulnerable,

346 00:13:58.370 --> 00:14:01.250 it's important because in California Rural low income

347 00:14:01.250 --> 00:14:02.372 and immigrant communities,

348 00:14:02.372 --> 00:14:05.460 residents often do not have the required resources

349 00:14:05.460 --> 00:14:08.150 to pay for insurance, rebuild

350 00:14:08.150 --> 00:14:10.280 or to invest in fire safety,

351 00:14:10.280 --> 00:14:12.853 which increases their vulnerability to wildfire.

352 00:14:14.130 --> 00:14:15.990 Such outcomes occurring during

353 00:14:15.990 --> 00:14:16.910 and after wildfires

354 00:14:16.910 --> 00:14:19.760 have major environmental justice implications

355 00:14:19.760 --> 00:14:21.300 and that certain populations

356 00:14:21.300 --> 00:14:23.440 due to their socio economic status,

357 00:14:23.440 --> 00:14:25.580 must live with the disproportionate share

358 00:14:25.580 --> 00:14:27.010 of environmental impacts

359 00:14:27.010 --> 00:14:28.930 and suffer the related public health

360 00:14:28.930 --> 00:14:30.603 and quality of life burdens.

361 00:14:31.920 --> 00:14:32.753 In a few moments,

362 00:14:32.753 --> 00:14:35.800 I'm gonna jump into the case study

363 00:14:35.800 --> 00:14:38.860 and look at the disaster impacts

364 00:14:38.860 --> 00:14:40.660 from the Thomas wildfire,

365 00:14:40.660 --> 00:14:43.040 but first, I would like to provide some background

366 00:14:43.040 --> 00:14:45.910 on the fire and some demographics

367 00:14:45.910 --> 00:14:49.230 on undocumented immigrants in the region.

368 00:14:49.230 --> 00:14:51.680 On December 4th, 2017,

369 00:14:51.680 --> 00:14:54.110 the Thomas Fire started north of the city

370 00:14:54.110 --> 00:14:56.080 of Santa Paula and Ventura County,

371 00:14:56.080 --> 00:14:59.100 it grew quickly to nearly 31,000 acres

372 00:14:59.100 --> 00:15:00.390 or 50 square miles

373 00:15:00.390 --> 00:15:02.210 in less than 12 hours,

374 00:15:02.210 --> 00:15:03.850 its explosive growth was driven

375 00:15:03.850 --> 00:15:06.170 by a combination of climactic events

376 00:15:06.170 --> 00:15:08.890 including dry foliage, low humidity

377 00:15:08.890 --> 00:15:10.510 and intense Santa Ana winds

378 00:15:10.510 --> 00:15:13.360 that gusted up to 60 miles per hour.

379 00:15:13.360 --> 00:15:15.290 At the time of final containment

380 00:15:15.290 --> 00:15:17.930 on January 20th, 2018,

381 00:15:17.930 --> 00:15:19.060 40 days later,

382 00:15:19.060 --> 00:15:20.860 the Thomas Fire would be classified

383 00:15:20.860 --> 00:15:22.620 as a second largest wildfire

384 00:15:22.620 --> 00:15:24.270 in California's history.

385 00:15:24.270 --> 00:15:26.520 The firestorm affected hundreds of thousands

386 00:15:26.520 --> 00:15:28.960 of residents in the counties of Ventura

387 00:15:28.960 --> 00:15:30.050 and Santa Barbara,

388 00:15:30.050 --> 00:15:32.000 resulting in massive blackouts,

389 00:15:32.000 --> 00:15:34.280 destruction of over 1000 buildings

390 00:15:34.280 --> 00:15:37.120 and the fatality of one firefighter,

391 00:15:37.120 --> 00:15:39.460 media outlets across the country focus

392 00:15:39.460 --> 00:15:41.530 on news reports and loss of coastal

393 00:15:41.530 --> 00:15:42.770 and hillside mansions

394 00:15:42.770 --> 00:15:45.893 and impacts to wealthy farm owners and home-owners.

395 00:15:46.870 --> 00:15:48.060 The Thomas Fire however,

396 00:15:48.060 --> 00:15:51.220 not only destroyed expensive property and crops

397 00:15:51.220 --> 00:15:53.120 but it also endanger the health

398 00:15:53.120 --> 00:15:54.340 and livelihood of thousands

399 00:15:54.340 --> 00:15:56.150 of undocumented immigrants.

400 00:15:56.150 --> 00:15:57.510 California is home

401 00:15:57.510 --> 00:16:01.200 to an estimated 2.5 million undocumented immigrants,

402 00:16:01.200 --> 00:16:02.428 many of whom are foreign workers

403 00:16:02.428 --> 00:16:04.970 or employed in service jobs

404 00:16:04.970 --> 00:16:07.200 such as housekeeping and landscaping.

405 00:16:07.200 --> 00:16:09.270 In Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

406 00:16:09.270 --> 00:16:11.610 undocumented immigrants are estimated

407 00:16:11.610 --> 00:16:13.962 to account for more than 9%

408 00:16:13.962 --> 00:16:17.350 of the total population or 111,000 people.

409 00:16:17.350 --> 00:16:19.630 So Ventura and Santa Barbara counties

410 00:16:19.630 --> 00:16:23.080 are heavily fire prone and drought impacted area,

411 00:16:23.080 --> 00:16:25.030 the landscape and between mountains

412 00:16:25.030 --> 00:16:26.800 and oceans creates vulnerabilities

413 00:16:26.800 --> 00:16:28.530 and housing, transportation

414 00:16:28.530 --> 00:16:31.100 and the infrastructure in the region.

415 00:16:31.100 --> 00:16:32.740 It's a major agricultural

416 00:16:32.740 --> 00:16:37.740 and tourism industries with low rates immigrant workforce

417 00:16:37.870 --> 00:16:39.800 and there's a high level racial

418 00:16:39.800 --> 00:16:42.700 and economic inequality and a lack of political

419 00:16:42.700 --> 00:16:44.323 and economic inclusion.

420 00:16:48.630 --> 00:16:49.610 While relief efforts

421 00:16:49.610 --> 00:16:51.630 in the Thomas Fire have largely been praised

422 00:16:51.630 --> 00:16:54.880 as effective, immigrant workers

423 00:16:54.880 --> 00:16:56.450 were especially impacted from the fire

424 00:16:56.450 --> 00:16:58.160 due to the loss of employment,

425 00:16:58.160 --> 00:17:00.700 the lack of evacuation information

426 00:17:00.700 --> 00:17:02.030 in their native language,

427 00:17:02.030 --> 00:17:03.530 confusion about eligibility

428 00:17:03.530 --> 00:17:05.890 for Disaster Relief Services

429 00:17:05.890 --> 00:17:07.660 and port infrastructure and housing

430 00:17:07.660 --> 00:17:09.220 in immigrant communities,

431 00:17:09.220 --> 00:17:11.920 undocumented immigrants socio-economic situation

432 00:17:11.920 --> 00:17:13.680 is usually precarious.

433 00:17:13.680 --> 00:17:16.140 However, that wildfire disaster intensified

434 00:17:16.140 --> 00:17:18.390 they're already difficult situation.

435 00:17:18.390 --> 00:17:20.530 The Thomas Fire reviewed revealed

436 00:17:20.530 --> 00:17:22.560 how undocumented immigrants

437 00:17:22.560 --> 00:17:25.140 and those with seasonal work via visas

438 00:17:25.140 --> 00:17:27.150 require special consideration

439 00:17:27.150 --> 00:17:28.750 and disaster planning.

440 00:17:28.750 --> 00:17:30.840 These individuals are often afraid

441 00:17:30.840 --> 00:17:33.140 to seek help and restitution during

442 00:17:33.140 --> 00:17:35.610 and after a wildfire disaster

443 00:17:35.610 --> 00:17:37.230 for fear of deportation,

444 00:17:37.230 --> 00:17:39.600 undocumented immigrants are also unable

445 00:17:39.600 --> 00:17:41.610 to access Disaster Relief Services

446 00:17:41.610 --> 00:17:43.280 because of language barriers

447 00:17:43.280 --> 00:17:44.240 and prohibition

448 00:17:44.240 --> 00:17:45.840 from assessing federal disaster

449 00:17:45.840 --> 00:17:47.880 relief assistant programes.

450 00:17:47.880 --> 00:17:48.730 On this picture

451 00:17:48.730 --> 00:17:50.730 shows the two community research partners

452 00:17:50.730 --> 00:17:53.240 that I work with on this co-authored

453 00:17:53.240 --> 00:17:56.380 the Mixteco Indigina Community Organizing Project

454 00:17:56.380 --> 00:17:57.213 or MICOP

455 00:17:57.213 --> 00:18:00.850 and that's a picture of Genevieve Flores-Haro,

456 00:18:00.850 --> 00:18:01.760 one of the co-authors,

457 00:18:01.760 --> 00:18:03.570 she's holding in her hands,

458 00:18:03.570 --> 00:18:06.600 a couple boxes of N95 masks

459 00:18:06.600 --> 00:18:09.860 that they were distributing to farm workers

460 00:18:09.860 --> 00:18:10.890 because employers

461 00:18:10.890 --> 00:18:13.452 and supervisors were not providing PPEE

462 00:18:13.452 --> 00:18:16.940 on even though there was a toxic smoke circulated

463 00:18:16.940 --> 00:18:19.500 in air as these these workers laboured

464 00:18:19.500 --> 00:18:20.690 into the fields.

465 00:18:20.690 --> 00:18:23.840 Also on the right hand side is the other committee

466 00:18:23.840 --> 00:18:26.460 to co-author on the Central Coast Alliance United

467 00:18:26.460 --> 00:18:27.660 for a Sustainable Economy,

468 00:18:27.660 --> 00:18:28.840 that's Lucas Zucker

469 00:18:28.840 --> 00:18:31.380 and you see he's on top of empty boxes

470 00:18:31.380 --> 00:18:34.140 of thousands of N95 masks

471 00:18:34.140 --> 00:18:36.490 that were distributed because the county,

472 00:18:36.490 --> 00:18:37.990 the government, the federal government,

473 00:18:37.990 --> 00:18:40.410 as well as supervisors

474 00:18:40.410 --> 00:18:43.793 and farm owners did not pass these out.

475 00:18:50.311 --> 00:18:52.280 Governments in the region overlook the needs

476 00:18:52.280 --> 00:18:54.040 of low income farmers, Spanish

477 00:18:54.040 --> 00:18:56.100 and indigenous Mixtecal speakers

478 00:18:56.100 --> 00:18:57.700 and immigrant families.

479 00:18:57.700 --> 00:19:00.640 Ventura and Santa Barbara counties are both home

480 00:19:00.640 --> 00:19:03.450 to a growing indigenous Mexican population.

481 00:19:03.450 --> 00:19:07.080 It is estimated that over 25,000 indigenous Oaxacan people

482 00:19:07.080 --> 00:19:08.610 from southern Mexico live

483 00:19:08.610 --> 00:19:10.440 and work in Ventura County.

