



# Building Resilient Communities

# Project Overview



This work is supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant Number 2314180 to the Space Science Institute. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

# Building Resilient Communities Project Team

## LEADERSHIP TEAM:

<b>Dr. Anne Holland PI</b> Space Science Institute	<b>Dr. Paul Dusenbery Co-PI</b> Interactive Learning Dynamics	<b>Steph Harmon Co-PI</b> WebJunction/OCLC
<b>Dr. Noah Lenstra Co-PI</b> University of North Carolina Greensboro	<b>Sky Reid-Mills</b> Project Coordinator Space Science Institute	

## ADVISORS:

<b>Matt Bollerman</b> Hauppauge Public Library, NY	<b>Vivienne Byrd</b> Los Angeles Public Library	<b>Dr. Anne Gold</b> University of Colorado/Boulder
<b>Dr. Raj Pandya</b> Arizona State University	<b>Dennis Schatz</b> Institute for Learning Innovation	<b>April Wright</b> Network of the National Library of Medicine



## Building Resilient Communities



**Exploring how libraries and community-based organizations can work together to mitigate environmental and health-related concerns due to climate change**

### **Project Focus**

Strengthening partnerships between public libraries and community organizations to take locally relevant climate actions that address environmental and public health impacts.

### **Goal**

Empower libraries and community partners to co-create resilient, thriving environments through teamwork and action.

### **Impact**

Public libraries, alongside their partners, are leading efforts to help communities prepare for changing environments, unexpected disruptions, and new challenges—ensuring they can thrive no matter what lies ahead.



**Building  
Resilient  
Communities**



**Exploring how libraries and community-based organizations can work together to mitigate environmental and health-related concerns due to climate change**

## Key Project Deliverables

- Organize & host a national 2-day symposium;
- Publish four Background Reports;
- Conduct a national survey on public library attitudes about climate change, climate resilience, and public health;
- Develop a webinar series designed for library leaders and staff;
- Design & launch resource-rich websites hosted by the [STAR Library Network](#) and [WebJunction](#);
- Publish a post-event report summarizing key information emerging from the symposium.

# Useful Resources!

The screenshot shows the STARnet website page for "Building Resilient Communities". The page features a navigation bar with links for ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, RESOURCES, DEVELOPMENT, DEIA, MAKE YOUR CASE, and PROJECTS. The main header includes the STARnet logo and a navigation menu. Below the header is a banner image of a mountain landscape with the text "Exploring how libraries and community-based organizations can work together to mitigate environmental and health-related concerns due to climate change". A call to action box states: "A Call to Action: Climate change and its related environmental health impacts pose serious threats for many, if not all, communities. By developing and strengthening strategic collaborations and partnerships, community leaders and organizations will be better equipped to meet the social and health challenges that accompany these threats and build climate resilient communities." A globe image is shown with the credit "Credit: NASA". Below the globe is a navigation bar with buttons for SYMPOSIUM, PROJECT DELIVERABLES, PROJECT TEAM, GLOSSARY, and RESOURCES. The "Symposium Overview" section includes the Climate Action Symposium logo and text: "The symposium is scheduled for September 9-10, 2024, in Washington, D.C. at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. Approximately 35 thought leaders from a range of sectors, including public libraries, climate science, public health, STEM education, and informal learning will be invited to this event." and "The symposium goal is to catalyze action around the roles that libraries and community-based organizations can play in responding together to environmental and health-related concerns due to climate change. This collaborative event will provide current examples of climate-related programming and resources in public libraries. Symposium topics will highlight how the concept of environmental health can inform action-oriented and equitable STEM learning experiences".

## Project Webpage:

[Building Resilient Communities – STAR Library Network \(starnetlibraries.org\)](https://starnetlibraries.org)

## Background Reports:

<https://spacescience.org/edu/reports.php#BRC>

## Symposium Agenda:

[2024-SymposiumProgram-singlepage.pdf](#)

## WebJunction/Webinars & Resource Site:

[Building Resilient Communities \(webjunction.org\)](https://webjunction.org)



