RMI’s Community Resilience Hub Work in Texas
RMI worked with cities across Texas for 10 months to design CRHs following Winter Storm Uri

- 4.5 million Texans left without power and water for over 48 hours
- $295 billion in property damage
- Direct deaths of 151 people, with the true death toll 4x-5x higher according to the CDC
Based off USDN’s **Resilience Hub Guide**, RMI walked cities through the process of establishing CRHs with workshops, guest experts, and materials to support development.

1. **Identify Partners and Form Team**
2. **Assess Vulnerability and Select Service Area**
3. **Identify and Evaluate Sites**
4. **Identify Resilience Solutions**
5. **Secure Funding**
6. **Develop Site and Install Solutions**
7. **Activate and Operate Site**

Community engagement/outreach will occur throughout.

*Hubs can begin operating to support community needs while resilience upgrades are pursued.*

*Site Complete*
Lessons Learned
As of October 2022, there were more than 26 CRHs in development across the U.S.
Secure **early buy-in** from city decision makers and community partners

- Bring the city and community in at the start
- Can help determine hub siting and community needs
- Communication can address multiple city and community goals
Carefully consider **where to site** the resilience hub (city buildings vs community sites)

- Hubs will be successful if the city’s most vulnerable residents feel comfortable in the site
  - e.g. community centers, libraries, churches, or other locations where people can gather
- Important to consider 24/7 access
- Can also partner with community sites
Start by making the CRH energy efficient to enhance resilience and save lives

- Options include tight building envelope, cool/green roofs, decreasing thermal bridges, and energy efficiency appliances
- More energy efficiency leads to more “hours of safety”
- Saves money during blue-sky days and saves lives in emergencies
Partner with community organizations and local businesses to develop and deploy CRHs

• Community organizations can help identify sites, goals, roles, and responsibilities

• Can also engage the community effectively and determine priority needs in crisis situations
  • Can include determining what programming the hub should offer and what critical services are needed during crisis mode
Adding solar + storage can provide essential backup power while meeting a range of resilience, environmental, and health goals

- Provides power during outages
- Can also reduce utility bills and hedge against volatile fuel bills
- Can be impactful for communities not located on “critical circuits”
- Saves fuel for generators for first responders