484 00:19:10.440 --> 00:19:12.010 Well, Santa Barbara County is home

485 00:19:12.010 --> 00:19:15.400 to a population estimated at 29,000,

486 00:19:15.400 --> 00:19:18.710 concentrated in labour intensive sectors such as row crops

487 00:19:18.710 --> 00:19:21.210 and cut flowers, indigenous migrants

488 00:19:21.210 --> 00:19:22.720 performing an increasing amount

489 00:19:22.720 --> 00:19:24.360 of the arduous labour

490 00:19:24.360 --> 00:19:26.450 which contributes to the profitability

491 00:19:26.450 --> 00:19:29.070 and affordability of fresh fruits and vegetables.

492 00:19:29.070 --> 00:19:30.410 In particular, Mixtec people

493 00:19:30.410 --> 00:19:32.400 in Ventura County are culturally

494 00:19:32.400 --> 00:19:34.460 and linguistically isolated.

495 00:19:34.460 --> 00:19:35.700 Many are illiterate

496 00:19:35.700 --> 00:19:38.500 and most speak neither Spanish nor English

497 00:19:38.500 --> 00:19:40.700 but only their native language Mixtecal

498 00:19:40.700 --> 00:19:42.630 which is only oral.

499 00:19:42.630 --> 00:19:43.680 It is important to note

500 00:19:43.680 --> 00:19:45.710 that Mixtec people are not Hispanic

501 00:19:45.710 --> 00:19:48.280 or Latino but are indigenous.

502 00:19:48.280 --> 00:19:49.570 They're often homogenized

503 00:19:49.570 --> 00:19:53.053 with the general Latino population.

504 00:19:54.610 --> 00:19:56.890 The fact that they often cannot communicate

505 00:19:56.890 --> 00:19:57.723 with people

506 00:19:57.723 --> 00:19:59.280 beyond their own indigenous communities

507 00:19:59.280 --> 00:20:00.150 and pizza building,

508 00:20:00.150 --> 00:20:02.400 obtain appropriate health care, housing,

509 00:20:02.400 --> 00:20:05.050 education, negotiate with their employers

510 00:20:05.050 --> 00:20:06.660 to improve their work situation

511 00:20:06.660 --> 00:20:09.600 and exercise their basic civil rights,

512 00:20:09.600 --> 00:20:10.950 with these variables in mind,

513 00:20:10.950 --> 00:20:13.500 our research adopts the work in the field

514 00:20:13.500 --> 00:20:14.333 of public health

515 00:20:14.333 --> 00:20:15.670 that examines issues

516 00:20:15.670 --> 00:20:18.450 of intersectionality,

517 00:20:18.450 --> 00:20:20.120 that is how social categories

518 00:20:20.120 --> 00:20:23.960 such as gender, class, race, indigeneity,

519 00:20:23.960 --> 00:20:24.960 immigration status

520 00:20:24.960 --> 00:20:27.340 and other class aspects of human identity

521 00:20:27.340 --> 00:20:30.170 intersect with wildfire disaster.

522 00:20:30.170 --> 00:20:32.510 The concept of intersectionality has been used

523 00:20:32.510 --> 00:20:35.550 to highlight how these categories of culture

524 00:20:35.550 --> 00:20:37.990 and identity overlap hiding in

525 00:20:37.990 --> 00:20:40.180 the effects of discrimination,

526 00:20:40.180 --> 00:20:42.450 exclusion, social inequality

527 00:20:42.450 --> 00:20:44.650 and systemic injustice in the lives

528 00:20:44.650 --> 00:20:46.040 of specific individuals,

529 00:20:46.040 --> 00:20:49.440 an intersectional approach to wildfire disaster,

530 00:20:49.440 --> 00:20:51.720 it emphasizes how certain people

531 00:20:51.720 --> 00:20:53.670 and groups suffer worse effects

532 00:20:53.670 --> 00:20:56.420 because of overlapping factors

533 00:20:56.420 --> 00:20:58.120 that are often measured separately

534 00:20:59.920 --> 00:21:00.753 and this respect,

535 00:21:00.753 --> 00:21:02.940 we define social vulnerability to welfare

536 00:21:02.940 --> 00:21:05.360 as comprised of the risk of exposure,

537 00:21:05.360 --> 00:21:06.610 the likelihood that people

538 00:21:06.610 --> 00:21:08.790 will be affected, sensitivity,

539 00:21:08.790 --> 00:21:11.700 the degree to which people will be affected

540 00:21:11.700 --> 00:21:13.060 and adaptive capacity,

541 00:21:13.060 --> 00:21:14.790 the ability of people to prepare

542 00:21:14.790 --> 00:21:17.530 and, or recover from a wildfire

543 00:21:17.530 --> 00:21:19.683 based on available resources.

544 00:21:22.190 --> 00:21:23.710 Moreover, we ask the question

545 00:21:23.710 --> 00:21:25.490 of what does adaptive capacity mean

546 00:21:25.490 --> 00:21:26.830 for migrant communities?

547 00:21:26.830 --> 00:21:28.830 Most of the literature on adapting communities

548 00:21:28.830 --> 00:21:30.050 to wildfire focuses

549 00:21:30.050 --> 00:21:33.980 on redesigning communities focus on homeowners,

550 00:21:33.980 --> 00:21:36.380 how can we design our homes and buildings

551 00:21:36.380 --> 00:21:38.280 through land use and building codes

552 00:21:38.280 --> 00:21:39.200 but what does this mean

553 00:21:39.200 --> 00:21:41.790 to migrant undocumented communities

554 00:21:41.790 --> 00:21:43.670 on terms of language access,

555 00:21:43.670 --> 00:21:45.720 worker health and safety rights,

556 00:21:45.720 --> 00:21:47.310 immigration status and access

557 00:21:47.310 --> 00:21:48.870 to disaster relief

558 00:21:48.870 --> 00:21:51.703 and housing and transportation impacts.

559 00:21:53.290 --> 00:21:54.920 So now I'm finally gonna jump

560 00:21:54.920 --> 00:21:55.970 into some of the impacts

561 00:21:55.970 --> 00:22:00.070 that were present through the Thomas wildfire.

562 00:22:00.070 --> 00:22:03.300 There was an equity in terms of language access

563 00:22:03.300 --> 00:22:05.030 to Emergency Information,

564 00:22:05.030 --> 00:22:09.010 while this area has a large proportion

565 00:22:09.010 --> 00:22:11.720 of Latino and Hispanic individuals

566 00:22:11.720 --> 00:22:13.180 that speak Spanish in the area

567 00:22:13.180 --> 00:22:15.980 and have been living here for generations.

568 00:22:15.980 --> 00:22:18.270 The counties of interest Santa Barbara counties

569 00:22:18.270 --> 00:22:21.410 did not have anyone in their emergency services

570 00:22:21.410 --> 00:22:23.570 to do live translations,

571 00:22:23.570 --> 00:22:27.720 so that the fire raged on for nearly 10 days

572 00:22:27.720 --> 00:22:29.610 and there was no translation

573 00:22:29.610 --> 00:22:30.910 of Emergency Information

574 00:22:30.910 --> 00:22:33.330 that included advisory alerts

575 00:22:33.330 --> 00:22:36.230 about poor air quality,

576 00:22:36.230 --> 00:22:39.090 about sheltering about emergency evacuations

577 00:22:39.090 --> 00:22:41.130 about boiler or alerts.

578 00:22:41.130 --> 00:22:42.510 What they did on the fourth day

579 00:22:42.510 --> 00:22:45.010 is put a Google Translate tool on top

580 00:22:45.010 --> 00:22:45.940 in their websites

581 00:22:45.940 --> 00:22:50.620 as well as on top of Emergency Information

582 00:22:50.620 --> 00:22:53.010 and it had one sentence in Spanish

583 00:22:53.010 --> 00:22:56.140 that read that if you don't speak English,

584 00:22:56.140 --> 00:22:59.390 please take this Emergency Information note

585 00:22:59.390 --> 00:23:01.630 to somebody that can translate it for you

586 00:23:01.630 --> 00:23:03.640 and then the Google Translate

587 00:23:03.640 --> 00:23:06.010 at the time this was about three years ago

588 00:23:06.010 --> 00:23:09.290 was not as refined as it is today

589 00:23:09.290 --> 00:23:13.260 and when you would type in a wildfire,

590 00:23:13.260 --> 00:23:16.310 it would be translated as hairbrush

591 00:23:16.310 --> 00:23:19.790 so there was a lot of inequities that occurred,

592 00:23:19.790 --> 00:23:21.440 it took about 10 days

593 00:23:21.440 --> 00:23:25.500 for the state of California to land somebody

594 00:23:25.500 --> 00:23:28.420 from the Governor's Office of Emergency services

595 00:23:28.420 --> 00:23:30.500 to help do light translations

596 00:23:30.500 --> 00:23:31.730 but in the interim,

597 00:23:31.730 --> 00:23:34.550 MICOP and CAUSE the two communities organizations

598 00:23:34.550 --> 00:23:36.710 had to do all the translations

599 00:23:36.710 --> 00:23:38.900 in their social media platforms.

600 00:23:38.900 --> 00:23:42.300 They have a low power radio station,

601 00:23:42.300 --> 00:23:44.680 that they're able to translate in Spanish

602 00:23:44.680 --> 00:23:45.513 and Mixtecal

603 00:23:45.513 --> 00:23:48.490 and a couple other other commonly spoken languages

604 00:23:48.490 --> 00:23:49.323 in the area

605 00:23:51.530 --> 00:23:52.450 and as you can see,

606 00:23:52.450 --> 00:23:56.090 these are some of the air quality advisories

607 00:23:56.090 --> 00:23:58.231 in the wildfire in Ventura,

608 00:23:58.231 --> 00:24:01.090 the maroon and dark purple areas

609 00:24:01.090 --> 00:24:03.320 is where a lot of the farms are working

610 00:24:03.320 --> 00:24:07.310 and these are mandatory evacuation zones

611 00:24:07.310 --> 00:24:09.070 but oftentimes, still,

612 00:24:09.070 --> 00:24:10.510 farm workers are still entering

613 00:24:10.510 --> 00:24:12.630 into these mandatory evacuation zones

614 00:24:12.630 --> 00:24:15.840 to work in and protect some of the crops

615 00:24:15.840 --> 00:24:17.566 from smoke and ash.

616 00:24:17.566 --> 00:24:19.400 As you see from here,

617 00:24:19.400 --> 00:24:21.360 there's a safe drinking water access.

618 00:24:21.360 --> 00:24:23.150 So none of this was translated

619 00:24:23.150 --> 00:24:24.800 for nearly two weeks

620 00:24:24.800 --> 00:24:28.670 and MICOP through the radio station

621 00:24:28.670 --> 00:24:32.240 and other social communication platforms was able

622 00:24:32.240 --> 00:24:33.540 to translate that

623 00:24:33.540 --> 00:24:36.373 and get it to about 30,000 people in the region.

624 00:24:37.634 --> 00:24:39.560 The community, as I mentioned before,

625 00:24:39.560 --> 00:24:40.393 had to step up

626 00:24:40.393 --> 00:24:43.600 because there was no official government response.

