



Santa Clara County Climate Collaborative (SC4) Introducing: the Resilience Hub Work Group (RHWG)

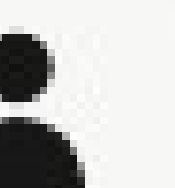



County of Santa Clara Office of Sustainability



October 30 2025

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Today we'll talk about...

- **What is resilience?**
 - What is a resilience hub.
- **How can a resilience hub help communities?**
- **Creation of the Resilience Hub Working Group (RHWG)**
 - Current Resilience Hub efforts in our County
- **How can you support this work?**
- **Next steps**

WHAT IS RESILIENCE?

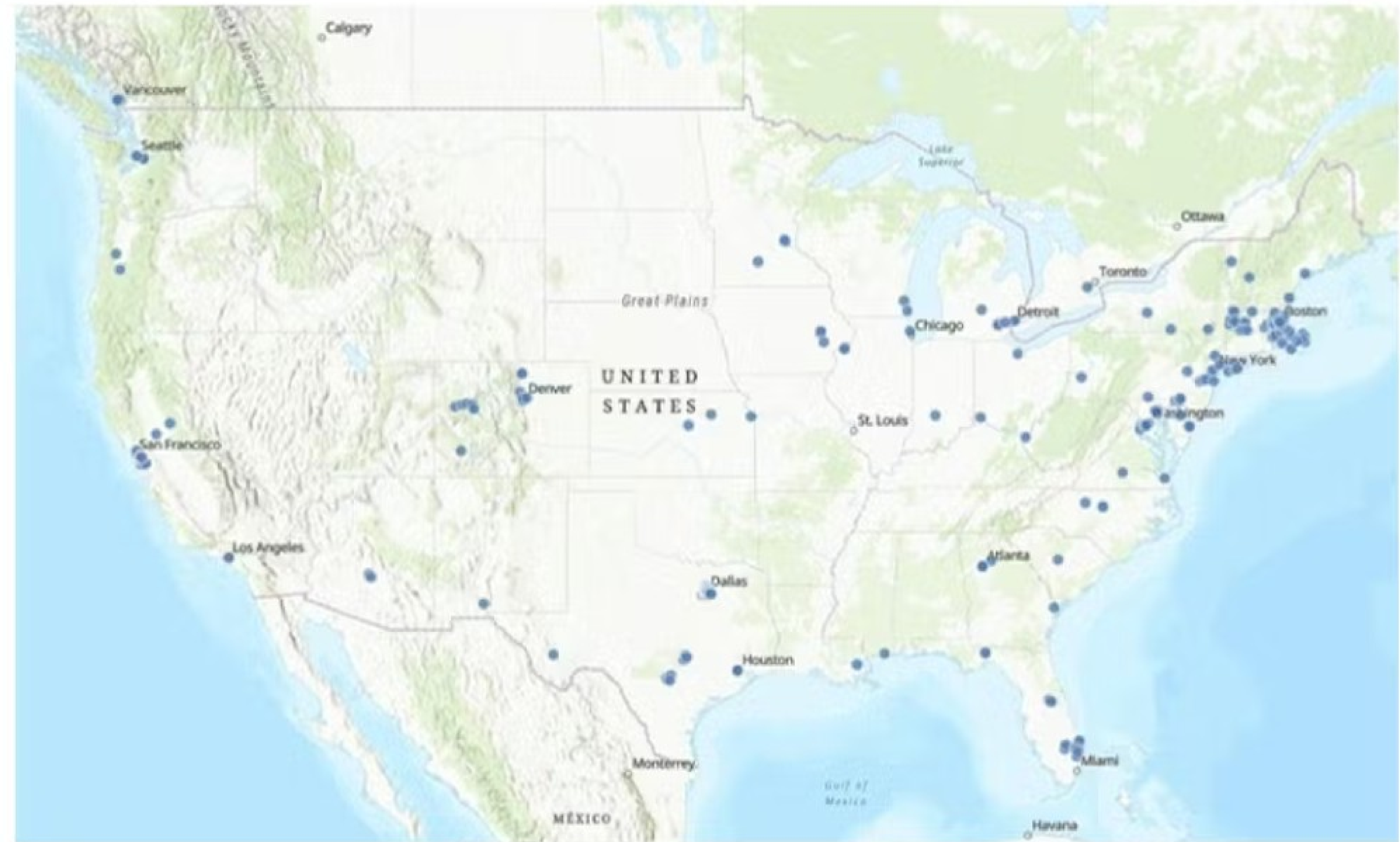
The ability to prepare for, adapt to, and recover from challenges whether they're **climate-driven, social, or economic.**



