1. Introducing Hessann:
   a. Works mobilizing residents of Boston to take action on climate change. Has helped passing laws to reduce emissions from buildings and to make it obligatory for buildings to log emissions.
   b. Currently focused on legal conundrums, such as reducing home emissions without increasing rent.
   c. Focused on education of the public on the matter
   d. Works around mass-save program
      i. Helps uncover difficulties in reducing emissions to properly update policy
   e. Connect pieces of the city together: City-community, community-community, connect different groups such as housing groups and work groups, etc.
2. If we create a digital tool to help you, what is it you would look for in the tool? What kind of information is necessary to build it?
   a. Specifically on power outages
      i. Which communities experience them - easier to organize communities around
      ii. How long they last
      iii. Characteristics about these communities, such as median income, race, education,etc
      iv. Street temperature - correlates to the amount of trees and is a measure of resilience to heat waves.
      v. Air pollution data - More difficult to organize around
3. How does your organization work with policy makers? Do you have a concrete example of how you collaborated to create beneficial policy?
   a. City level- Inside outside strategy
      i. Inside: network with policy makers, figure out what support they need/how to apply pressure
      ii. Outside: How to organize the community, figure out what they need and find ways to apply pressure on policy makers (Create tailwind, eliminate headwind)
4. Follow-up: You mentioned you give tools to community members to pressure policy makers. Should we focus on educating the community, or targeting policy makers to pursue change

    a. Pursue policy makers and community-oriented organizations.

    b. These organizations benefit from data by being able to accurately address policy makers on the needs of their people

5. Part of your tool being useful is people knowing of its existence. How do you raise awareness around your tool?

    a. Sometimes, previous relationships with policy makers

    b. Talk to policy makers at events

    c. Target key staff: COO, campaign managers, developing relationships with them cascades to the rest of the organization

    d. Outside referrals to the right people

    e. Cold email as a last resort

    f. Colored by how friendly/hostile the policy makers seem to be towards our goals.

6. Through iCons, we have previously worked on projects regarding transportation access in Boston. One of the Opportunity Project's previous deliverables was a map that indicated risk and resilience of public transportation stops to the effects of heat islands. Combining both of these ideas, with your expertise as the Advocacy Director of the BCAN, do you think increasing the accessibility of public transportation could have a positive impact on minority populations in relation to climate/natural disaster inequalities?

    a. Yes, analyzing vulnerability to heat islands and coastal flooding; and analyzing the resilience of public transportation mechanisms to power outages are important aspects of resilience.

7. Do you think this happens the other way around, where accessibility of public transportation comes after increasing climate equity?

    a. Kind of, it is a sort of "circular argument", where increasing access to climate equity also applies more pressure to the power grid, meaning they either both increase or none do.

8. Your work concerns environmental activism and advocacy, along with keeping Boston communities connected with policymakers and one another. What do you think is an effective way to ensure everyone stays connected and involved throughout the varying natural disasters that will likely continue to worsen over time, such as lengthy power outages?

    a. There are two main things:

b. Building community consistently: Get people to know and trust each other, particularly in their local communities. Increasing in difficulty due to the interconnectedness of the modern world, where people are less likely to get along with their neighbors
  i. An obstacle can also be rent, with people being moved around so much, they form weaker bonds
  ii. In an emergency situation, neighbors are the first line of support. Having support from your local community proves a valuable asset
c. Raising awareness and providing appropriate information in a timely manner
  i. Early warning systems aren't enough, they also need to be effective.
  ii. Make information accessible (Language barrier, blindness/deafness)
  iii. Designing great solutions for these populations is a good basis for developing a system
9. It was mentioned in a recent BU interview with you that you have an "inside/outside" approach to organizing — what principles would you suggest using in our design of our digital product to empower people of all walks of life ?
a. Inside: engaging with communities directly
  i. Benefits from data
  ii. Identify major organizing forces - make a sortable map
  iii. Segment the data - Makes it more accessible
b. Outside:
  i. Make data accessible and reusable, should be able to be used in multiple settings
  ii. Make jargon accessible - togglable jargon? Different products for different ends?
10. Surrounding your work around green and affordable, are there any tools available for houses around the Boston area?
a. Funding - Community developers, landlords, homeowners, renters, need different funding streams. Connecting them to the right streams is difficult. Available in Hessann's website, Green New Deal Dashboard
b. Data Analysis - No tech tools to help understand disparities due to recency of research. No coherent literature body to understand this data at a neighborhood or building level.