627 00:24:43.600 --> 00:24:44.830 Even though these individuals

628 00:24:44.830 --> 00:24:47.640 have been living here for four generations.

629 00:24:47.640 --> 00:24:51.880 As the counties there Santa Barbara, Ventura

630 00:24:51.880 --> 00:24:56.490 and even the state decided not to invest

631 00:24:56.490 --> 00:24:59.190 any resources ahead of disasters

632 00:24:59.190 --> 00:25:03.920 and protecting the socially vulnerable community.

633 00:25:03.920 --> 00:25:05.357 So they had a lot of hazard

634 00:25:05.357 --> 00:25:08.100 and mitigation plans in effect,

635 00:25:08.100 --> 00:25:10.490 but none of them talked about social vulnerability

636 00:25:10.490 --> 00:25:13.190 and specifically undocumented immigrants

637 00:25:13.190 --> 00:25:14.170 and farm workers

638 00:25:15.450 --> 00:25:18.220 and one of the major impacts was worker health

639 00:25:18.220 --> 00:25:19.130 and safety impacts

640 00:25:19.130 --> 00:25:20.740 as I showed in the previous slides,

641 00:25:20.740 --> 00:25:25.220 MICOP and CAUSE had to distribute PP equipment

642 00:25:25.220 --> 00:25:27.410 because this was not provided

643 00:25:27.410 --> 00:25:29.240 by the state county governments,

644 00:25:29.240 --> 00:25:31.360 let alone their employers.

645 00:25:31.360 --> 00:25:35.300 So they got some funds donated

646 00:25:35.300 --> 00:25:37.950 from private and other government sources

647 00:25:37.950 --> 00:25:41.450 to go and purchase some of these N95 masks,

648 00:25:41.450 --> 00:25:43.610 goggles and gloves as well

649 00:25:43.610 --> 00:25:46.320 and here are some of the interviews

650 00:25:46.320 --> 00:25:47.930 that we did from our research.

651 00:25:47.930 --> 00:25:48.781 Some of the farm workers,

652 00:25:48.781 --> 00:25:49.614 a farm worker from Oxford told us

653 00:25:49.614 --> 00:25:50.447 during the fire I worked three days

654 00:25:50.447 --> 00:25:51.280 without a mask.

655 00:25:51.280 --> 00:25:52.113 It caused me headaches and watery eyes

656 00:25:52.113 --> 00:25:52.946 as well as a cough.

657 00:25:52.946 --> 00:25:53.779 We were scared

658 00:25:53.779 --> 00:25:54.612 because we were very near

659 00:25:54.612 --> 00:25:55.445 where the fire was occurring.

660 00:25:55.445 --> 00:25:56.278 The masks were not handed out

661 00:25:56.278 --> 00:25:57.111 until the city came to regulate.

662 00:25:57.111 --> 00:25:57.944 Another farm worker told us,

663 00:25:57.944 --> 00:25:58.777 we all got sick our throats closed

664 00:25:58.777 --> 00:25:59.610 in from breathing too much smoke

665 00:25:59.610 --> 00:26:00.443 and our kids couldn't go to school.

666 00:26:00.443 --> 00:26:01.276 We had to buy mask and medicine for our throats

667 00:26:01.276 --> 00:26:02.109 and some goggles because my eyes were irritated

668 00:26:02.109 --> 00:26:02.942 when I worked.

669 00:26:02.942 --> 00:26:03.775 There was also economic

670 00:26:03.775 --> 00:26:04.608 and health impacts on workers,

671 00:26:04.608 --> 00:26:05.441 in particular, some of these farms did burn down

672 00:26:05.441 --> 00:26:06.274 or it was just too hazardous to go work

673 00:26:06.274 --> 00:26:07.107 so they were shut down.

674 00:26:07.107 --> 00:26:07.940 So a lot of people lost income

675 00:26:07.940 --> 00:26:08.773 and a waste to support their family as well.

676 00:26:08.773 --> 00:26:09.606 There was black and there was mudslides

677 00:26:09.606 --> 00:26:10.439 after the fires that occurred finished

678 00:26:10.439 --> 00:26:11.272 in mid January,

679 00:26:11.272 --> 00:26:12.105 there was a torrential rains that came

680 00:26:12.105 --> 00:26:12.938 and created mudslides,

681 00:26:12.938 --> 00:26:13.771 major mudslides that that were caused

682 00:26:13.771 --> 00:26:14.604 from the fire debris as well

683 00:26:14.604 --> 00:26:15.437 and that also killed additional people

684 00:26:15.437 --> 00:26:16.270 that will we'll be speaking about come shortly.

685 00:26:16.270 --> 00:26:17.103 A domestic worker service workers

686 00:26:17.103 --> 00:26:17.936 also were impacted.

687 00:26:17.936 --> 00:26:18.769 Some of these mansions

688 00:26:18.769 --> 00:26:19.602 in the states were burned down

689 00:26:19.602 --> 00:26:20.435 to the ground and he did not have any sources

690 00:26:20.435 --> 00:26:21.268 of income as as undocumented migrants there

691 00:26:21.268 --> 00:26:22.101 during eligible for unemployment relief funds

692 00:26:22.101 --> 00:26:22.934 as well as a federal disaster relief funds.

693 00:26:22.934 --> 00:26:23.767 One of our informants one of the people

694 00:26:23.767 --> 00:26:24.600 we interviewed also told us

695 00:26:24.600 --> 00:26:25.433 about the neck Woody's that were happening.

696 00:26:25.433 --> 00:26:26.266 For instance, one of the domestic workers told us

697 00:26:26.266 --> 00:26:27.099 as well as the Los Angeles Times

698 00:26:27.099 --> 00:26:27.932 that while her her employer threat fled the home

699 00:26:27.932 --> 00:26:28.765 because it was a mandatory evacuation zone,

700 00:26:28.765 --> 00:26:29.598 she asked a domestic worker to stay

701 00:26:29.598 --> 00:26:30.431 and safeguard the house

702 00:26:30.431 --> 00:26:31.264 and to be able to get a couple items

703 00:26:31.264 --> 00:26:32.097 if the fire would get too close to the house.

704 00:26:32.097 --> 00:26:32.930 So these individuals were asked,

705 00:26:32.930 --> 00:26:33.763 not forced but asked and pressure

706 00:26:33.763 --> 00:26:34.596 to stay in mandatory fire evacuation zone.

707 00:26:34.596 --> 00:26:35.429 Here's some additional quotes

708 00:26:35.429 --> 00:26:36.262 from one landscaper in Santa Barbara.

709 00:26:36.262 --> 00:26:37.095 I could not get to the homes

710 00:26:37.095 --> 00:26:37.928 where I work because the streets were close

711 00:26:37.928 --> 00:26:38.761 to the homes I worked at were destroyed.

712 00:26:38.761 --> 00:26:39.594 One of my good friends was lost

713 00:26:39.594 --> 00:26:40.427 during the most mudflow.

714 00:26:40.427 --> 00:26:41.260 He had only been living in Montecito

715 00:26:41.260 --> 00:26:42.093 for three weeks before he died.

716 00:26:42.093 --> 00:26:42.926 I myself a cancer survivor

717 00:26:42.926 --> 00:26:43.759 and the only one who provides for the family.

718 00:26:43.759 --> 00:26:44.592 Another worker told us the day

719 00:26:44.592 --> 00:26:45.425 of the fire started the sky was covered with smoke

720 00:26:45.425 --> 00:26:46.258 and we were sent home.

721 00:26:46.258 --> 00:26:47.091 The next day we didn't work

722 00:26:47.091 --> 00:26:47.924 because it was dangerous due to the fire.

723 00:26:47.924 --> 00:26:48.757 We lost power because it was cut off

724 00:26:48.757 --> 00:26:49.590 by the fire and we lost food

725 00:26:49.590 --> 00:26:50.423 and melt for our kids. During the mudslides.

726 00:26:50.423 --> 00:26:51.256 We couldn't get to work

727 00:26:51.256 --> 00:26:52.089 and we're told to stay home for two days.

728 00:26:52.089 --> 00:26:52.922 As I mentioned before immigration status

729 00:26:52.922 --> 00:26:53.755 and disaster aid really limits people's

730 00:26:53.755 --> 00:26:54.588 in adaptive capacity,

731 00:26:54.588 --> 00:26:55.421 how they're going to bounce back

732 00:26:55.421 --> 00:26:56.254 from the disaster and recover,

733 00:26:56.254 --> 00:26:57.087 so that they're not provided

734 00:26:57.087 --> 00:26:57.920 with government resources

735 00:26:57.920 --> 00:26:58.753 even though they're contributing to the economy

736 00:26:58.753 --> 00:26:59.586 in our society.

737 00:26:59.586 --> 00:27:00.419 As a result, migrant rights groups

738 00:27:00.419 --> 00:27:01.252 and other social justice

739 00:27:01.252 --> 00:27:02.085 and nonprofit groups in the region

740 00:27:02.085 --> 00:27:02.918 create the 805 undock cufon this was modelled off

741 00:27:02.918 --> 00:27:03.751 of the original undocumented Sonoma

742 00:27:03.751 --> 00:27:04.584 and Napa County for the fires

743 00:27:04.584 --> 00:27:05.417 that happen on about six months earlier on

744 00:27:05.417 --> 00:27:06.250 and so this was modelled after Napa Sonoma

745 00:27:06.250 --> 00:27:07.083 and as you can see from here

746 00:27:07.083 --> 00:27:07.916 on total relief was provided

747 00:27:07.916 --> 00:27:08.749 to nearly 2000 families

748 00:27:08.749 --> 00:27:09.582 on almost 4000 undocumented people

749 00:27:09.582 --> 00:27:10.415 and over 7000 mixed status individuals

750 00:27:10.415 --> 00:27:11.248 and over $2 million has been raised

751 00:27:11.248 --> 00:27:12.081 on their continued to raise as these fires

752 00:27:12.081 --> 00:27:12.914 and other COVID-19 persists

753 00:27:12.914 --> 00:27:13.747 and but often there's a waiting list

754 00:27:13.747 --> 00:27:14.580 because there's not enough funding on

755 00:27:14.580 --> 00:27:15.413 to support all undocumented families

756 00:27:15.413 --> 00:27:16.246 that want to be supported through the spine.

757 00:27:16.246 --> 00:27:17.079 It's important to note that these mix families

758 00:27:17.079 --> 00:27:17.912 that mix families should not have to go

759 00:27:17.912 --> 00:27:18.745 to a private disaster relief fund like this

760 00:27:18.745 --> 00:27:19.578 but many are for fear of on deportation

761 00:27:19.578 --> 00:27:20.411 because even though a mixed family is a family

762 00:27:20.411 --> 00:27:21.244 that has a US resident or US citizen

763 00:27:21.244 --> 00:27:22.077 and but there's also undocumented migrants

764 00:27:22.077 --> 00:27:22.910 within that household living

765 00:27:22.910 --> 00:27:23.743 in the same household

766 00:27:23.743 --> 00:27:24.576 and so they're eligible

767 00:27:24.576 --> 00:27:25.409 but by being residents or US citizens

768 00:27:25.409 --> 00:27:26.242 but under the Trump administration

769 00:27:26.242 --> 00:27:27.075 as you fill out, these FEMA forms,

770 00:27:27.075 --> 00:27:27.908 there is a disclosure there that states

771 00:27:27.908 --> 00:27:28.741 that this information may

772 00:27:28.741 --> 00:27:29.574 or may be shared with ice,

773 00:27:29.574 --> 00:27:30.407 which is immigration and customs,

774 00:27:30.407 --> 00:27:31.240 Customs and Immigration Services.

