



Resilience Hubs in Detroit

Why is it important to build resilient communities?

Resilience is the ability of people and their communities to anticipate and positively adapt to changing conditions, especially when emergencies and disasters hit.¹

Communities in Detroit experience emergencies throughout the year. Flooding, extreme cold, extreme heat, and power outages are some of the most common emergencies. Heavy industry in the city also means that Detroiters live under the threat of industrial events which can require residents to shelter in place or evacuate.²



When emergency services don't meet people's needs, neighbors often step up to help one another. Resilience hubs are places that bring together local people and resources to support the community—especially during tough times—and help the community get stronger and better prepared for the future.^{1, 3}



The Stoudamire, located on Connor Street, close to the Stellantis Mack Assembly Plant.⁷



The picture in the header above features the new Community Center at A.B Ford Park, at the former Lenox Center.⁷

Both centers function as resilience hubs as part of the Resilient Eastside Initiative.



We would like to acknowledge the Stakeholder Action Board for their contributions and expertise.

What are resilience hubs? ^{1, 3, 4}

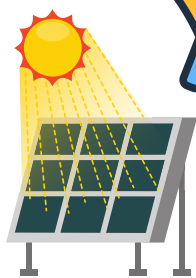
A resilience hub is a community-serving facility. It is located in a trusted local space (such as a community center, library, faith-based space, etc.) that offers support and resources, and meets its community's needs before, during, and after disasters. Services depend on the facility's function, resources, and management. They can include:

- Shelter
- Phone charging
- Food and water
- Heating or cooling
- Internet access
- Medication refrigeration
- Crisis information
- Other locally relevant resources...

Resilience hubs may also offer regular community-serving resources, services, or activities that strengthen their community. These day to day activities are offered even when disasters and emergencies are not occurring. They can include: ^{1 2}

- Food pantries
- Job trainings
- Youth services
- Fitness classes
- Health fairs
- Community gardens
- and more...

What turns a community space into a resilience hub? ^{1, 3}



- **Trusted central location.** A trusted gathering space in a building that is accessible to the community.
- **Developed by and for the community.** Development is led by members of the community in which the hub is to be located, and the hub must meet needs that are specific to that community. e.g. The A.B. Ford Community Center is built to withstand flooding.
- **Resilient energy.** Renewable energy from a source such as solar or wind, with energy storage systems that can withstand outages.
- **Resources during crises.** Access to or stocked resources to support the community's needs during extreme events or crises.
- **Consistent resources during 'normal' periods.** Consistent and accessible services to benefit individuals and households and strengthen the community outside of crisis, such as job training and youth services.

Are there resilience hubs in Detroit? ^{5, 6}

Yes! A network of hubs are being established on the Eastside as part of the Resilient Eastside Initiative, and numerous hubs exist in other parts of the city. City and community leaders are learning from existing resiliency hubs, and there are many communities where such resources are still needed. Below is a list of some resilience hubs or places that have resiliency services in Detroit.

- Eastside Community Network at The Stoudamire
- Community Center at the AB Ford Park
- Brilliant Detroit Literacy Center - Chandler Park
- What About Us Inc. Resilience Hub
- Muslim Center Mosque and Community Center
- Pilgrim Baptist Church
- New Mt. Hermon Baptist Church
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church
- St. Suzanne Catholic Parish



How can I start a resilience hub in my community?

Start by speaking with your community!


Understanding and surveying everyone's needs is important to building a successful resilience hub, particularly the needs of older adults, those with disabilities, children and caretakers, and other people who are especially vulnerable when disaster strikes. There are many guides and resources available to help communities navigate the process of building a lasting and impactful resilience hub. You can find these guides and more at the link below!

Resilience hubs can be powerful, welcoming spaces for communities. But some people are concerned about the word "resilience". It focuses on people's ability to survive hard times—but it can distract from the real problem: the unfair systems that made them struggle in the first place.

Resilience hubs can also function as place to organize and address unfair systems, while strengthening communities and building capacity to respond to crises.

Where can I learn more?

1. Visit:

 linktr.ee/ResilienceHubs

Or

2. Scan:

Scan the QR code here:



Please see http://mleead.umich.edu/Coec_Fact_Sheets.php for the citations included in this factsheet.

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