San Jose, 2017

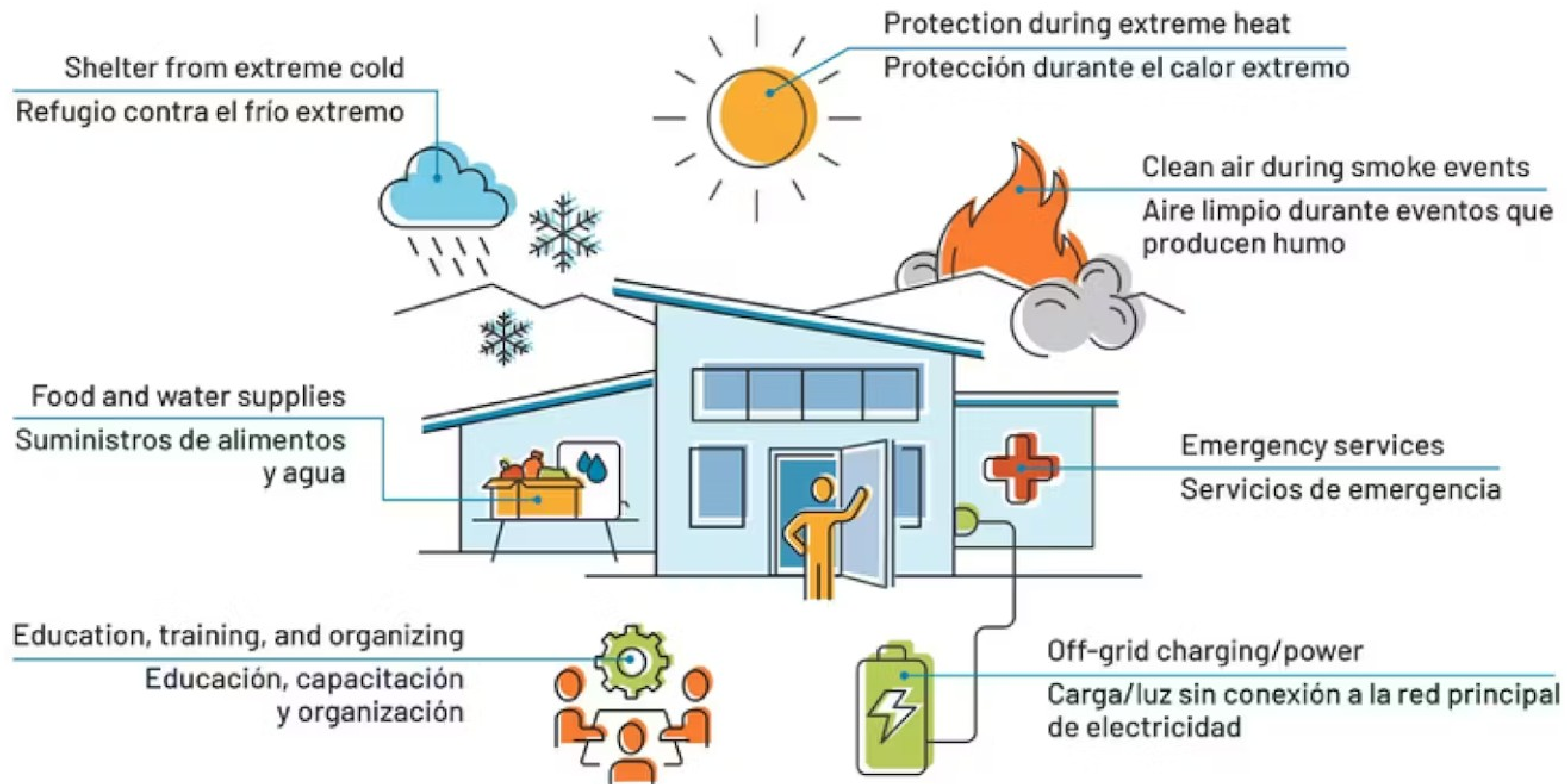
WHAT IS A RESILIENCE HUB?

Trusted, community-serving facilities that support residents before, during, and after emergencies while building everyday resilience year-round.



DHS Resilience Hub Finder

WHAT IS A RESILIENCE HUB?



