



Designing Resilience Hubs That Work When the Grid Doesn't

February 19, 2026



Agenda



Introduction



Overview: Resilience Hubs x Clean Energy



Panel: Real-World Resilience Hub Experiences



Q&A



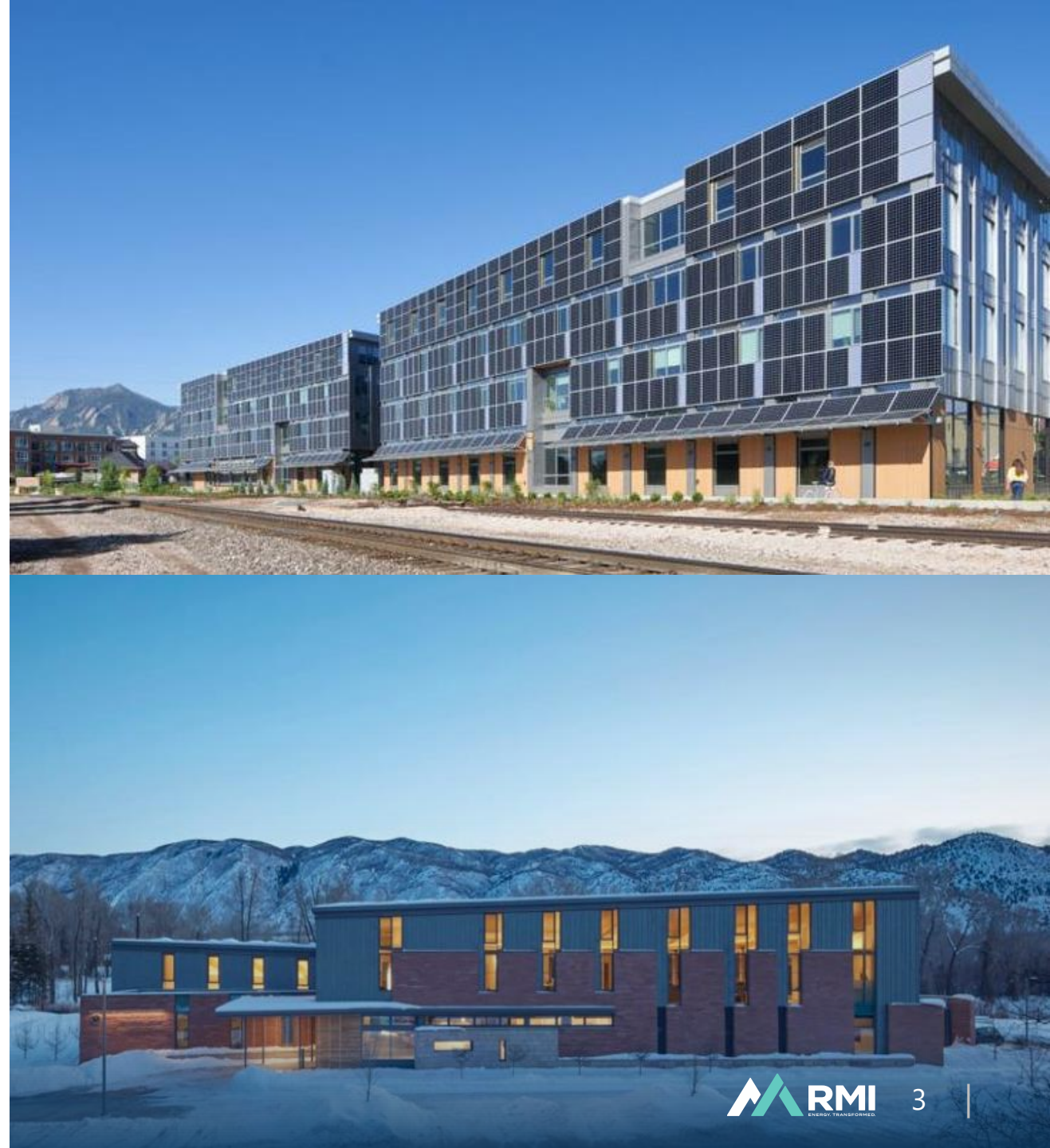
Wrap Up and Close Out

About RMI

Rocky Mountain Institute is an independent, non-partisan, nonprofit that uses market-driven solutions to accelerate a prosperous, clean energy future for all.