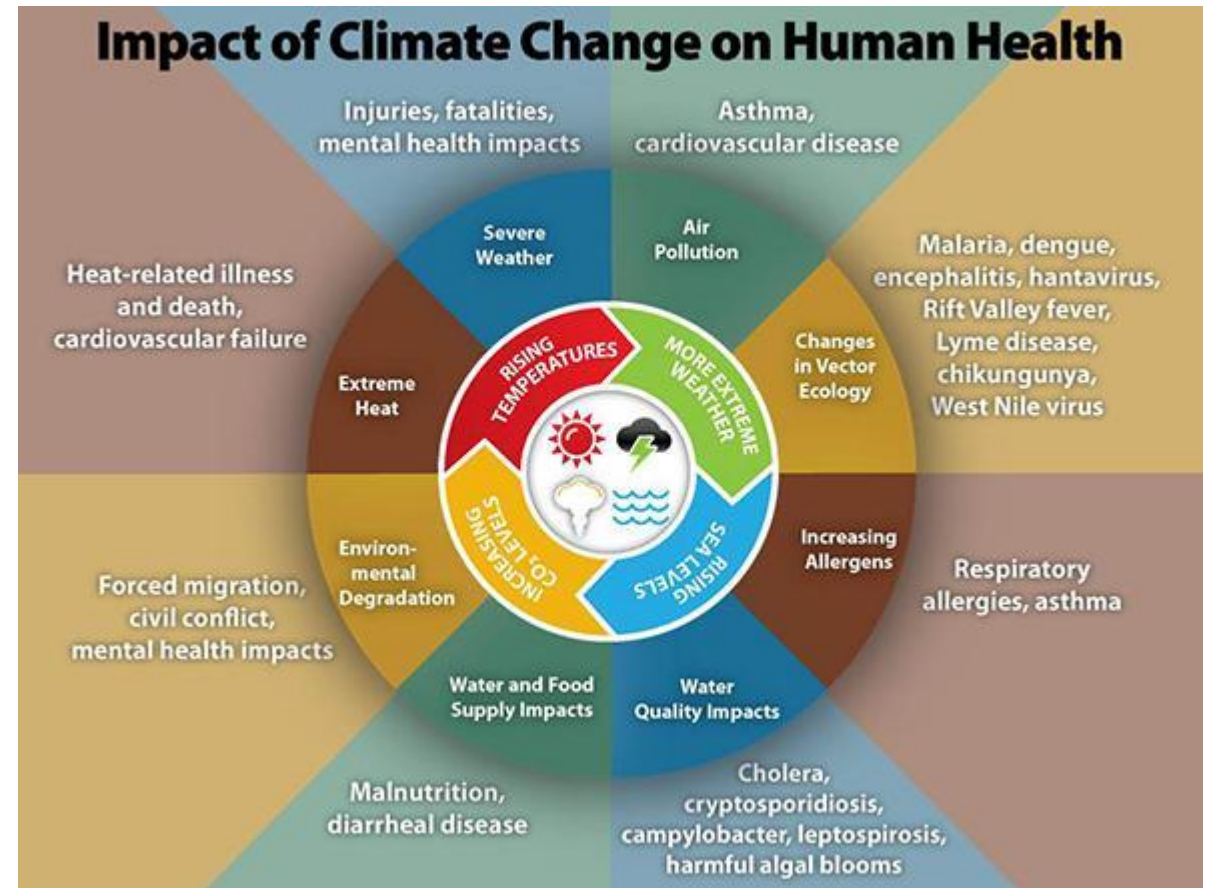


## Exploring Collaborations with Libraries, Community-Based Organizations, and Public Health Agencies

### Symposium Goal

*Catalyze action around the roles that public libraries can play with both community-based organizations (CBOs) and regional/national organizations to respond to climate change-related environmental and public health concerns.*

Credit: CDC



# Symposium Framework

Symposium sessions were organized around the 3 key tracks below (column headers). One or more items under a specific track defined topics that were considered for sessions.

<b>Building a Common Understanding</b>	<b>Creating Sustainable Partnerships</b>	<b>Taking Collaborative Action</b>
Climate Change & Public Health Communication	Whole Community Engagement	Support & Connect Existing National & Local Solutions
STEM Learning Ecosystems	Community Conversation & Collective Impact Tools	Build out Library Activities & Programs via Partnerships
Public Library Roles & Opportunities	DEI intentional focus in engagement/partnering	Share Stories & Successes to build buy-in & recognition
Community Resilience	Outreach, Promotion & Marketing Strategies	Participate in Public Science Events (Festivals)
Climate Justice & Health Equity	"Think like a forest" (stewardship)	Position Public Libraries in Community Action Plans