Examples of Resilience Hubs

Full-Service Hub

Centralized facility offering multiple resources

- *Community-led, with institutional support*

Dedicated space that is open year round, offering programming to help create every day resilience, and is also activated during climate emergencies

Model for Resilience Hubs

Community-Led Facility | Local Institutional Support



City of Tempe, Arizona

Examples of Resilience Hubs

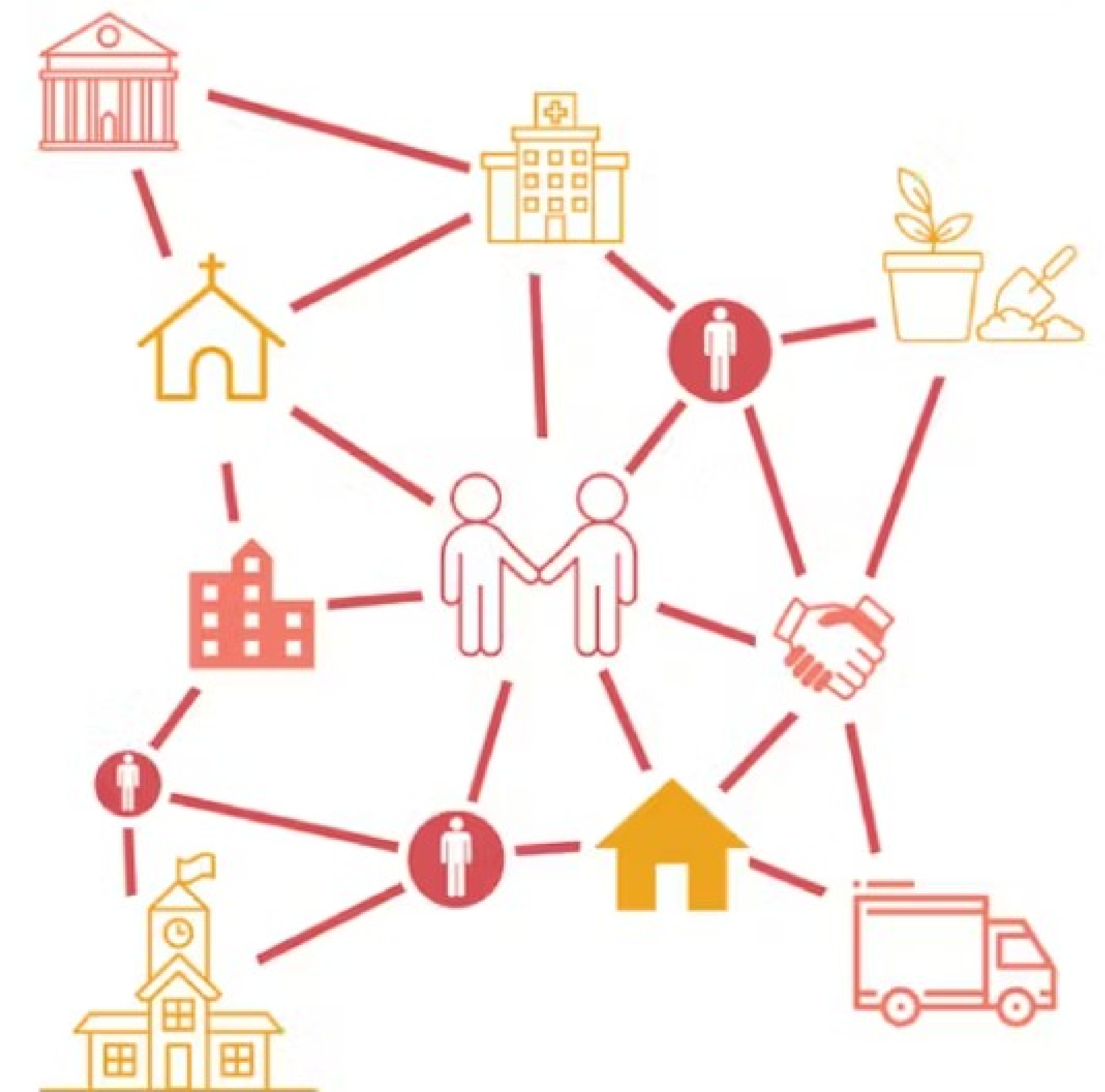
Decentralized Network

A set of smaller “spokes” connected by shared communication and coordination

- *Ecosystem of support*

Example: church, community center, library, and CBO office all offering different services but that work together towards a resilient community

A Network of Support



A resilience framework attempts to create an established ecosystem of support for their communities.

Examples of Resilience Hubs

Responsive / Seasonal

Activated during events or extreme heat.

- Firstline for emergency
- Response to an event, rather than preparing for one

Example: A school that is open to the public only during climate events



Why do Resilience Hubs exist?