Founded in 1982, RMI has supported **over 200 US cities and communities**, helping public and private sector organizations advance sustainable energy systems.

To learn more, visit our websites: www.rmi.org and www.cityrenewables.org.



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New Sun Rising



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South**

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RMI has supported many communities with resilience hubs powered by clean energy



Led resilience hubs planning & deployment cohort in Texas following Winter Storm Uri



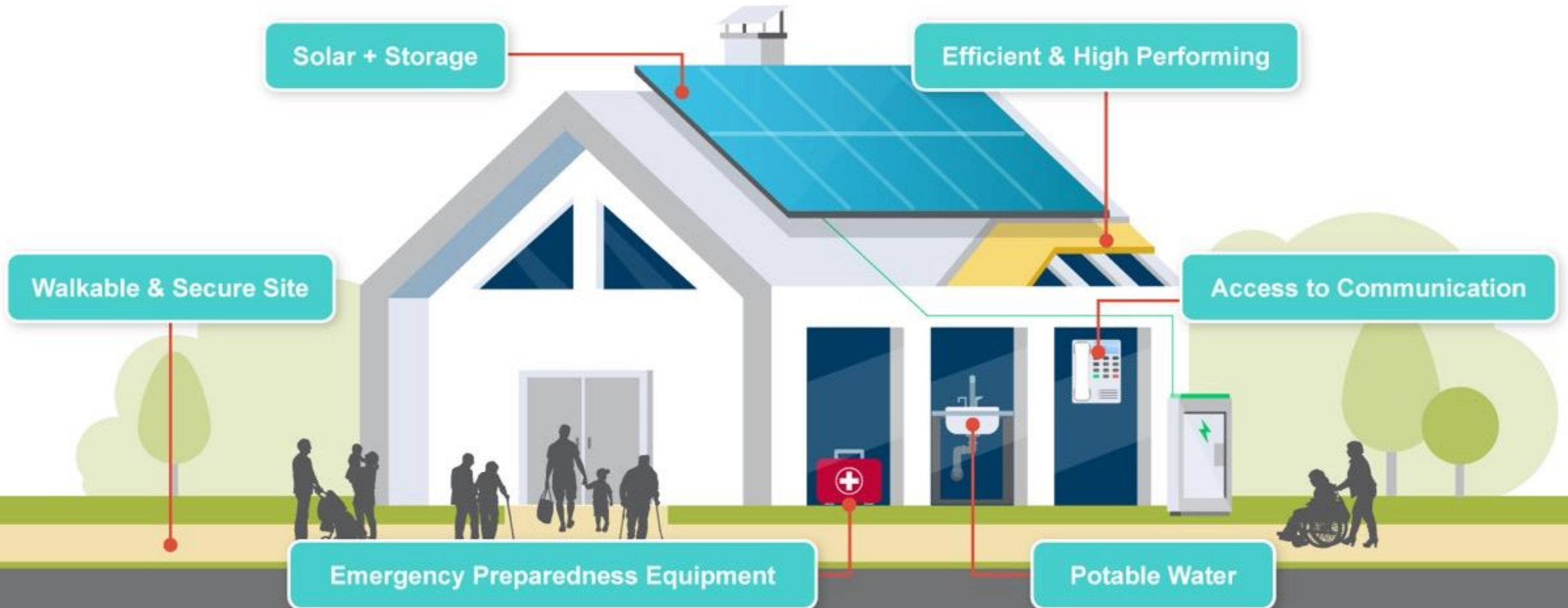
Led Microgrids for Resilient Communities Cohort (MREC), supported microgrid deployment in PR, continuing work in Caribbean and African communities



Providing TA for Providence, RI on project planning and development of their resilience hub program



Resilience hubs are a facility where residents access critical services before, during, and after a disaster



Resilience hubs have three operating modes



Normal

- Space for the community
- Resilience workshops, trainings, and preparedness initiatives
- Communications & outreach
- Workforce development