775 00:27:31.240 --> 00:27:32.073 So that really scares some families

776 00:27:32.073 --> 00:27:32.906 that are eligible for federal disaster relief

777 00:27:32.906 --> 00:27:33.739 from accessing it.

778 00:27:33.739 --> 00:27:34.572 So that that that sense of fear

779 00:27:34.572 --> 00:27:35.405 and sharing of information with ice is intentional

780 00:27:35.405 --> 00:27:36.238 and really continue contributes

781 00:27:36.238 --> 00:27:37.071 to the rendering on this population invisible.

782 00:27:37.071 --> 00:27:37.904 Here's another quote

783 00:27:37.904 --> 00:27:38.737 on regarding the undocumented.

784 00:27:38.737 --> 00:27:39.570 My husband was deported,

785 00:27:39.570 --> 00:27:40.403 just before the fire,

786 00:27:40.403 --> 00:27:41.236 I was really struggling to find work in the fields.

787 00:27:41.236 --> 00:27:42.069 I finally got hired the first week

788 00:27:42.069 --> 00:27:42.902 in December 2017

789 00:27:42.902 --> 00:27:43.735 but was let go once the fire

790 00:27:43.735 --> 00:27:44.568 and smoke grew too big

791 00:27:44.568 --> 00:27:45.401 and in the fruit spoil

792 00:27:45.401 --> 00:27:46.234 as the only breadwinner,

793 00:27:46.234 --> 00:27:47.067 I had to borrow money from friends

794 00:27:47.067 --> 00:27:47.900 and family to feed my kids.

795 00:27:47.900 --> 00:27:48.733 Our food went bad due to the power outage

796 00:27:48.733 --> 00:27:49.566 adding to our expenses.

797 00:27:49.566 --> 00:27:50.399 I am grateful for the DOC UFA,

798 00:27:50.399 --> 00:27:51.232 Funding Assistance,

799 00:27:51.232 --> 00:27:52.065 I am still in need to help

800 00:27:52.065 --> 00:27:52.898 and continue coming to MICOP for other services.

801 00:27:52.898 --> 00:27:53.731 There was also a loss of regional housing stock.

802 00:27:53.731 --> 00:27:54.564 So it wasn't just manage mega mansions

803 00:27:54.564 --> 00:27:55.397 and wealthy individuals.

804 00:27:55.397 --> 00:27:56.230 There was also housing stock lost

805 00:27:56.230 --> 00:27:57.063 and some parts of Santa Barbara

806 00:27:57.063 --> 00:27:57.896 that were multi family housing

807 00:27:57.896 --> 00:27:58.729 but any California as you may know,

808 00:27:58.729 --> 00:27:59.562 like San Francisco, on the Central Coast,

809 00:27:59.562 --> 00:28:00.395 Santa Barbara,

810 00:28:00.395 --> 00:28:01.228 in particular has an affordable housing crunch.

811 00:28:01.228 --> 00:28:02.061 So any loss of housing has an impact

812 00:28:02.061 --> 00:28:02.894 throughout the region,

813 00:28:02.894 --> 00:28:03.727 as people have to move to other housing,

814 00:28:03.727 --> 00:28:04.560 to replace their homes.

815 00:28:04.560 --> 00:28:05.393 So that increases the price

816 00:28:05.393 --> 00:28:06.226 as a rental market and price gouging.

817 00:28:06.226 --> 00:28:07.059 So there was instances

818 00:28:07.059 --> 00:28:07.892 in some of these communities

819 00:28:07.892 --> 00:28:08.725 in East Santa Barbara

820 00:28:08.725 --> 00:28:09.558 where many of the workers live,

821 00:28:09.558 --> 00:28:10.391 you had one large landowner,

822 00:28:10.391 --> 00:28:11.224 increasing rent by at least $300.

823 00:28:11.224 --> 00:28:12.057 So there's a lot in equity

824 00:28:12.057 --> 00:28:12.890 in terms of housing stock,

825 00:28:12.890 --> 00:28:13.723 the protests essentially happened

826 00:28:13.723 --> 00:28:14.556 after that price gouging

827 00:28:14.556 --> 00:28:15.389 but this is an occurrence

828 00:28:15.389 --> 00:28:16.222 that happens particularly a lot in undocumented,

829 00:28:16.222 --> 00:28:17.055 migrant communities.

830 00:28:17.055 --> 00:28:17.888 The land owners know

831 00:28:17.888 --> 00:28:18.721 that they're often these individuals

832 00:28:18.721 --> 00:28:19.554 are not going to tell the government

833 00:28:19.554 --> 00:28:20.387 and so they feel that they can get away with this.

834 00:28:20.387 --> 00:28:21.220 There was also loss of transportation infrastructure.

835 00:28:21.220 --> 00:28:22.053 This is a picture

836 00:28:22.053 --> 00:28:22.886 of the one on one freeway one one highway.

837 00:28:22.886 --> 00:28:26.844 So this is the major arterial highway

838 00:28:26.844 --> 00:28:28.552 connecting Ventura County

839 00:28:28.552 --> 00:28:33.552 to Santa Barbara County,

840 00:28:34.010 --> 00:28:34.843 as I mentioned before the oceans on one side

841 00:28:34.843 --> 00:28:37.126 and then you have large mountains

842 00:28:37.126 --> 00:28:37.959 on the other side.

843 00:28:37.959 --> 00:28:42.959 So this is one of the most efficient,

844 00:28:52.792 --> 00:28:57.792 affordable ways to to reach Santa Barbara

845 00:29:05.550 --> 00:29:10.550 and Ventura counties

846 00:29:12.633 --> 00:29:14.841 but at the fire and the mudslides

847 00:29:14.841 --> 00:29:15.674 on blocked access

848 00:29:15.674 --> 00:29:19.757 to this area so workers could not get to work.

849 00:29:19.757 --> 00:29:20.590 So if you didn't have funds

850 00:29:20.590 --> 00:29:25.590 to find alternative forms of transportation,

851 00:33:31.548 --> 00:33:33.020 then you were really very out of luck

852 00:33:33.020 --> 00:33:35.700 and it was a situation

853 00:33:35.700 --> 00:33:38.030 where you would lose more income.

854 00:33:38.030 --> 00:33:40.400 So people with higher incomes were able

855 00:33:40.400 --> 00:33:42.430 to rent boats,

856 00:33:42.430 --> 00:33:43.390 they actually rented boats

857 00:33:43.390 --> 00:33:45.050 to get around the highway,

858 00:33:45.050 --> 00:33:48.770 other people bought expensive Amtrak tickets

859 00:33:48.770 --> 00:33:50.970 and then finally other people drove

860 00:33:50.970 --> 00:33:52.300 all the way around the mountains

861 00:33:52.300 --> 00:33:53.530 which took a lot much longer,

862 00:33:53.530 --> 00:33:55.700 a lot more gas to to get around

863 00:33:55.700 --> 00:33:57.880 but many undocumented immigrants don't have

864 00:33:57.880 --> 00:33:58.870 that extra cash

865 00:33:58.870 --> 00:34:01.710 to do these alternative transportation modes

866 00:34:02.740 --> 00:34:05.900 and then, looking at the limitations,

867 00:34:05.900 --> 00:34:06.733 now I wanna jump

868 00:34:06.733 --> 00:34:08.380 into sort of the policy implications

869 00:34:08.380 --> 00:34:09.870 of some of our research

870 00:34:09.870 --> 00:34:11.000 and particularly the limits

871 00:34:11.000 --> 00:34:12.250 of vulnerability mapping,

872 00:34:13.830 --> 00:34:14.980 current social vulnerability

873 00:34:14.980 --> 00:34:17.830 mapping renders many minority

874 00:34:17.830 --> 00:34:20.700 and poor communities of color invisible.

875 00:34:20.700 --> 00:34:23.990 For example, the University of Washington map

876 00:34:23.990 --> 00:34:25.780 shows Santa Barbara and Ventura counties

877 00:34:25.780 --> 00:34:28.440 as having low levels of social vulnerability

878 00:34:28.440 --> 00:34:29.840 due to the large proportion

879 00:34:29.840 --> 00:34:32.660 of economically secure households in the region,

880 00:34:32.660 --> 00:34:34.890 however as we've shown in our research,

881 00:34:34.890 --> 00:34:38.000 Latino and indigenous migrant communities

882 00:34:38.000 --> 00:34:39.500 were among the most impacted

883 00:34:39.500 --> 00:34:40.920 during the Thomas Fire.

884 00:34:40.920 --> 00:34:42.760 Moreover, immigration status

885 00:34:42.760 --> 00:34:44.470 has received little attention

886 00:34:44.470 --> 00:34:46.253 and disaster vulnerability mapping.

887 00:34:47.164 --> 00:34:48.350 Though a large proportion

888 00:34:48.350 --> 00:34:50.130 of disaster studies have considered race

889 00:34:50.130 --> 00:34:52.620 and ethnicity as the vulnerability factor

890 00:34:52.620 --> 00:34:54.737 impacts experienced by migrants

891 00:34:54.737 --> 00:34:57.893 require an intersectional research approach.

892 00:34:59.950 --> 00:35:02.090 Current vulnerability mapping approach

893 00:35:02.090 --> 00:35:04.620 also fails to account for the complex web

894 00:35:04.620 --> 00:35:06.690 of impacts caused by disasters

895 00:35:06.690 --> 00:35:09.050 far beyond destruction of property

896 00:35:09.050 --> 00:35:11.410 within the perimeter of the fire itself.

897 00:35:11.410 --> 00:35:13.960 Toxic smoke flows down from burning mountainside,

898 00:35:13.960 --> 00:35:15.920 settling in densely populated valleys

899 00:35:15.920 --> 00:35:18.400 below threatening outdoor workers,

900 00:35:18.400 --> 00:35:20.050 lavish hillside mansions are destroyed

901 00:35:20.050 --> 00:35:24.760 or evacuated, leaving low income migrant gardeners,

902 00:35:24.760 --> 00:35:27.380 housekeepers and caregivers unemployed.

903 00:35:27.380 --> 00:35:29.540 Tourism throughout the region shuts down

904 00:35:29.540 --> 00:35:32.220 putting thousands of hotel employees out of work.

905 00:35:32.220 --> 00:35:33.250 From the loss of housing

906 00:35:33.250 --> 00:35:35.330 and infrastructure to the closure of schools

907 00:35:35.330 --> 00:35:36.600 and job sites,

908 00:35:36.600 --> 00:35:38.690 multiple regions are impacted

909 00:35:38.690 --> 00:35:39.940 beyond the census tracts

910 00:35:39.940 --> 00:35:41.460 identified in mapping models

911 00:35:41.460 --> 00:35:44.100 of buyer landscape risk zones.