- Climate change is increasing **heat, poor air quality, floods, and outages** while not all neighborhoods are equally prepared
- Traditional emergency systems don't always reach the most vulnerable.
 - **Hubs bridge** that gap by offering decentralized and/or community-based resilience.
- Aligns with the County's goals for equity and emergency preparedness.
- Investing in resilience helps communities bounce back quicker after a climate event

How Resilience Hubs Support Frontline Communities

- Provide safe, accessible spaces with cooling, air filtration, and emergency info.
- Offer year-round services (food recovery, internet access, classes, mutual aid).
- Help build community trust *before* a crisis hits. Hubs are locally led designed with and for the community.
- Increase equity by addressing both social and environmental issues at the same time

How the Working Group Came to Be

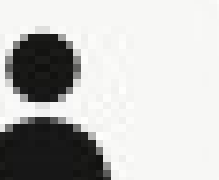
- Resilience Hubs are a hot topic!
- County Public Health Department piloted early models
- Greenbelt Alliance received SGC's Community Resilience Center grant to plan hubs in Gilroy and ESJ in partnership with CARAS, CRC, Ashes to Beauty, and Veggielution.
- Leadership Advisory Team approved formation of the Resilience Hubs Working Group (RHWG) in 2025 to connect all these threads.



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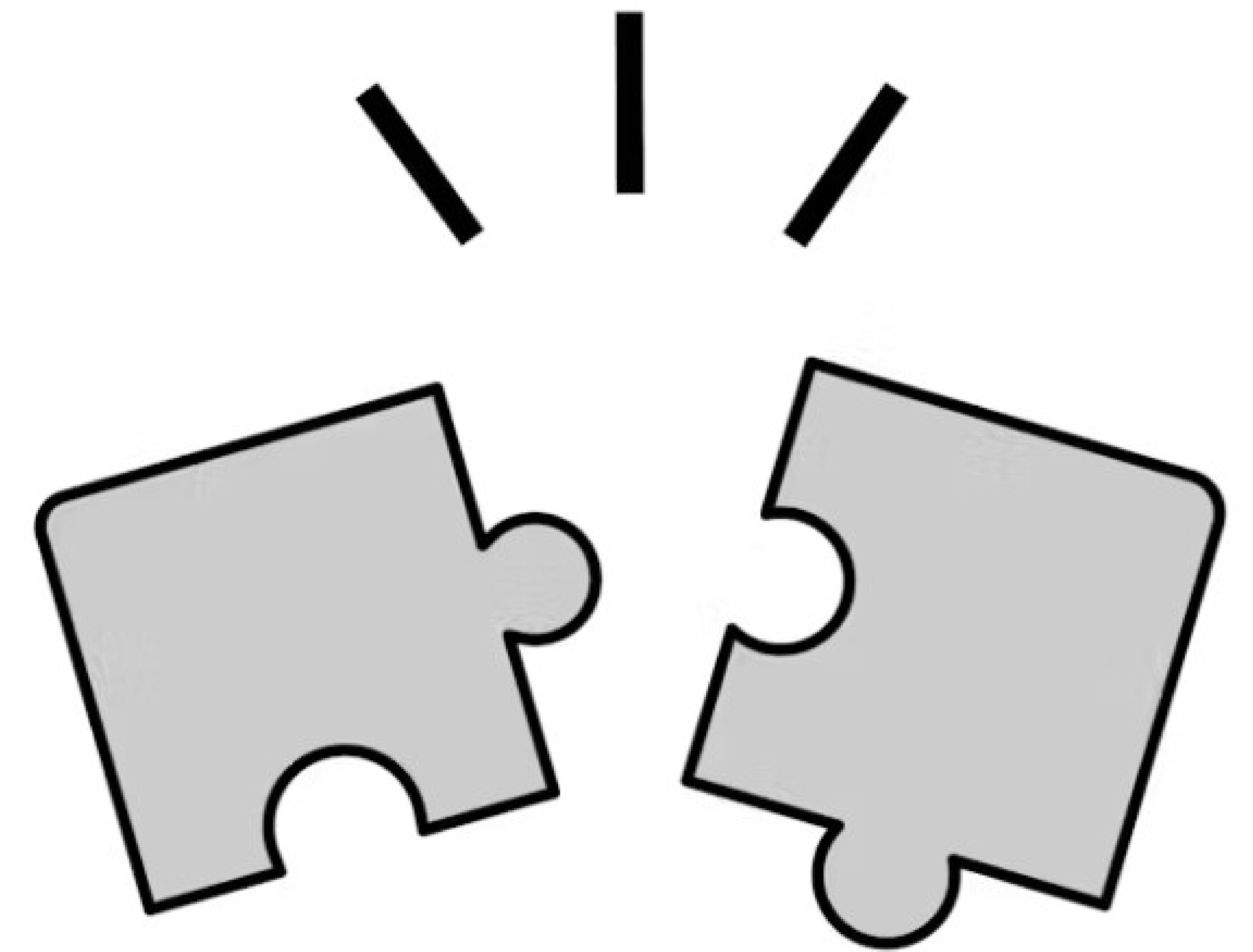
... and many
more!