Disaster

- Provide back-up power
- Connect residents and businesses with supplies
- Provide information and support during disruption
- Reduce need for emergency services



Recovery

- Resource delivery & distribution
- Access to support and assistance, ex: FEMA or insurance paperwork
- Center for needs assessments, damage assessments, interviews, and data collection

Resilience hubs support communities by providing five aspects of resilience



Programming and Services

Services and programs that build relationships, promote community preparedness, and improve residents' health and well-being



Structure

An energy efficient, stable structure to provide shelter and extend hours of safety for occupants during emergencies



Power

Reliable power during outages and reduced operational costs under normal conditions



Communications

The ability to communicate within and outside the service area during disruptions and throughout recovery



Operations

Personnel and processes are in place to operate the facility in all conditions

Enhancing energy efficiency is a key first step



Energy efficiency and weatherization minimize the building's overall energy requirements



These investments can reduce the size and expense of the backup power system



Efficient structures can also extend the 'hours of safety' for occupants even if the backup power system fails

Many strategies exist to improve efficiency in a facility and increase hours of safety

Weatherization

Insulation

Window Upgrades

Weather Stripping

Prevent Thermal Bridges

Passive Design

Cool Roofs

Thermal Mass

Natural Ventilation

Daylighting

Efficient Electric Appliances

Heat Pumps

Induction Stove

Solar Thermal

Efficient Refrigerators

Please note that this list is non-exhaustive and varying options may be suitable depending on your site

Once the electric load is minimized, the next step is exploring and implementing resilient power options

A resilient power system can support a hub during outages.
There are multiple types of technologies available, including:



Rooftop solar



Solar canopies



Portable solar



Hybrid systems



Energy storage



Microgrids

It's important to keep in mind these considerations when developing resilience hubs



Funding and Financing

- Securing capital for solar, battery storage, efficiency upgrades and building retrofits
- Ongoing maintenance and operating costs



Site and Infrastructure Constraints

- Older buildings might need more upgrades
- Interconnecting and upgrading electrical panels



Technical Complexity

- Designing systems for emergency loads
- Integrating solar + storage + efficiency + backup systems



Community Trust and Engagement

- Ensuring the hubs meet the needs of and are known and utilized by the community
- Maintaining trust with frontline communities

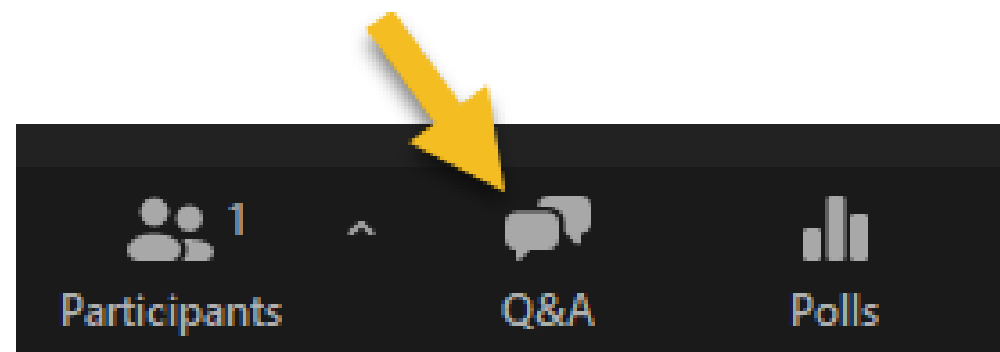


Operations and Governance

- Clarifying who owns, operates and maintains the hub
- Liability and risk management

What questions remain unanswered?

**Please use the Q&A
function to share your
questions**



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Guest Speakers



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Register now for RMI’s Resilience Hub Workshop Series

- **What?** Monthly 60-minute virtual workshops
- **When?** March through July 2026
- **Why?** To support organizations considering or currently planning resilience hubs with expert interventions and peer-to-peer learning

Registration page linked in the chat

Topic	Date
Vulnerability Assessments & Site Selection	March 2026
Energy Efficiency Improvements	April 2026
Solar Panel Deployment at Resilience Hubs	May 2026
Battery Storage Integration	June 2026
Funding and Procurement Strategies	July 2026



Thank You!



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