912 00:35:44.100 --> 00:35:46.530 For example, a low income migrant family

913 00:35:46.530 --> 00:35:48.170 living outside of Bern area

914 00:35:48.170 --> 00:35:50.610 whose loses several weeks of wages

915 00:35:50.610 --> 00:35:52.900 without eligibility for federal

916 00:35:52.900 --> 00:35:55.420 and state assistance may be more negatively

917 00:35:55.420 --> 00:35:58.430 impacted than a higher income homeowner

918 00:35:58.430 --> 00:36:01.150 who lives within the fire risk zone

919 00:36:01.150 --> 00:36:02.460 whose property is replaced

920 00:36:02.460 --> 00:36:04.380 by their homeowners insurance policy,

921 00:36:04.380 --> 00:36:06.690 which also pays for hotel commendations

922 00:36:06.690 --> 00:36:08.823 for them to stay in the interim.

923 00:36:13.140 --> 00:36:14.710 The policy implication here

924 00:36:14.710 --> 00:36:17.750 that I wanna drive home really

925 00:36:17.750 --> 00:36:20.330 is that existing inequalities are exacerbated

926 00:36:20.330 --> 00:36:21.470 during the disasters

927 00:36:21.470 --> 00:36:24.000 because there is no existing social safety net

928 00:36:24.000 --> 00:36:27.240 before a disaster to protect these individuals.

929 00:36:27.240 --> 00:36:29.700 So Disaster Risk Reduction must start

930 00:36:29.700 --> 00:36:31.360 with social integration of migrants

931 00:36:31.360 --> 00:36:32.953 before a disaster.

932 00:36:34.640 --> 00:36:36.050 So the COVID-19 pandemic,

933 00:36:36.050 --> 00:36:37.050 I could talk a little bit more

934 00:36:37.050 --> 00:36:40.670 about this in the Q&A, has really decimated

935 00:36:40.670 --> 00:36:42.710 some of these communities

936 00:36:42.710 --> 00:36:44.620 but this Thomas Fire

937 00:36:44.620 --> 00:36:46.840 that happened was three years ago

938 00:36:46.840 --> 00:36:50.913 and the fires in Northern California, Sonoma,

939 00:36:50.913 --> 00:36:55.770 Napa County happened about three years ago as well

940 00:36:55.770 --> 00:36:58.010 and is since those fires

941 00:36:58.010 --> 00:36:59.495 that continue to happen

942 00:36:59.495 --> 00:37:02.620 these regions have become a little bit more

943 00:37:02.620 --> 00:37:04.400 proactive in disaster planning,

944 00:37:04.400 --> 00:37:06.050 particularly groups like MICOP

945 00:37:06.050 --> 00:37:07.570 and other migrant rights groups

946 00:37:07.570 --> 00:37:09.260 have really asserted their rights

947 00:37:09.260 --> 00:37:12.850 to speak as disaster experts

948 00:37:12.850 --> 00:37:15.270 and really have demanded to be

949 00:37:15.270 --> 00:37:16.490 in some of these county

950 00:37:16.490 --> 00:37:18.930 and state government meetings as stakeholders

951 00:37:18.930 --> 00:37:20.530 and disaster planning.

952 00:37:20.530 --> 00:37:22.770 So infrastructure through protests

953 00:37:22.770 --> 00:37:24.780 and advocacy has expanded

954 00:37:26.370 --> 00:37:29.930 to be able to provide more adequate resources

955 00:37:29.930 --> 00:37:32.770 to individuals during disasters and pandemics

956 00:37:32.770 --> 00:37:35.790 and as I talked to some of these migrant groups,

957 00:37:35.790 --> 00:37:37.320 they all tell me that

958 00:37:37.320 --> 00:37:40.740 while the COVID-19 pandemic has decimated

959 00:37:40.740 --> 00:37:42.880 those communities had it not been

960 00:37:42.880 --> 00:37:45.070 for the planning after the wildfires,

961 00:37:45.070 --> 00:37:47.680 disasters and these farm worker communities,

962 00:37:47.680 --> 00:37:50.770 the COVID-19 pandemic would have been far worse

963 00:37:50.770 --> 00:37:52.770 because they had at least three years

964 00:37:52.770 --> 00:37:57.490 to become experts and demand resources

965 00:37:57.490 --> 00:37:59.340 from the state and local governments.

966 00:38:00.340 --> 00:38:02.810 So the broader policy implication

967 00:38:02.810 --> 00:38:03.810 of this research

968 00:38:03.810 --> 00:38:06.610 is to ensure inclusive disaster planning

969 00:38:06.610 --> 00:38:09.840 that we must draw on migrant community knowledge,

970 00:38:09.840 --> 00:38:10.997 embrace migrant communities

971 00:38:10.997 --> 00:38:12.710 and disaster planning, response

972 00:38:12.710 --> 00:38:15.010 and recovery and bolster a lot

973 00:38:15.010 --> 00:38:18.130 of next indigenous civil society organizations capacity

974 00:38:18.130 --> 00:38:20.683 in disaster relief and planning efforts.

975 00:38:22.250 --> 00:38:24.240 So some outcomes that happened

976 00:38:24.240 --> 00:38:26.520 since a Thomas wildfire California

977 00:38:26.520 --> 00:38:30.080 has adopted some very culturally

978 00:38:30.080 --> 00:38:30.913 and linguistically

979 00:38:30.913 --> 00:38:34.620 inclusive disaster planning resources

980 00:38:34.620 --> 00:38:39.100 requiring county and state governments

981 00:38:39.100 --> 00:38:41.120 to provide language access

982 00:38:41.120 --> 00:38:42.660 to Emergency Information

983 00:38:42.660 --> 00:38:46.910 and that's also contingent disaster relief aid.

984 00:38:46.910 --> 00:38:48.880 So if you want state disaster relief aid,

985 00:38:48.880 --> 00:38:50.940 you have to update your protocols

986 00:38:50.940 --> 00:38:54.950 on disaster planning and your language access

987 00:38:54.950 --> 00:38:57.780 and there's also been funding tied

988 00:38:57.780 --> 00:39:00.040 to cultural competency and disaster planning

989 00:39:00.040 --> 00:39:01.650 and climate resilient planning.

990 00:39:01.650 --> 00:39:03.550 So these local governments have to show

991 00:39:03.550 --> 00:39:05.180 how they're proactively working

992 00:39:05.180 --> 00:39:06.870 with socially vulnerable communities

993 00:39:06.870 --> 00:39:09.220 ahead of disaster and to their mitigation

994 00:39:09.220 --> 00:39:10.793 that hazard mitigation plans.

995 00:39:12.020 --> 00:39:13.110 Some of the recommendations,

996 00:39:13.110 --> 00:39:14.370 we end our research with that

997 00:39:14.370 --> 00:39:16.800 there should be a state wide Disaster Relief Fund

998 00:39:16.800 --> 00:39:19.200 for all regardless of immigration status.

999 00:39:19.200 --> 00:39:21.500 It's inequitable that civil society,

1000 00:39:21.500 --> 00:39:25.900 particularly migrant organizations

1001 00:39:25.900 --> 00:39:28.169 that have little resources have to extend

1002 00:39:28.169 --> 00:39:30.900 so much of their capital

1003 00:39:30.900 --> 00:39:32.570 and fundraising efforts

1004 00:39:32.570 --> 00:39:35.000 to safeguard these communities

1005 00:39:35.000 --> 00:39:35.900 when this should be the role

1006 00:39:35.900 --> 00:39:37.101 of the state government.

1007 00:39:37.101 --> 00:39:39.360 There should also be emergency funding

1008 00:39:39.360 --> 00:39:41.760 for CBOs on the ground working

1009 00:39:41.760 --> 00:39:43.350 with these communities.

1010 00:39:43.350 --> 00:39:46.733 Again, they have little resources,

1011 00:39:47.580 --> 00:39:48.540 state and local governments

1012 00:39:48.540 --> 00:39:50.270 need to develop new methods

1013 00:39:50.270 --> 00:39:51.900 to map socially vulnerable communities

1014 00:39:51.900 --> 00:39:53.870 as I showed from the University of Washington

1015 00:39:53.870 --> 00:39:55.610 on social vulnerability mapping,

1016 00:39:55.610 --> 00:39:57.840 which is a great tool,

1017 00:39:57.840 --> 00:40:00.090 but it still renders some communities invisible

1018 00:40:00.090 --> 00:40:02.300 such as undocumented immigrants

1019 00:40:02.300 --> 00:40:05.200 and into codified into law protections

1020 00:40:05.200 --> 00:40:07.440 from wildfire smoke right now,

1021 00:40:07.440 --> 00:40:09.570 advocates was able to work

1022 00:40:09.570 --> 00:40:12.937 with the State Board of Occupational Health

1023 00:40:12.937 --> 00:40:16.170 and Safety to do an emergency regulation

1024 00:40:16.170 --> 00:40:17.590 for wildfire smoke.

1025 00:40:17.590 --> 00:40:22.590 So when the air quality reaches 151 index,

1026 00:40:23.030 --> 00:40:24.490 employers are required

1027 00:40:24.490 --> 00:40:28.540 to provide a PPE N95 respirator masks

1028 00:40:28.540 --> 00:40:29.680 but that's temporary

1029 00:40:29.680 --> 00:40:32.130 and it's really been uneven up

1030 00:40:32.130 --> 00:40:33.770 how this is enforced

1031 00:40:33.770 --> 00:40:36.373 and this should be codified into law.

1032 00:40:37.230 --> 00:40:40.520 So, I also had spoken to some individuals

1033 00:40:40.520 --> 00:40:43.440 in Sonoma throughout the Central Coast

1034 00:40:43.440 --> 00:40:47.850 that experienced fires on this past summer

1035 00:40:47.850 --> 00:40:49.210 and they also account

1036 00:40:49.210 --> 00:40:52.580 that there's an uneven N95 mass implementation

1037 00:40:52.580 --> 00:40:54.090 throughout the state

1038 00:40:54.090 --> 00:40:55.163 and in fact,

1039 00:40:56.000 --> 00:40:58.560 the State Office of Occupational Health and Safety

1040 00:40:58.560 --> 00:41:02.210 only has about a dozen Spanish speaking,

1041 00:41:02.210 --> 00:41:04.020 individuals that go out in the field

1042 00:41:04.020 --> 00:41:06.350 to do investigations on complaints

1043 00:41:06.350 --> 00:41:08.080 and compliance with this.

1044 00:41:08.080 --> 00:41:08.913 As far as I know,

1045 00:41:08.913 --> 00:41:09.746 they don't have anyone

1046 00:41:09.746 --> 00:41:11.100 that speaks indigenous languages,

1047 00:41:11.100 --> 00:41:12.620 so there's only about 12

1048 00:41:12.620 --> 00:41:16.450 or so people in the entire state of California,

1049 00:41:16.450 --> 00:41:19.440 there's a state of 40 million people,

1050 00:41:19.440 --> 00:41:21.200 only about 12 of them speak Spanish

1051 00:41:21.200 --> 00:41:22.110 that work in the field.