How the Working Group Fits Within SC4

Resilience is a team sport! RHWG will connect and coordinate with other SC4 Working Groups:

- **Heat & Air Quality WG:** Cooling centers, public communication, extreme heat plans.
 - **Equity in Community WG:** Community-led planning and CBO capacity-building.
 - **Sea Level Rise WG:** Site planning and infrastructure resilience.
-
- **Shared priorities:** equity, health, safety, climate adaptation.



Planning Process Community Engagement **Gilroy Project Launch**

February 2025

- In partnership with CARAS
- Around 150 residents participated
- 120 surveys collected
- Provided food and childcare
- Residents learned about what is a Resilience Hub
- 15 residents participated in a focus group
- All materials/engagement offered in Spanish



Planning Process Community Engagement **Gilroy Focus Groups**

August 2025

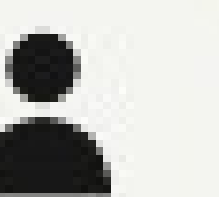
- In partnership with CARAS
- We held English and Spanish monolingual focus group
- 20 residents participated in each group, and were able to give in depth feedback on planning process and share lived experiences
- We offered a full dinner, stipends, childcare, and distributed emergency supplies



"We're given the option to skip work if the temperatures are over 100 degrees. But we don't get paid. I still have to pay rent, so I still go to work. I work in construction, we can have 10 hour days, no shade, no water, no additional breaks. I can't afford to complain. We've had people faint at work, specially soldering "
-- Gilroy Resident



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Planning Process Community Engagement **ESJ Earth Day Celebration**

April 2025

- Led by Ashes to Beauty
- Residents shared creative ways to reduce waste, reuse and recycle
- Neighborhood trash clean up
- Capacity building
- Provided food and drinks
- 10 residents participated in a focus group
- All materials/engagement offered in Spanish



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Planning Process Community Engagement **ESJ Canvassing**

September 2025

- In partnership with Ashes to Beauty, the School of Arts and Culture, BayREN, and Climate Resilient Communities
- Tabled at food distribution centers, cultural festivals and libraries
- Residents received stipends for participating in the surveys and we gave out more emergency supplies