# What Organizations Participated?

Space Science Institute	Interactive Learning Dynamics	OCLC/WebJunction	Univ. of North Carolina Greensboro	Institute for Learning Innovation
Los Angeles Public Library	Network of the National Libraries of Medicine	Hauppauge Public Library	Univ. of Colorado Boulder/CIRES	Arizona State University
NSF, EPA, CDC, IMLS, NOAA	Blue Marble Librarians	DC Public Library	Communities Responding to Extreme Weather	Burroughs Wellcome Fund
CCCC/George Mason Univ.	Climate Resilience Project/Flagstaff AZ	American Library Association's Climate Action Initiative	Association of Rural and Small Libraries	AGU's Thriving Earth Exchange
Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation	Association of Science Technology Centers-Seeding Action Initiative	Climate Resilient Communities (Bay Area, CA)	Natural History Museum of Utah	IGES/GLOBE/NASA
California State Library	Arizona State University	American Public Health Association	Assoc. for Advancing Participatory Science	Belfast Maine Library
State Library of California	National League of Cities	Metropolitan Group/DC	Gulf of Maine Research Institute	



# Short-Term Symposium Outcomes

- Introduce climate change communication frameworks that incorporate health narratives.
- Examine different types of collaboration and partnership models that contribute to STEM learning ecosystems.
- Learn the critical importance of engaging public libraries as valued partners.
- Understand that climate resilience involves intentionality around health equity and climate justice.



**Climate  
Action  
Symposium**

September 9-10, 2024  
Washington, DC



**Exploring Collaborations with Libraries, Community-Based  
Organizations, and Public Health Agencies**

# Sample Session Highlights



# From Pissed to Powerful: Shifting the Narrative to Achieve Climate Justice

**Surili Sutaria Patel**

Vice President & Environmental Health Lead



Metropolitan Group

the power of voice



# Climate Resilience Project: Flagstaff, AZ

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Promote individual and community resilience to climate change in Flagstaff through shared discussions, work supporting existing resilience initiatives, and fostering a supportive, intergenerational community environment.



# Climate Resilient Communities (Bay Area, CA): Youth Climate Collective



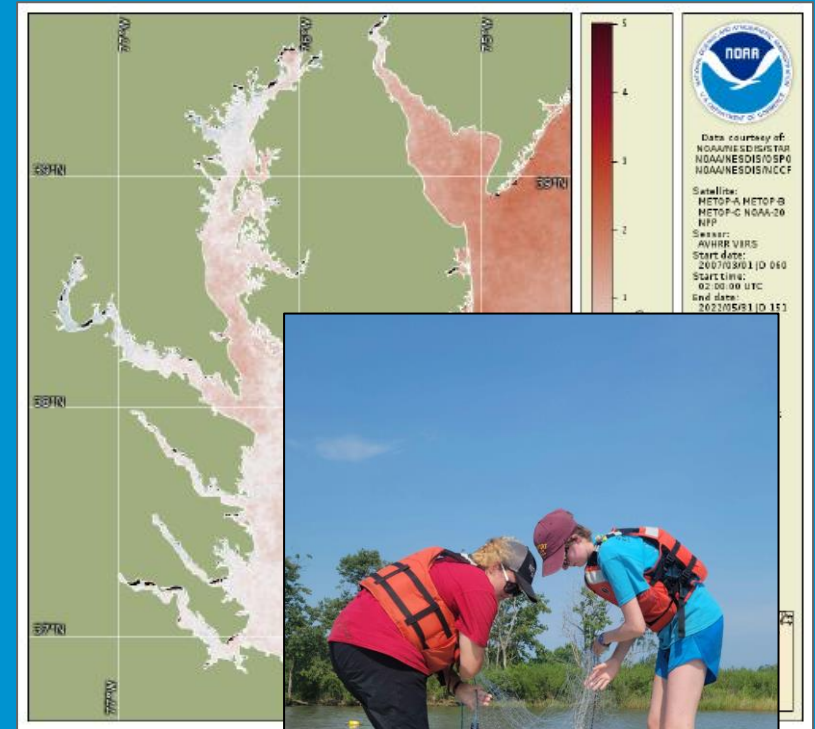




# NOAA



Habitat Science  
 Observations  
 Oyster Restoration  
 Community Partnerships  
 Sustainable Fisheries  
 Climate Resiliency  
 Environmental Literacy





# What is Neighborhood Science?

- Public participation in **real scientific research** as **collaborators** to contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge.
- Turning curiosity and concerns into impact.