1052 00:41:22.110 --> 00:41:25.000 So there's a course on even implementation

1053 00:41:25.000 --> 00:41:27.390 of the role on the air quality index

1054 00:41:27.390 --> 00:41:29.503 that I mentioned about the wildfire smoke,

1055 00:41:31.209 --> 00:41:34.520 there's uncertainty about how this is being achieved.

1056 00:41:34.520 --> 00:41:37.510 Oftentimes, these air quality monitoring stations,

1057 00:41:37.510 --> 00:41:39.440 our government monitoring stations

1058 00:41:39.440 --> 00:41:41.100 are often miles away

1059 00:41:41.100 --> 00:41:43.210 from the actual farm worker site.

1060 00:41:43.210 --> 00:41:46.330 So you may have a 151 index

1061 00:41:46.330 --> 00:41:49.360 about five miles away at air quality station

1062 00:41:49.360 --> 00:41:51.890 but that index could be much higher

1063 00:41:51.890 --> 00:41:53.060 at the field next,

1064 00:41:53.060 --> 00:41:55.670 that's happening near closer to the fire.

1065 00:41:55.670 --> 00:41:57.480 So there needs to be opportunities

1066 00:41:57.480 --> 00:42:00.360 to have real time handheld

1067 00:42:00.360 --> 00:42:02.670 GPS type of air quality monitoring

1068 00:42:02.670 --> 00:42:04.190 that these individuals

1069 00:42:04.190 --> 00:42:06.610 and employers should be using

1070 00:42:06.610 --> 00:42:08.900 instead of having for a wait up there

1071 00:42:08.900 --> 00:42:10.600 monitoring stations.

1072 00:42:10.600 --> 00:42:12.760 There's no state guidance on implementation

1073 00:42:12.760 --> 00:42:14.660 of worker health and safety

1074 00:42:14.660 --> 00:42:16.510 there's little guidance on that

1075 00:42:16.510 --> 00:42:19.270 and one issue that's happening now,

1076 00:42:19.270 --> 00:42:20.620 particularly in Sonoma

1077 00:42:20.620 --> 00:42:23.000 is these access verification permits

1078 00:42:23.000 --> 00:42:24.310 that allows farm workers

1079 00:42:24.310 --> 00:42:28.180 to enter into mandatory evacuation zones over 400,

1080 00:42:28.180 --> 00:42:30.170 I believe was issued

1081 00:42:30.170 --> 00:42:33.690 by the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner

1082 00:42:34.750 --> 00:42:36.780 and this essentially allows foreign workers

1083 00:42:36.780 --> 00:42:39.260 to enter these mandatory evacuation zones

1084 00:42:39.260 --> 00:42:41.610 when everyone else is required to leave

1085 00:42:41.610 --> 00:42:43.520 and these supervisors,

1086 00:42:43.520 --> 00:42:45.290 the employers themselves

1087 00:42:45.290 --> 00:42:47.180 do not have any emergency plans.

1088 00:42:47.180 --> 00:42:50.960 So if the fire gets close to the farm worker site

1089 00:42:50.960 --> 00:42:54.760 or more toxic smoke overtakes the entire farm,

1090 00:42:54.760 --> 00:42:58.330 how are they gonna evacuate the farm workers

1091 00:42:58.330 --> 00:43:01.540 in a swift and safe fashion?

1092 00:43:01.540 --> 00:43:02.373 And moreover,

1093 00:43:02.373 --> 00:43:04.230 there's no health test for these workers.

1094 00:43:04.230 --> 00:43:05.690 So we don't know,

1095 00:43:05.690 --> 00:43:08.244 what is the risk of working

1096 00:43:08.244 --> 00:43:12.670 in this wildfire smoke itself

1097 00:43:12.670 --> 00:43:16.030 as you know, is hazardous to human health

1098 00:43:16.030 --> 00:43:18.070 but it's not only just the smoke itself

1099 00:43:18.070 --> 00:43:20.280 is the other types of toxins

1100 00:43:20.280 --> 00:43:21.970 that are missing from the burden buildings

1101 00:43:21.970 --> 00:43:24.230 that are in individuals.

1102 00:43:24.230 --> 00:43:27.530 So there's no follow up on workers testing

1103 00:43:27.530 --> 00:43:30.450 to find out calm how they're doing

1104 00:43:30.450 --> 00:43:33.980 after entering these mandatory evacuation zones

1105 00:43:33.980 --> 00:43:36.580 and again, Cal/OSHA has limited staff,

1106 00:43:36.580 --> 00:43:38.180 as I mentioned before

1107 00:43:39.750 --> 00:43:44.580 and there I'll be able to open up to questions

1108 00:43:44.580 --> 00:43:46.230 and I look forward

1109 00:43:46.230 --> 00:43:48.450 to hearing your questions and comments.

1110 00:43:48.450 --> 00:43:50.090 This is just a quick slide

1111 00:43:50.090 --> 00:43:52.586 that we recently did in October

1112 00:43:52.586 --> 00:43:55.050 with the governor's office

1113 00:43:55.050 --> 00:43:56.240 and the United Nations.

1114 00:43:56.240 --> 00:43:59.980 So the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel,

1115 00:43:59.980 --> 00:44:00.813 excuse me,

1116 00:44:00.813 --> 00:44:04.500 the United Nations International Organization

1117 00:44:04.500 --> 00:44:09.350 on Migration hosted a panel with ourselves

1118 00:44:09.350 --> 00:44:12.230 as well as the California governor's office

1119 00:44:12.230 --> 00:44:14.540 on Emergency Services to talk

1120 00:44:14.540 --> 00:44:17.740 about what the rest of the world could learn

1121 00:44:17.740 --> 00:44:19.890 from the migrant experience in California

1122 00:44:19.890 --> 00:44:21.280 because these disasters

1123 00:44:21.280 --> 00:44:23.080 because of climate change is making the severity

1124 00:44:23.080 --> 00:44:26.000 of these disasters more frequent and severe,

1125 00:44:26.000 --> 00:44:27.400 it's happening in Australia,

1126 00:44:27.400 --> 00:44:29.010 it's happening in Latin America,

1127 00:44:29.010 --> 00:44:30.720 it's happening in Greece

1128 00:44:30.720 --> 00:44:33.650 and migrant communities are all these places.

1129 00:44:33.650 --> 00:44:35.920 So the idea was to understand

1130 00:44:35.920 --> 00:44:37.420 what can the rest of the world learn

1131 00:44:37.420 --> 00:44:39.950 from the migrant wildfire disaster

1132 00:44:39.950 --> 00:44:42.180 experienced in California?

1133 00:44:42.180 --> 00:44:44.650 With that, I thank you for this opportunity

1134 00:44:44.650 --> 00:44:47.930 and look forward to speaking with you

1135 00:44:47.930 --> 00:44:49.273 about this research.

1136 00:44:51.220 --> 00:44:52.260 - Thank you, Michael,

1137 00:44:52.260 --> 00:44:54.650 so, wonderful presentation.

1138 00:44:54.650 --> 00:44:56.910 I know we do have a lot of questions coming

1139 00:44:56.910 --> 00:44:58.980 in the chat box.

1140 00:44:58.980 --> 00:45:03.980 So the first question is from Rebecca Hoffler,

1141 00:45:04.040 --> 00:45:05.220 she's asking,

1142 00:45:05.220 --> 00:45:08.530 are there any translation technologies available

1143 00:45:08.530 --> 00:45:12.280 to help overcome these niche language barriers

1144 00:45:12.280 --> 00:45:13.113 for migrants?

1145 00:45:14.508 --> 00:45:17.650 I had no idea many were not Spanish speaking

1146 00:45:17.650 --> 00:45:20.180 that is so crucial to them might be a quote,

1147 00:45:20.180 --> 00:45:22.520 tech or high education punishing

1148 00:45:22.520 --> 00:45:24.000 to do app that tech.

1149 00:45:24.000 --> 00:45:26.340 I know you mentioned about the Google translator

1150 00:45:26.340 --> 00:45:27.603 but any others?

1151 00:45:28.630 --> 00:45:32.220 Yeah, there's a couple that are there

1152 00:45:32.220 --> 00:45:34.400 but again, the owner should not be put

1153 00:45:34.400 --> 00:45:36.140 on the individual,

1154 00:45:36.140 --> 00:45:38.210 the individual resident worker

1155 00:45:38.210 --> 00:45:40.090 or community based organization,

1156 00:45:40.090 --> 00:45:42.660 the owners needs to be on local

1157 00:45:42.660 --> 00:45:44.610 and state government and federal government

1158 00:45:44.610 --> 00:45:45.710 to provide the resources

1159 00:45:45.710 --> 00:45:48.640 to safeguard all community residents,

1160 00:45:48.640 --> 00:45:50.810 regardless of immigration status.

1161 00:45:50.810 --> 00:45:54.250 So these individuals are important contributors

1162 00:45:54.250 --> 00:45:56.650 to our society, they make fresh fruits

1163 00:45:56.650 --> 00:45:59.350 and vegetables available for us

1164 00:45:59.350 --> 00:46:01.160 and do some of the important work

1165 00:46:01.160 --> 00:46:02.830 as essential workers,

1166 00:46:02.830 --> 00:46:06.380 but yet, we don't value them enough to safeguard.

1167 00:46:06.380 --> 00:46:08.540 So that's why I had mentioned

1168 00:46:08.540 --> 00:46:09.810 that systemic racism

1169 00:46:09.810 --> 00:46:13.100 and cultural norms of around immigration

1170 00:46:13.100 --> 00:46:15.700 determines who's the worthy disaster victim.

1171 00:46:15.700 --> 00:46:18.440 So yes, that's great in terms of the interim,

1172 00:46:18.440 --> 00:46:20.070 but local governments

1173 00:46:20.070 --> 00:46:22.100 that have this type of workforce

1174 00:46:22.100 --> 00:46:25.683 in their area needs to dedicate resources

1175 00:46:25.683 --> 00:46:27.560 for live translation

1176 00:46:27.560 --> 00:46:30.930 and have staffing a place like California,

1177 00:46:30.930 --> 00:46:33.600 everyone think California is so progressive

1178 00:46:33.600 --> 00:46:35.370 but here's a situation

1179 00:46:35.370 --> 00:46:38.150 where a population, two populations

1180 00:46:38.150 --> 00:46:39.050 are overlooked Spanish

1181 00:46:39.050 --> 00:46:40.900 and indigenous speaking individuals

1182 00:46:40.900 --> 00:46:43.183 are entirely rendered invisible.

1183 00:46:44.790 --> 00:46:46.840 - Well, thanks, we also actually have a lot

1184 00:46:46.840 --> 00:46:50.580 of questions pre-collected from the students

1185 00:46:51.570 --> 00:46:54.800 and they are quite interested

1186 00:46:54.800 --> 00:46:57.940 in are there any quantitative evidence

1187 00:46:59.150 --> 00:47:00.340 showing the vulnerability

1188 00:47:00.340 --> 00:47:04.273 of these undocumented Latino from the research?