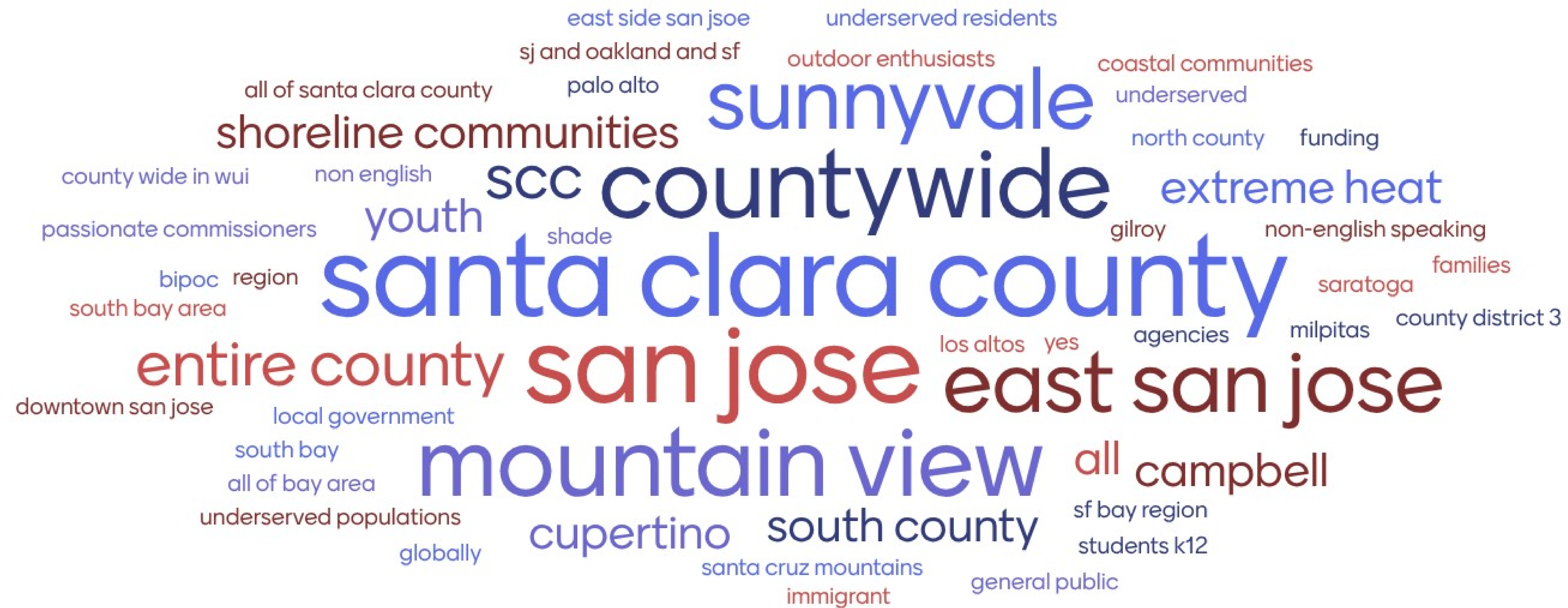


Where do you fit in?

Scan the QR code or
go to **menti.com** and enter
2625 7218



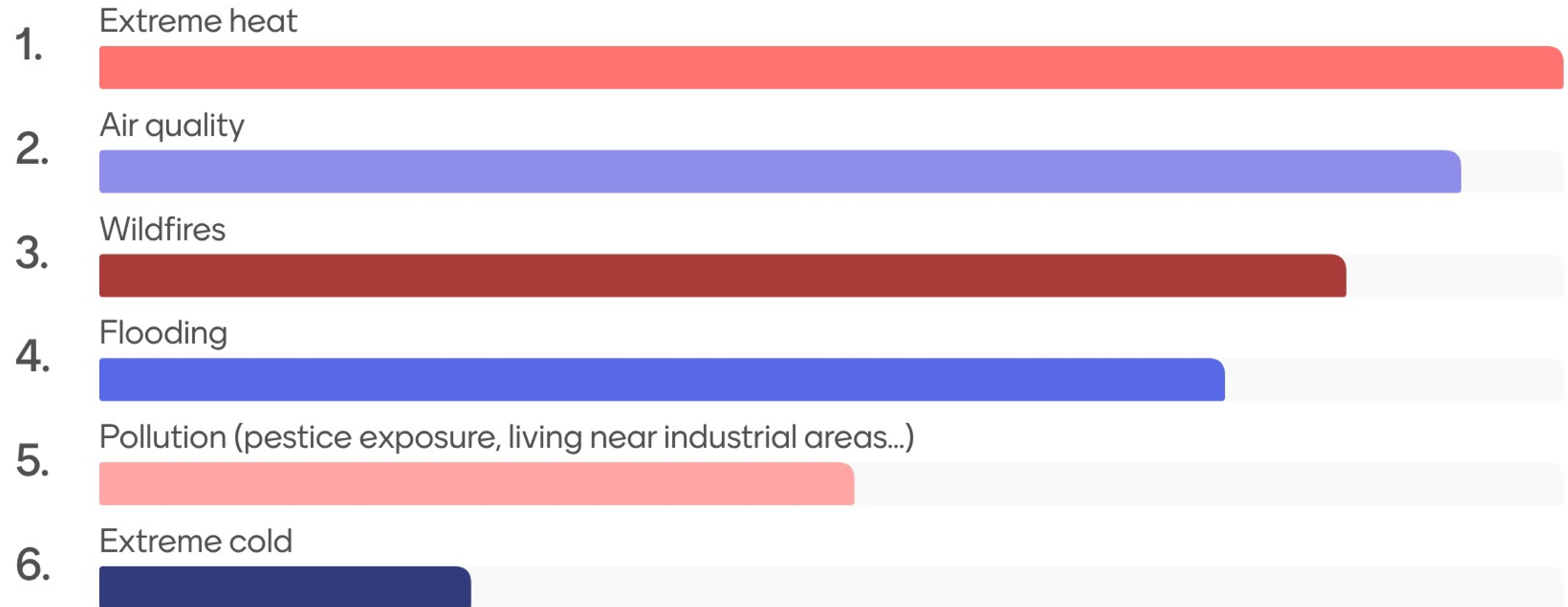
Service area: what community or area do you primarily work with or represent? (For example: East San Jose, Gilroy, Sunnyvale, South County, etc.)



