

USE CASE

# Onsite Construction Management & Temporary Housing

## Acuity Helps Expedite Community's Recovery from Devastating Wildfire

### Background

Wildfires are among the most destructive natural disasters, posing severe threats to lives, homes, and communities. These fast-moving fires can consume thousands of acres within hours, leaving devastation that takes years to recover. In the most extreme cases, wildfires have resulted in significant loss of life, the destruction of thousands of structures, and billions of dollars in damages.

Beyond the immediate danger, wildfires displace entire communities, forcing residents to seek emergency shelter and temporary housing. Losing infrastructure—power, water, and transportation networks—can further complicate recovery efforts, leaving affected areas without necessities for weeks or months.

In 2023, a wildfire in a remote location became one of the deadliest in U.S. history. According to the U.S. Fire Administration, more than 100 lives were lost, and over 2,000 structures were destroyed, resulting in billions of dollars in damages. Research estimates indicated that approximately 5,100 residents were displaced by the disaster.

### Challenge

The remote and geographically isolated area presented significant challenges when transporting materials and obtaining resources for construction projects. Limited access to construction supplies, skilled labor, and essential infrastructure created logistical hurdles that are not as prevalent in more accessible regions.

External forces also hindered the effort. In addition to navigating infrastructure damage and disruptions to communications, response teams had to overcome transportation delays, adverse weather conditions, and a labor strike.

Beyond the physical construction, the project needed to incorporate rigorous project management, cost controls, regulatory compliance, and coordination with local authorities and government agencies. These initiatives needed to be completed within an aggressive timeframe.



### Summary

Acuity International provided construction, disaster, emergency response, and recovery services to a community impacted by devastating wildfires, ensuring that residents received fully operational temporary housing.

### Industries

- Construction Management
- Disaster & Emergency Response & Recovery

### Challenges

In addition to navigating the devastation caused by the wildfires, Acuity contended with limited access to construction supplies and skilled labor, transportation delays, adverse weather conditions, and a labor strike.

### Solutions

- Program & Construction Management
- Emergency Disaster Response & Recovery



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## Solution

Acuity International was selected to provide housing units to those affected by the fire. Acuity ensured the housing units were delivered, met local building standards, offered flexibility for reconfiguration, and were equipped with essential utilities.

We also worked closely with local and federal authorities to achieve regulatory compliance while managing costs with detailed project controls. Our expert teams combined risk analysis with safety inspections, resulting in the quick and safe installation of the housing units.

Acuity delivered:

- **Fast response times.** Rapidly deployed emergency services, including the fast construction and delivery of housing units, to provide impacted residents with appropriate shelter during the recovery period.
- **Effective cost and schedule management.** Developed detailed plans and worked closely with government agencies and contractors. Carefully mapped our work to budgets to avoid cost overruns and save on resources wherever possible.
- **Regular quality and safety inspections.** Monitored the safety status and quality of construction projects to ensure the well-being of construction workers and inhabitants.
- **Flexible and scalable solutions.** Disaster and emergency response services were easily adapted to fit the size and scope of the disaster scenario.
- **Close coordination with state and local authorities.** Collaborated with local agencies, law enforcement, and first responders to ensure compliance with standards and safety requirements and help impacted individuals receive the attention and care they need.
- **Site preparation and housing unit construction services.** Turnkey services included site mapping and preparation in addition to unit construction, ensuring a seamless and complete process from start to finish.

## Benefits

- **Rapid delivery:** Housing units constructed and delivered within weeks.
- **High-quality and safe living quarters:** Residents provided with safe and quality temporary housing.
- **Cost-efficient construction:** Prevented budget overruns and completed facilities on time.
- **Flexibility and scalability:** Adapted housing units to suit the community's needs and the scale of the disaster.

## About Acuity

Acuity has decades of experience providing government clients with disaster, emergency response, and recovery services. Our experienced team is certified in emergency management and logistics and has successfully helped communities through natural disasters, pandemics, and humanitarian crises. We use proven methodologies for effective crisis handling and rapid response tactics to expedite recovery efforts and help communities in their most significant times of need.

Acuity's construction and program management services team includes construction professionals with deep expertise in planning, cost estimation, risk management, and quality assurance. They are accredited professionals with certifications such as CCP, PMP, PE, and Six Sigma. Our dedicated team is committed to providing safe and essential temporary housing facilities on-time and under budget so residents can focus on getting back on their feet.



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