



# Community Engagement Plan

## Community Engagement Plan

### 1. Project Overview

- **Project Title and Description:**

- Project Title: Mapping Resilience: Emergency Centers Planning for Low-Income Communities Facing Extreme Weather Events
- This project aims to establish data-driven emergency centers to enhance safety and resilience for low-income communities facing floods and heatwaves. The centers will provide medical care, food distribution, and volunteer coordination, with a focus on equitable resource distribution and community involvement.

- **Timeline:**

**Start:** Data collection and analysis – January 2025

**Milestones:**

- Community workshops and participatory mapping – March 2025
- Center site identification – May 2025
- Center design and stakeholder collaboration – July 2025
- Construction and setup – October 2025

**End:** Initial center operational by December 2025

- **Community:**

- The target audience includes low-income residents of King County, Washington, particularly those affected by floods and heatwaves. Other involved groups include local organizations, government agencies, and healthcare providers.

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### 2. Engagement Goals

- **Main Goal:**



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- To identify the most suitable locations for emergency centers through community feedback, ensuring centers meet local needs and foster trust.
  - **Additional Goals:**
    - Build strong relationships with local residents, fostering a sense of ownership over the emergency centers.
    - Gather valuable insights about local hazards, cultural practices, and community dynamics to inform center design and services.
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### 3. Who Are the Stakeholders?

- **Key Stakeholders:**
    - Local residents
    - Community leaders
    - Non-profit organizations
    - Local government agencies
    - Healthcare providers
  - **Roles:**
    - **Local residents:** Provide feedback and actively participate in mapping workshops.
    - **Community leaders:** Act as liaisons, encouraging resident participation.
    - **Non-profit organizations:** Collaborate on outreach and service delivery plans.
    - **Local government agencies:** Offer logistical support and ensure regulatory compliance.
    - **Healthcare providers:** Contribute to medical service planning and resource allocation.
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### 4. Engagement Methods

- **How Will You Engage Them?**



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- We will use participatory mapping workshops, surveys, focus groups, and informational meetings. These methods will be conducted in local community centers, leveraging existing networks to encourage participation. The approach will combine in-person events with online platforms to increase accessibility.
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## 5. Communication Plan

- **Key Messages:**
    - The emergency centers aim to enhance safety, offer critical services during extreme weather events, and are designed based on community input.
  - **How Will You Communicate?**
    - We will use a mix of in-person meetings and online tools (social media, community websites) to reach a wider audience. In-person meetings will help establish trust, while online tools will offer broader accessibility.
  - **How Often?**
    - **Initial awareness:** Weekly updates in the first month.
    - **Feedback collection:** Before and after major workshops.
    - **Ongoing updates:** Monthly or at key milestones to keep the community informed.
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## 6. Timeline

- **Engagement Phases:**
  - **Phase 1: Awareness (January - February 2025):** Host community meetings and distribute information about the project.
  - **Phase 2: Feedback (March - April 2025):** Conduct mapping workshops and gather input on potential sites.
  - **Phase 3: Follow-up (May - June 2025):** Share findings, refine plans based on feedback, and provide regular updates on progress.
- **Key Dates:**



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- **Kickoff meeting:** January 15, 2025
  - **First community workshop:** March 5, 2025
  - **Survey distribution:** March 20, 2025
  - **Follow-up session:** June 10, 2025
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## 7. Success Criteria

- **How Will You Measure Success?**

Success will be measured by:

- Participation rates at events and workshops
  - Survey response rates
  - Quality and relevance of feedback gathered
  - Community willingness to support center implementation
  - Positive engagement on online platforms
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## 8. Resources

- **Budget & Materials:**

- Printing flyers and informational materials
- Renting community meeting spaces
- Online tools for surveys and communication
- Budget for refreshments and incentives during workshops

- **People:**

- Core project team members for planning and outreach
  - Local volunteers for survey distribution and event organization
  - Partnerships with non-profit staff for extended outreach
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### 9. Challenges & Solutions

- **Potential Challenges:**
  - Low community turnout or engagement
  - Limited trust in the project or its goals
  - Language barriers or cultural differences
  - Access issues due to limited digital connectivity
- **Solutions:**
  - Offer incentives like refreshments, transportation, or childcare during events to boost participation.
  - Use trusted community leaders to facilitate workshops and meetings, enhancing credibility.
  - Provide materials in multiple languages and hire translators for events.
  - Conduct in-person outreach in addition to online communication, ensuring information reaches those with limited internet access.