Demographic: what community or group of people do you primarily work with or represent? *(For example: Latino, BIPOC, immigrant, LGBTQ+, youth, seniors)*



What's your top concern during climate emergencies?



What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Don't know

Public transit

Housing

Funding

Housing

Housing

Housing

Housing

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Food assistance

Rural areas have unreliable electricity and depend on wood and propane for heat and emergency energy

capital

Public transit

Housing

Food and housing

Public transit

Housing

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Housing

Funding

Housing

A/C

Data/statistics

Funding

Public transport

funding for resilience
projects

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Public transportation

Air quality resources

Flooding assistance

Funding

public transportation

Language

Affordabl housing

Funding

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Affordable housing

\$\$\$ for retrofitting homes and existing buildings, rebates/incentives for clean energy technology, public transit, affordable housing

Public transit

Public transportation

Public info for resources

mental health

Healthy food

Transportation to open spaces

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

First & last mile options

affordable food

Funding

Cooling
centers/spaces/places

At home AC

Foster homes

Funding

Public transit

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Public transportation

A/C, reliable power

Funding

Affordability

Affordable medical care

Commercial kitchens

Collaborative urban
greening projects

Air conditioning

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Safe spaces

Resources for the elderly

Access to community
leads

Tangible interventions
available at community
wide scale.

Resilience hubs

3rd spaces

Funding and Information

Child care

What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Funding

Affordable housing

Affordable housing

Safe spaces, need more
resource coordination

Housing

alternative
transportation

Shared transit

Equity in education

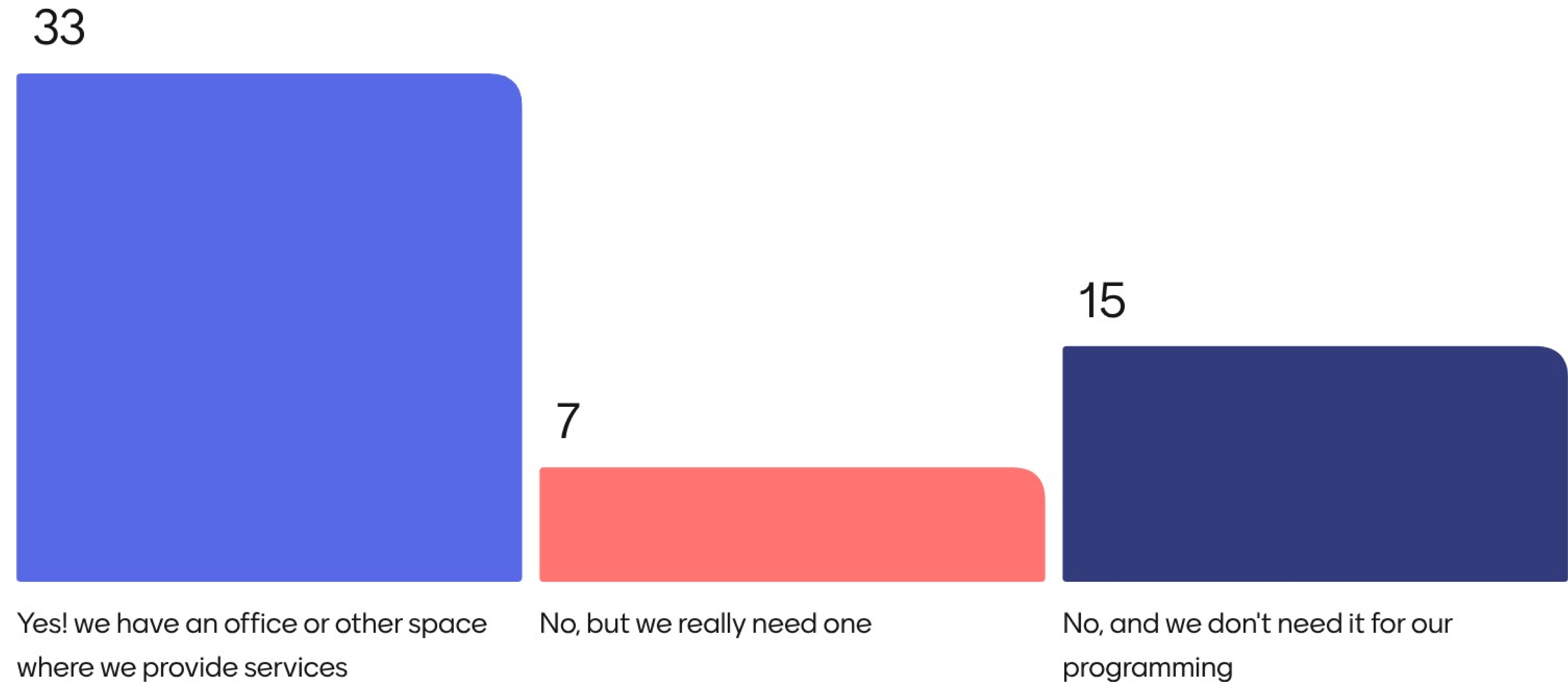
What resources are missing or hard to access in the County?