1189 00:47:05.890 --> 00:47:06.723 - So right now,

1190 00:47:06.723 --> 00:47:10.040 there's social vulnerability mapping.

1191 00:47:10.040 --> 00:47:10.873 There's some great models

1192 00:47:10.873 --> 00:47:12.970 with the work the University of Washington did,

1193 00:47:12.970 --> 00:47:14.294 it is great

1194 00:47:14.294 --> 00:47:17.400 but right now, there's, that I'm aware of,

1195 00:47:17.400 --> 00:47:18.280 there's no new models

1196 00:47:18.280 --> 00:47:21.700 that takes into account undocumented immigrants

1197 00:47:21.700 --> 00:47:23.750 and right now that that would take

1198 00:47:23.750 --> 00:47:28.750 a very well thought out a research designed

1199 00:47:29.290 --> 00:47:32.437 and human subjects protocol process

1200 00:47:34.720 --> 00:47:36.270 and working closely

1201 00:47:36.270 --> 00:47:37.750 to do what you call ground truth

1202 00:47:37.750 --> 00:47:39.330 and working with hand in hand

1203 00:47:39.330 --> 00:47:40.740 with these migrant organizations

1204 00:47:40.740 --> 00:47:42.300 to identify individuals

1205 00:47:42.300 --> 00:47:44.000 or where they may be in general

1206 00:47:44.000 --> 00:47:45.340 'Cause you don't obviously don't want it

1207 00:47:45.340 --> 00:47:47.159 to be too specific because of ice

1208 00:47:47.159 --> 00:47:49.670 and Immigration Services

1209 00:47:49.670 --> 00:47:51.400 but enough where it is,

1210 00:47:51.400 --> 00:47:55.400 you can identify it broadly in a region

1211 00:47:55.400 --> 00:47:56.460 because right now,

1212 00:47:56.460 --> 00:47:58.290 as you saw in Ventura, Santa Barbara

1213 00:47:58.290 --> 00:48:00.330 and other places in California too

1214 00:48:00.330 --> 00:48:02.500 and I'm guessing in the United States

1215 00:48:02.500 --> 00:48:06.500 as well as the current indices,

1216 00:48:06.500 --> 00:48:10.363 basically whitewash these communities.

1217 00:48:11.330 --> 00:48:12.670 - Okay, I think so.

1218 00:48:12.670 --> 00:48:17.390 Another question from the audience is from Joseph

1219 00:48:18.911 --> 00:48:22.130 and I guess he's asking,

1220 00:48:22.130 --> 00:48:24.770 has research investigated the possibility

1221 00:48:24.770 --> 00:48:28.470 of training community health advocates

1222 00:48:28.470 --> 00:48:30.910 within the indigenous communities

1223 00:48:30.910 --> 00:48:33.270 so as to improve utilization

1224 00:48:33.270 --> 00:48:34.960 and access to social services,

1225 00:48:34.960 --> 00:48:39.070 health care, and disaster relief information?

1226 00:48:39.070 --> 00:48:41.330 - Yeah, so that's I mentioned a very briefly

1227 00:48:41.330 --> 00:48:43.591 about the COVID-19 pandemic,

1228 00:48:43.591 --> 00:48:47.020 it's been three years since Thomas wildfire

1229 00:48:47.020 --> 00:48:48.713 and about three years three and a half years,

1230 00:48:48.713 --> 00:48:52.890 since the first major recent fire

1231 00:48:52.890 --> 00:48:55.100 in Northern California

1232 00:48:55.100 --> 00:48:56.486 and those far more regions

1233 00:48:56.486 --> 00:49:01.230 and these advocates have become disaster experts

1234 00:49:01.230 --> 00:49:03.810 in their own, not by choice,

1235 00:49:03.810 --> 00:49:05.150 they were forced to become this

1236 00:49:05.150 --> 00:49:06.530 because this is the constituency

1237 00:49:06.530 --> 00:49:09.030 that they advocate and protect

1238 00:49:09.030 --> 00:49:10.670 and you see migrant rights

1239 00:49:10.670 --> 00:49:12.570 whose immigration rights group are working

1240 00:49:12.570 --> 00:49:14.190 on climate change now working

1241 00:49:14.190 --> 00:49:19.020 because there's a strong sort of the cyclical process.

1242 00:49:19.020 --> 00:49:19.990 A lot of these individuals

1243 00:49:19.990 --> 00:49:21.340 are leaving their countries

1244 00:49:22.700 --> 00:49:24.160 to some extent climate refugees

1245 00:49:24.160 --> 00:49:26.210 with a drought soil erosion

1246 00:49:26.210 --> 00:49:28.760 in their ancestral homeland,

1247 00:49:28.760 --> 00:49:31.980 particularly for people (indistinct)

1248 00:49:31.980 --> 00:49:34.110 that come to United States

1249 00:49:34.110 --> 00:49:35.470 and then they come over here

1250 00:49:35.470 --> 00:49:36.850 and it's a different types

1251 00:49:36.850 --> 00:49:38.360 of climate change impacts

1252 00:49:38.360 --> 00:49:41.300 that are happening to them.

1253 00:49:41.300 --> 00:49:43.720 So you see these groups be more active

1254 00:49:43.720 --> 00:49:45.720 in non-traditional immigration

1255 00:49:46.680 --> 00:49:48.710 priority topics such as the environment

1256 00:49:48.710 --> 00:49:50.060 and now disaster.

1257 00:49:50.060 --> 00:49:51.480 So these individuals are part

1258 00:49:51.480 --> 00:49:53.630 of what's Vlad, what's enough,

1259 00:49:53.630 --> 00:49:57.060 volunteers organized for assistance and disaster

1260 00:49:57.060 --> 00:49:57.893 or something

1261 00:49:57.893 --> 00:50:02.893 and so the several other roundtables around disaster

1262 00:50:03.330 --> 00:50:05.640 and particularly the Red Cross

1263 00:50:05.640 --> 00:50:07.220 and Salvation Army,

1264 00:50:07.220 --> 00:50:10.150 they also have their own private,

1265 00:50:10.150 --> 00:50:12.050 mainstream disaster relief systems.

1266 00:50:12.050 --> 00:50:14.230 So these individuals are now brought in

1267 00:50:14.230 --> 00:50:16.140 to those discussions

1268 00:50:16.140 --> 00:50:19.650 that these disaster relief organizations have,

1269 00:50:19.650 --> 00:50:21.500 as well as state and local government

1270 00:50:24.180 --> 00:50:26.220 - There is a question from the students,

1271 00:50:26.220 --> 00:50:30.222 I'm glad you mentioned that COVID-19 situation

1272 00:50:30.222 --> 00:50:31.550 and listeners are wondering,

1273 00:50:31.550 --> 00:50:34.740 that does the COVID-19 disaster relief assistance

1274 00:50:34.740 --> 00:50:37.660 for immigrants help make the case

1275 00:50:37.660 --> 00:50:40.260 that the states really need to put funding

1276 00:50:40.260 --> 00:50:42.010 for health care coverage

1277 00:50:42.010 --> 00:50:45.090 for this and also rights, workers?

1278 00:50:45.090 --> 00:50:46.410 - Yeah, so two things happen

1279 00:50:46.410 --> 00:50:48.055 in California first important

1280 00:50:48.055 --> 00:50:48.888 to know about COVID-19,

1281 00:50:48.888 --> 00:50:51.736 about language information that happens

1282 00:50:51.736 --> 00:50:54.330 and the language we stick on.

1283 00:50:54.330 --> 00:50:56.070 There's no word for virus,

1284 00:50:56.070 --> 00:50:58.310 so they had to come up

1285 00:50:58.310 --> 00:51:00.500 with different types of both oral

1286 00:51:00.500 --> 00:51:03.100 and pictorial on messaging

1287 00:51:03.100 --> 00:51:05.620 that talked about it and not COVID-19

1288 00:51:05.620 --> 00:51:07.740 but an unknown illness

1289 00:51:07.740 --> 00:51:09.700 and disease in that region,

1290 00:51:09.700 --> 00:51:10.830 to be able to convey that.

1291 00:51:10.830 --> 00:51:13.880 So that's one thing is having culturally sensitive

1292 00:51:13.880 --> 00:51:16.940 and culturally appropriate messaging

1293 00:51:16.940 --> 00:51:19.290 on Emergency Information is important

1294 00:51:19.290 --> 00:51:22.330 and they have built up somewhat of a capacity

1295 00:51:22.330 --> 00:51:23.760 to be able to do that now

1296 00:51:23.760 --> 00:51:26.320 and work in partnership with the state government

1297 00:51:26.320 --> 00:51:28.370 and because of the advocacy these groups have done,

1298 00:51:28.370 --> 00:51:31.130 as well as the importance

1299 00:51:31.130 --> 00:51:33.900 of the California Latino Legislative Caucus,

1300 00:51:33.900 --> 00:51:35.720 so that the Latino Legislative Caucus,

1301 00:51:35.720 --> 00:51:38.810 it is a caucus of Latinos,

1302 00:51:38.810 --> 00:51:40.800 a lot of next legislators

1303 00:51:40.800 --> 00:51:43.300 that work in the California State Legislature

1304 00:51:43.300 --> 00:51:44.620 and there are a big number now

1305 00:51:44.620 --> 00:51:46.440 and they have put a lot of pressure

1306 00:51:46.440 --> 00:51:48.600 along with advocates on the governor

1307 00:51:48.600 --> 00:51:53.290 to be more responsive to migrant communities,

1308 00:51:53.290 --> 00:51:55.260 particularly undocumented migrant communities

1309 00:51:55.260 --> 00:51:57.090 and this summer,

1310 00:51:57.090 --> 00:51:59.950 the governor put $50 million

1311 00:51:59.950 --> 00:52:03.570 in a temporary Disaster Relief Fund

1312 00:52:03.570 --> 00:52:05.011 and I believe

1313 00:52:05.011 --> 00:52:08.080 the philanthropic community did another 25,

1314 00:52:08.080 --> 00:52:10.410 so a total of 75 million that went

1315 00:52:10.410 --> 00:52:13.340 for one type tax evasion to households,

1316 00:52:13.340 --> 00:52:15.250 undocumented immigrant households,

1317 00:52:15.250 --> 00:52:18.540 anywhere between 400 and $700, I believe

1318 00:52:18.540 --> 00:52:19.810 but that money's already gone

1319 00:52:19.810 --> 00:52:21.160 and $75 million sounds like a lot

1320 00:52:21.160 --> 00:52:23.970 but that has been exhausted

1321 00:52:23.970 --> 00:52:26.053 and it will go one time cash visa.

1322 00:52:28.320 --> 00:52:30.707 - Thanks for the insights.