Vivienne Byrd, Los Angeles Public Library



# Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)

## Who are we?

- IMLS is an independent federal grant-making agency and the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums.
- Two grant offices: Office of Library Services and Office of Museum Services

## Funding Opportunities (Libraries):

- Native American Library Services: Basic Grants
- Native American Library Services
- Native Hawaiian Library Services
- National Leadership Grants for Libraries
- Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Program



## Curiosity-Driven Science (Learning & Public Engagement)

GORDON AND BETTY  
**MOORE**  
FOUNDATION

janet.coffey@moore.org

EDU | DIRECTORATE FOR  
STEM EDUCATION

## EDU Mission & Investments

To develop a diverse and well-prepared U.S. STEM workforce and STEM-literate public by supporting excellent research and development in STEM education.

STEM Learning  
and Learning  
Environments



Broadening  
Participation &  
Institutional  
Capacity



STEM  
Professional  
Workforce  
Development



National Science Foundation  
Directorate for STEM Education (EDU)

Preparing a diverse STEM workforce and a well-informed citizenry

[15]


# CLIMATE AND HUMAN HEALTH

BURROUGHS  
WELLCOME  
FUND

Up to \$50,000 Seed Grants - many types of non-profits  
\$375,000 Interdisciplinary Grants - primarily academic  
\$10,000,000 Institutional Grants - academic

www.bwfund.org



A large colony of puffins is gathered on a rocky shore. In the foreground, several puffins are visible, including a dark-colored one on the right and several black and white ones on the left. The background is filled with a dense crowd of similar birds, extending to the water's edge. A light blue rounded rectangle with an orange border is centered over the image, containing the text "Session 13: Seeking Synergy".

**Session 13:  
Seeking Synergy**



**Climate  
Action  
Symposium**

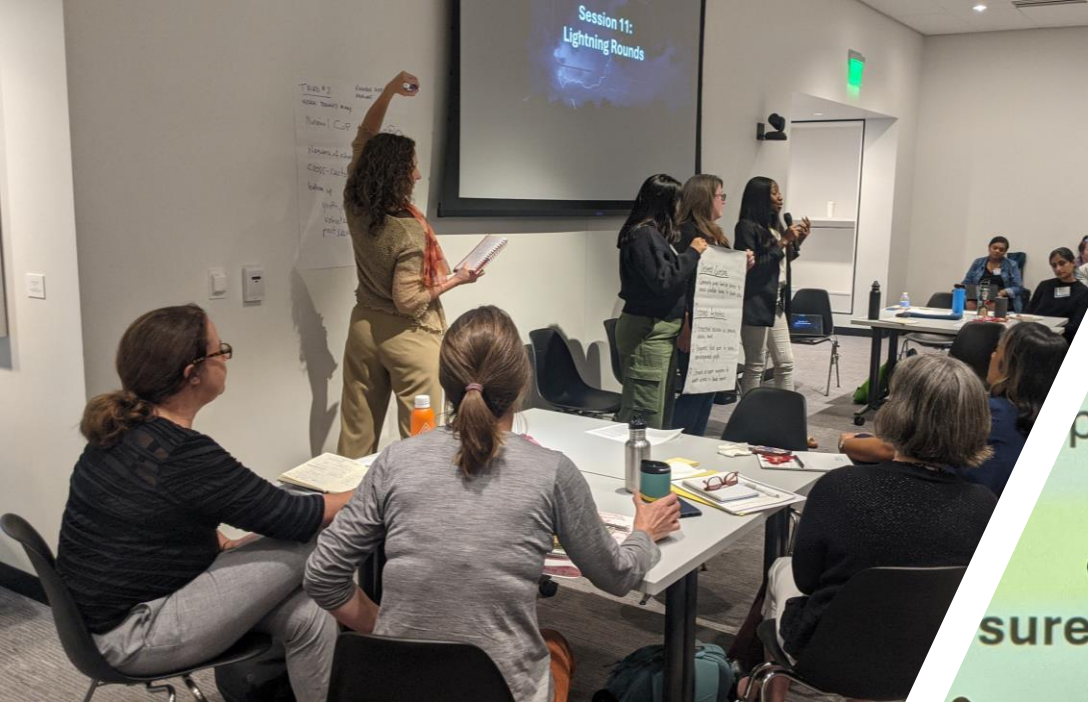
September 9-10, 2024  
Washington, DC



**Exploring Collaborations with Libraries, Community-Based  
Organizations, and Public Health Agencies**

# **A few Photos from the Symposium**

















Credit: Engineers Without Borders

Credit: Healthy Climate Wisconsin



Credit: Danbury Public Library