Food ac

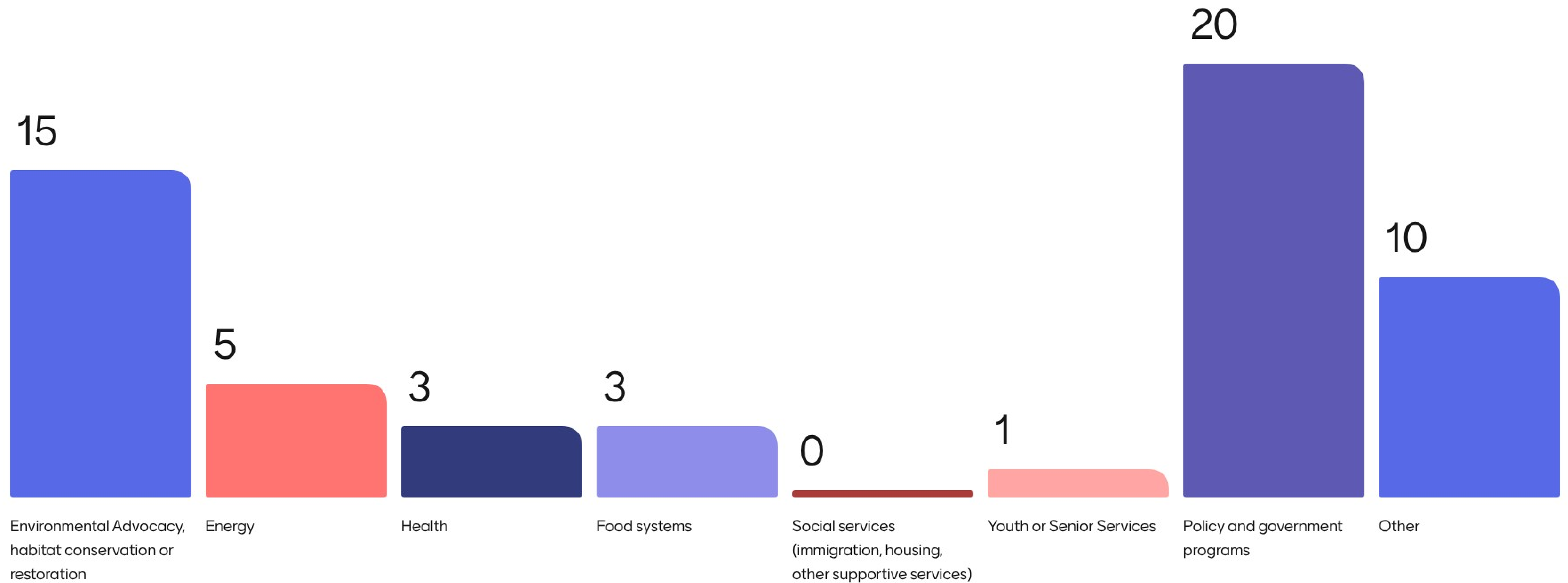
If you had to pick one, what is your community's biggest need?



Do you have a physical location where services are offered?



What is your area of expertise?



How the RHWG Will work

- Steering Committee Meetings (Quarterly, in-person)
 - For active partners directly planning or implementing hubs
 - Provides alignment, coordination, and site-focused collaboration
- Ad-hoc meetings as needed for specific grants or sites (in person or virtual)
- Community Sessions (Semiannual, in-person)
 - Open to all interested orgs and agencies
 - Focused on peer learning, new opportunities, and networking

Friday November 14 | 10:00 AM | San José *in person only*

What to Expect:

- Introductions + setting shared goals
- Review of partnership agreement + compensation
- Discussion of Local Needs Assessments from ESJ and Gilroy
- Breakout: defining the role of partners and next steps
- Who Should Attend: Active implementers and CBO partners (compensation provided).