1323 00:52:30.707 --> 00:52:31.930 From the audience

1324 00:52:31.930 --> 00:52:34.190 there's also some question

1325 00:52:34.190 --> 00:52:35.950 regarding the the other types

1326 00:52:35.950 --> 00:52:37.620 of (indistinct) they meet

1327 00:52:38.690 --> 00:52:41.033 because sending the these communities,

1328 00:52:41.970 --> 00:52:45.000 from Leon Wesley, from Virginia is asking

1329 00:52:45.000 --> 00:52:47.270 is there any data info regarding the safety

1330 00:52:47.270 --> 00:52:48.940 of drinking water supplies

1331 00:52:48.940 --> 00:52:50.080 for their factory workers

1332 00:52:50.080 --> 00:52:53.450 and their living areas from this post fire

1333 00:52:53.450 --> 00:52:54.663 your mom took us in?

1334 00:52:55.520 --> 00:53:00.110 - Yeah, I'm a little bit aware of that,

1335 00:53:01.070 --> 00:53:04.000 so the toxins, as I mentioned,

1336 00:53:04.000 --> 00:53:05.430 mixing in the air,

1337 00:53:05.430 --> 00:53:09.410 it's just not regular trees burning down

1338 00:53:09.410 --> 00:53:10.980 but it's also all the materials

1339 00:53:10.980 --> 00:53:13.320 that build our houses and our infrastructure

1340 00:53:13.320 --> 00:53:14.830 that are quite toxic.

1341 00:53:14.830 --> 00:53:17.420 So that not only goes into the air

1342 00:53:17.420 --> 00:53:19.100 but that also goes into the water

1343 00:53:19.100 --> 00:53:21.770 in terms of what they call the fire debris

1344 00:53:22.830 --> 00:53:26.080 and the State Water Resources Control Board

1345 00:53:26.080 --> 00:53:27.820 is currently looking at that

1346 00:53:27.820 --> 00:53:31.240 in terms of maximum contaminant levels

1347 00:53:31.240 --> 00:53:34.980 and sort of what regions

1348 00:53:34.980 --> 00:53:37.050 and how these regions are being exposed

1349 00:53:37.050 --> 00:53:38.470 to this fire debris

1350 00:53:38.470 --> 00:53:41.190 in their community drinking water systems.

1351 00:53:41.190 --> 00:53:42.090 So that's something

1352 00:53:42.090 --> 00:53:44.060 that's currently being looked at.

1353 00:53:44.060 --> 00:53:46.479 Yes, but I don't know

1354 00:53:46.479 --> 00:53:50.453 how strong it's being regulated.

1355 00:53:51.820 --> 00:53:52.653 - Thank you.

1356 00:53:52.653 --> 00:53:54.560 So another question

1357 00:53:54.560 --> 00:53:56.824 from the audience is kind of related

1358 00:53:56.824 --> 00:53:58.180 to our earlier discussion

1359 00:53:58.180 --> 00:54:03.180 regarding the tours for these committees,

1360 00:54:03.600 --> 00:54:04.810 there is,

1361 00:54:04.810 --> 00:54:08.529 Marcus from Andrea is asking your experience

1362 00:54:08.529 --> 00:54:12.320 is having a digital healthcare a PP

1363 00:54:12.320 --> 00:54:15.010 for these communities by lingo

1364 00:54:15.010 --> 00:54:16.700 would that be helpful

1365 00:54:16.700 --> 00:54:18.850 to have accessible primary care

1366 00:54:18.850 --> 00:54:21.930 because these committees can have access

1367 00:54:21.930 --> 00:54:26.150 to mobile technologies are the prepare handling,

1368 00:54:26.150 --> 00:54:28.580 have these Wi-Fi

1369 00:54:28.580 --> 00:54:31.803 and mobile technologies available?

1370 00:54:33.244 --> 00:54:35.500 - I'm not sure entirely I understand that

1371 00:54:35.500 --> 00:54:37.265 but the MICOP,

1372 00:54:37.265 --> 00:54:40.760 the Mixtecal Indiana community organizing project

1373 00:54:40.760 --> 00:54:44.480 they did have a very high social media presence

1374 00:54:44.480 --> 00:54:46.330 and particularly WhatsApp

1375 00:54:46.330 --> 00:54:48.100 as from what I learned

1376 00:54:48.100 --> 00:54:49.510 from the recent and what I've been told,

1377 00:54:49.510 --> 00:54:54.260 is very popular in migrant communities,

1378 00:54:54.260 --> 00:54:56.080 particularly Mexican migrant communities.

1379 00:54:56.080 --> 00:54:59.030 So they decimate information

1380 00:54:59.030 --> 00:55:02.343 through WhatsApp, through their Instagram,

1381 00:55:02.343 --> 00:55:03.970 their Facebook

1382 00:55:03.970 --> 00:55:05.530 and I think they have another social media

1383 00:55:05.530 --> 00:55:06.670 and then of course, the radio,

1384 00:55:06.670 --> 00:55:09.840 the radio is a very simple one

1385 00:55:09.840 --> 00:55:11.710 that individuals get a lot

1386 00:55:11.710 --> 00:55:13.530 of their information from.

1387 00:55:13.530 --> 00:55:14.363 - Thank you.

1388 00:55:14.363 --> 00:55:15.196 I think given the time,

1389 00:55:15.196 --> 00:55:17.350 we'll have the final last question,

1390 00:55:17.350 --> 00:55:19.880 do we stop living later?

1391 00:55:19.880 --> 00:55:20.713 The question combining

1392 00:55:20.713 --> 00:55:22.500 from both the students asking

1393 00:55:22.500 --> 00:55:25.200 and one of the audiences kinda asking

1394 00:55:25.200 --> 00:55:28.580 about you have shown very powerful images,

1395 00:55:28.580 --> 00:55:30.900 both in the paper and the presentation

1396 00:55:30.900 --> 00:55:33.490 and telling the story

1397 00:55:33.490 --> 00:55:35.250 of these workers were required

1398 00:55:35.250 --> 00:55:37.790 to stay behind all gathering belong

1399 00:55:37.790 --> 00:55:39.740 from the employers home

1400 00:55:39.740 --> 00:55:42.890 despite this evacuation points.

1401 00:55:42.890 --> 00:55:45.770 So some, like insights

1402 00:55:45.770 --> 00:55:47.560 regarding how to help

1403 00:55:47.560 --> 00:55:51.990 make these local employers accountable

1404 00:55:51.990 --> 00:55:53.610 for putting workers

1405 00:55:53.610 --> 00:55:55.230 in these dangerous situations.

1406 00:55:55.230 --> 00:55:56.063 - Sure.

1407 00:55:56.990 --> 00:56:01.990 I didn't get a chance to download this audio file

1408 00:56:03.250 --> 00:56:05.600 because of the mix up in time

1409 00:56:05.600 --> 00:56:08.670 but I want to talk first play this audio file

1410 00:56:08.670 --> 00:56:11.800 real quick of what the Mixtec language sounds like.

1411 00:56:11.800 --> 00:56:12.693 I'm sure there's many people

1412 00:56:12.693 --> 00:56:14.739 that have never heard it before.

1413 00:56:14.739 --> 00:56:18.406 (speaking foreign language)

1414 00:56:32.155 --> 00:56:34.750 So as you can hear it,

1415 00:56:34.750 --> 00:56:37.770 the language resembles nothing like Spanish.

1416 00:56:37.770 --> 00:56:40.990 So that's a major issue on the daily

1417 00:56:40.990 --> 00:56:43.070 with how to create connections

1418 00:56:43.070 --> 00:56:44.830 and trust within these communities

1419 00:56:44.830 --> 00:56:48.900 and deliver culturally appropriate language

1420 00:56:49.882 --> 00:56:51.610 and the Emergency Information

1421 00:56:51.610 --> 00:56:54.390 and I forgot what was the question again?

1422 00:56:54.390 --> 00:56:55.600 - So the question is like,

1423 00:56:55.600 --> 00:57:00.600 how the local organizations can help

1424 00:57:02.618 --> 00:57:06.890 to hold the employers accountable

1425 00:57:06.890 --> 00:57:08.000 for putting these workers

1426 00:57:08.000 --> 00:57:09.690 in this dangerous places?

1427 00:57:09.690 --> 00:57:13.079 - I think it's contingent advocacy

1428 00:57:13.079 --> 00:57:14.990 and then the passage

1429 00:57:14.990 --> 00:57:16.900 of some of these occupational health

1430 00:57:16.900 --> 00:57:17.943 and safety rules,

1431 00:57:19.206 --> 00:57:21.440 there obviously needs to be more done on

1432 00:57:21.440 --> 00:57:22.410 as I mentioned before

1433 00:57:22.410 --> 00:57:24.830 these access verification permits

1434 00:57:24.830 --> 00:57:26.990 and it's sort of a black box

1435 00:57:26.990 --> 00:57:30.300 about how the county agricultural Commissioner

1436 00:57:30.300 --> 00:57:32.900 is issuing these permits to employers.

1437 00:57:32.900 --> 00:57:36.580 So does any employer that request one gets one,

1438 00:57:36.580 --> 00:57:41.200 are they looking at land fire risk zones

1439 00:57:41.200 --> 00:57:42.880 and how close the proximity the fire

1440 00:57:42.880 --> 00:57:44.290 is to the farm itself

1441 00:57:44.290 --> 00:57:45.840 and again, the air quality issues

1442 00:57:45.840 --> 00:57:47.500 and making sure that PP

1443 00:57:47.500 --> 00:57:52.160 is being distributed properly and effectively

1444 00:57:52.160 --> 00:57:54.340 because we saw instances

1445 00:57:54.340 --> 00:57:57.610 in our own research that even at the time,

1446 00:57:57.610 --> 00:57:58.630 this was three years ago,

1447 00:57:58.630 --> 00:57:59.463 even at the time

1448 00:57:59.463 --> 00:58:03.360 when people were donating these N95 mass

1449 00:58:03.360 --> 00:58:05.180 some employers wouldn't give them out

1450 00:58:05.180 --> 00:58:06.520 and there was other instances

1451 00:58:06.520 --> 00:58:09.160 where my co-authors saw

1452 00:58:09.160 --> 00:58:11.460 that they were giving it out only to men

1453 00:58:11.460 --> 00:58:12.630 and not women.

1454 00:58:12.630 --> 00:58:16.670 So there's a very uneven implementation

1455 00:58:16.670 --> 00:58:18.730 of some of even the existing health

1456 00:58:18.730 --> 00:58:19.720 and safety rules.

1457 00:58:19.720 --> 00:58:21.090 So more needs to be done

1458 00:58:21.090 --> 00:58:23.550 and there needs to be more transparency

1459 00:58:23.550 --> 00:58:24.700 and accountability

1460 00:58:24.700 --> 00:58:27.560 and as we have these workers working

1461 00:58:27.560 --> 00:58:29.103 in these dangerous zones.

1462 00:58:31.200 --> 00:58:32.460 - Thank you so much Michael

1463 00:58:32.460 --> 00:58:35.830 for sharing all this kind of justice experience

1464 00:58:35.830 --> 00:58:37.680 and thank you all the audience

1465 00:58:37.680 --> 00:58:38.910 for joining us today

1466 00:58:38.910 --> 00:58:43.290 and I think we'll end now, so bye everyone.

1467 00:58:43.290 --> 00:58:45.830 Thank you, Michael. - Thank you, bye-bye.