

Environmental Finance Center: Community Resilience

MWCOG Energy Committee

September 17, 2026

efc.umd.edu



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FINANCE CENTER

University of Maryland Environmental Finance Center

- Turning university expertise into practical capacity for communities.
- 30+ years supporting communities
- Mid-Atlantic EPA Region 3
 - 5 states + DC + 7 Tribes
- Local government focused
- Technical assistance for planning, finance, policy, and implementation



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***An outreach and technical assistance center within
UMD's School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation***

Moving Communities from Ideas to Action



Technical Assistance,
Education, and
Training



Applied Research,
Policy Analysis, and
Financial Assessments



Community Outreach
and Facilitation

• ***Climate & Energy • Water • Green Infrastructure • Land Use • Sustainability • Agriculture***

Local Government Climate Assistance



- Certification & Recognition
- Grants
- Training & Webinars
- Peer Networking
- GHG Inventories



- Project Prioritization
- Grant Writing
- Technical Consultation
- Facilitation
- Capacity Building



- Steward Training
- 1:1 Mentorship
- Cohort Learning
- Project Support
- Community Stewardship



- Adaptation Planning
- Grant Support
- Technical Guidance



- Rate Studies
- Asset Management
- Financial Planning
- Utility TA

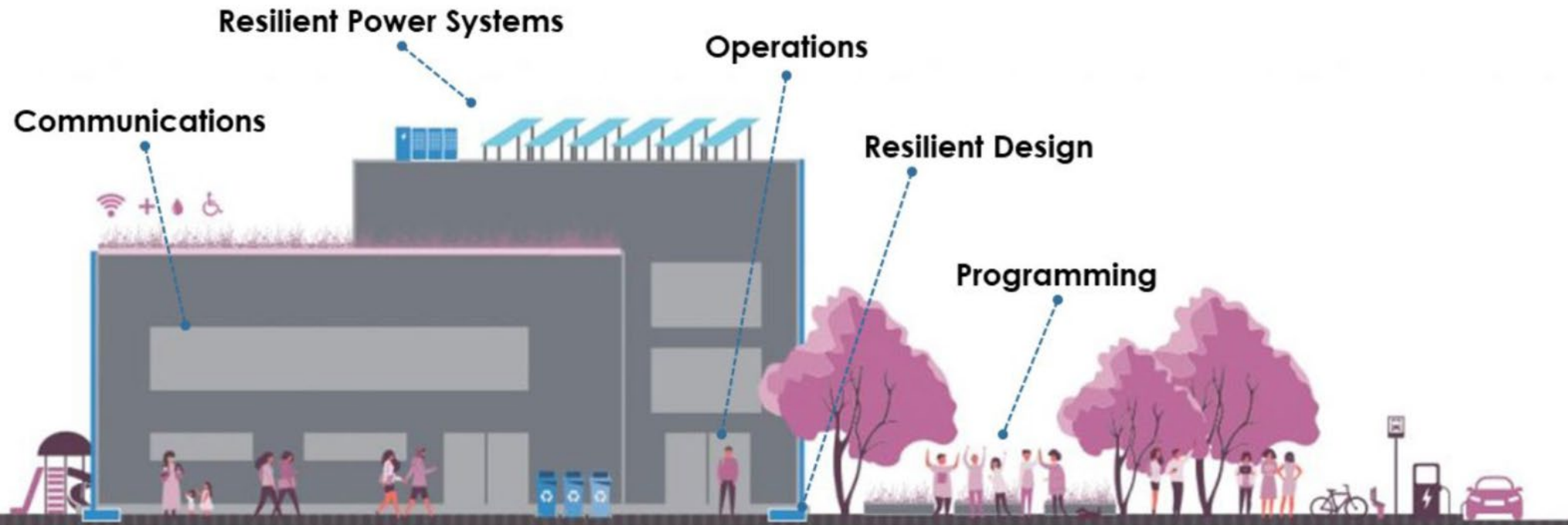


- Free Online Courses
- Self-Paced Training
- Program Case Stories
- Resource Library



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Resilience Hubs: More Than Energy Resilience



What is a Resilience Hub?

Community Led, Government Supported

“Resilience Hubs are physical buildings and/or enclosed structures located in neighborhoods or rural areas that serve community members year-round and are enhanced to provide continuous support throughout any type of disruption, from extreme weather events to health crises and beyond. They provide a community “home” and trusted-space for gathering, programming, skill-building, sharing of resources and information, support, and enhancing quality of life.”

- *Resilience Hub Collaborative*



Energy Resilience is Critical, a Resilience Hub is Broader

Energy Resilience

Reliable power during disruption

- Solar + storage
- Heating and cooling
- Device/medical equipment charging
- Critical loads
- Grid outage support

Whole resilience-hub model

A trusted community resource before, during and after disruption

- Programs + services
- Communications
- Trusted relationships
- Accessible space
- Operations
- **Resilient power**

***Backup power can make a facility resilient.
Community relationships, programming and infrastructure
together make it a resilience hub.***

The Six Core Components of a Resilience Hub



Programs and Services



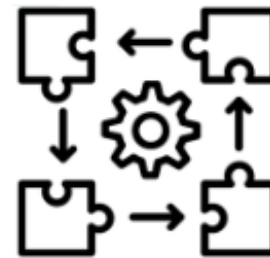
Information & Connectivity



Built & Natural Spaces



Power Systems & Backup



Operations & Maintenance



Accessibility & Transportation



From Every Day to Disruption



EVERY DAY

Community programs
Health + social services
Training
Gathering
Information



DURING DISRUPTION

Safe gathering space
Power + charging
Information
Resources
Coordination

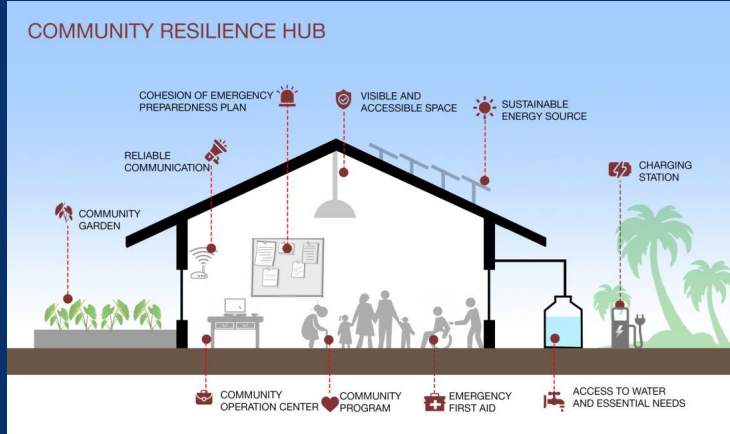


RECOVERY

Resource navigation
Communication
Recovery services
Community coordination



There is No One Resilience Hub Model



1. Start with community needs and existing assets, a trusted space
2. Add capacity as needs and resources evolve
 - Programming , Preparedness and Services, Facility Improvements, Resilient Energy and Infrastructure
3. Continue expanding community benefits

EFC's Resilience Hub Work to Date

Technical Assistance

- Providing TA for Hub implementation in areas such as grants and financing, site development, program offerings, and staff capacity building.

Peer-Learning

- Hosting workshops and networking events for communities to learn from each other and existing Hubs in the region.

Education and Training

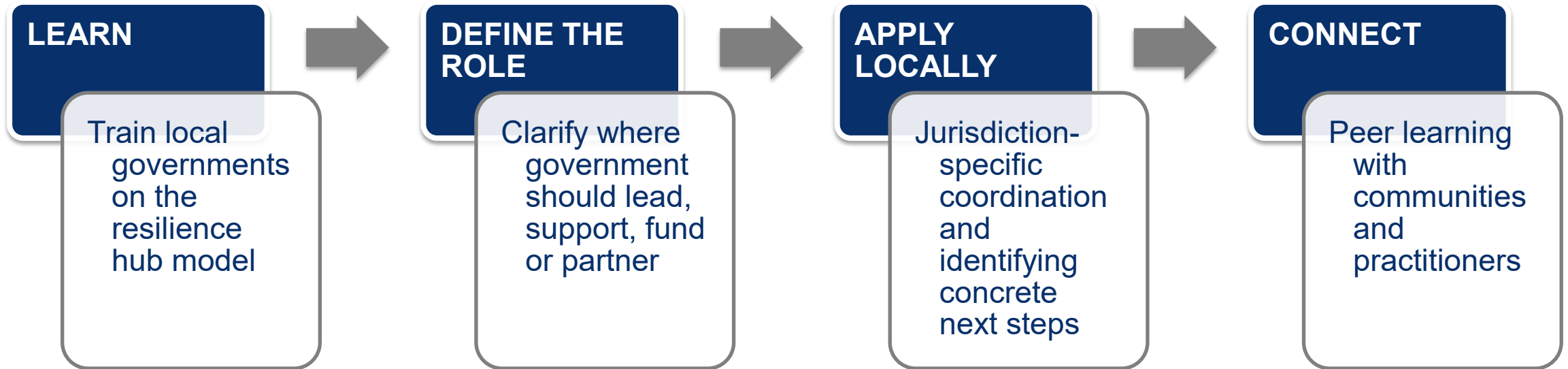
- Leading trainings for interested communities and local governments wanting to learn more about the RH concept and implementation best practices.

Community Spotlight: Prince George's County

EFC is partnering with the County's Department of Environment and Office of Emergency Management to establish a network of Resilience Hubs.

From Concept to Capacity *(proposed project)*

Building Community-led, Government-supported Resilience Hubs



Helping local governments move from "resilience-hub curious" to ready to partner responsibly with communities.



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RESILIENCE HUB COLLABORATIVE
FOR COMMUNITY. BY COMMUNITY. IN COMMUNITY.

Final Takeaways

1. Resilience hubs are community infrastructure, not just energy infrastructure.
2. Resilient power is essential, but trust, programming and operations determine whether the hub works.
3. Local government can be a powerful partner.



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Thank you!

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Resilience Hub Collaborative

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