

# BUILDING A NETWORK

The Resilient Nation Partnership Network



FEMA



Resilient Nation  
Partnership Network

# ABOUT US

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Who are we? The RNPN has representation from over 1,600 organizations, including academia, the private sector, nonprofits and government agencies united to create a more resilient nation.







## THE RNPN PRIORITIES

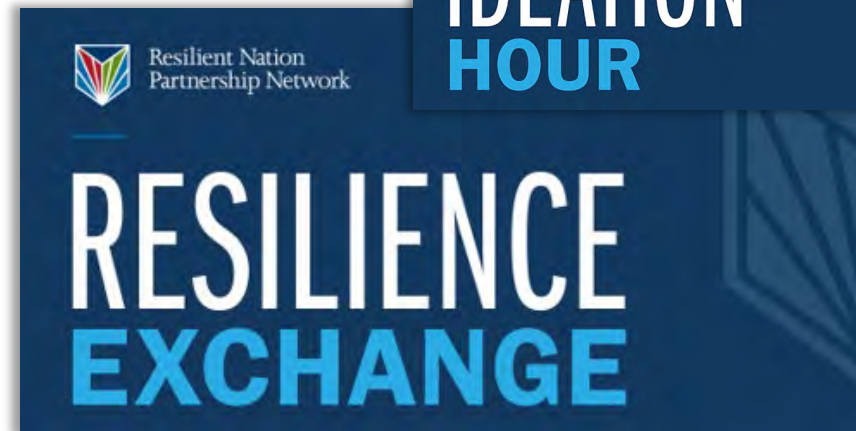
1. Promoting natural hazard mitigation and climate adaptation actions.
2. Advancing equitable resilience initiatives.
3. Expanding capacity through partnerships.

Visit our website at [fema.gov/rnpn](https://fema.gov/rnpn) to learn more.

# HOW PARTNERS PARTICIPATE

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- The Resilient Nation Roundup
- Resilience Exchanges and Ideation Hours
- The Annual Partnership Forum



# The Resilient Nation Roundup

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- The newsletter is designed to provide an opportunity for partners to highlight recent initiatives, news, updates and events centered on resilience.
- Submissions are accepted on a monthly basis via email to [FEMA-ResilientNation@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-ResilientNation@fema.dhs.gov)

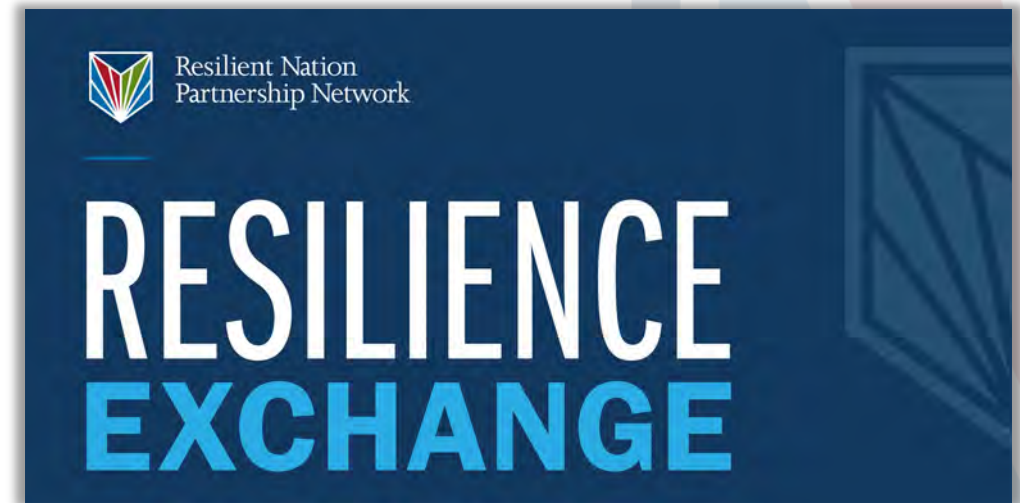




# Resilience Exchanges

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- Moderated monthly learning sessions on a specific subject.
- Experts in a particular area of natural hazard resilience share knowledge and advance conversations
  - Topics included: Seismic Risk, Resilient Decision Making, Equitable Resilience
- Averages about 250 attendees per month



# Ideation Hours

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- Quarterly, freestyle event that allows participants to freely share ideas, foster connections and pursue collaborative opportunities on a pre-determined topic.
- Topics included:
  - Defining Adaptation, Rural Resilience, Extreme Heat Resilience
- Averages 200 attendees per event



# Insights and Reflections

- “Insights and Reflections” captures the themes and top takeaways from each discussion with input from the panelists.
- This resource is shared with participants and the greater Network and is available on the [RNPN website](#).

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## Insights and Reflections: February Ideation Hour

The Resilient Nation Partnership Network (RNPN) and the Department of Homeland Security Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships hosted the February 2022 Ideation Hour. The gathering explored how to strengthen climate equity for the Whole Community.

The virtual event included four breakout:

- Promoting climate resilience through youth engagement.
- Fostering resilience at the neighborhood level.
- Building equity into mitigation actions.
- Building climate literacy: Where do we start?

Key talking points, considerations and resources follow.


### 1. PROMOTING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

**Key Points and Considerations**

- **Meaningful youth engagement involves inclusive, intentional and respectful partnership.** Change the power dynamic between youth and adults. Elevate diverse perspectives. Integrate these voices and insights into the programs and policies that affect their lives.
- **Kids can do more than you think.** Empower them to drive change.
- **Youth demand action.** We've been talking about climate change our whole lives. Now we need different ways to share what's needed for our future. Establish guidance systems in line with genuine progress on equity, justice, biodiversity and a sustainable relationship with our planet.
- **Education is essential.** Start youth engagement and environmental science lessons early. Children learn like sponges. As we grow to understand the climate change and literacy topics that are most important to youth, we can design programs that lead to action.
- **Engagement needs to be driven by the lived experience of young people.** We need to make it relevant and place-based.

**Resources and Projects**

- **Action for Climate Emergency (ACE)** educates, inspires and supports young people to lead the fight for their future. They see a world where a global movement, rich in youth leadership, has turned the tide on climate change. They believe an equitable, biodiverse, carbon-neutral future is still possible.



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## Insights and Reflections: Arts and Adaptation


On March 30, 2022, the Resilient Nation Partnership Network (RNPN) hosted a Resilience Exchange on the connection between arts and adaptation. The gathering highlighted how art can create meaningful connections and encourage resilience projects. The key points and considerations from the panel discussion are listed below.

**Key Points and Considerations**

- **Art is the marriage of communication, emotional connection and learning.** Natural hazard resilience and preparedness hinges on effective communication and learning. This makes art an apt component of effective resilience projects.
- **Start small.** Begin by choosing more accessible art and resilience projects. Evaluate the strategies as they progress and scale the pieces that are working.
- **Partnerships are everything.** Create an asset map of who can help achieve your goals. Partner with organizations that can connect your organization to areas of expertise it may not have. Build mutually beneficial relationships to elevate each other's projects. Working with the arts might be new, but there are experienced arts partners who can guide you.
- **Incorporate art as early in the process as you can.** Keep in mind how to design a safe and beautiful space. This can also help secure community interest.
- **Use art to humanize mitigation, adaptation and resilience.** Art can reveal how resilience projects affect real people. People will likely be more interested and supportive of a resilience project when they see the humanity in it, not just facts and figures.
- **Practice + Imagination = Increased preparedness!** A "sunny day" gathering of any kind (but especially a festival or large event) can be an opportunity to practice the activation of infrastructure pieces that would also be deployed during adverse conditions. Additionally, it would serve as a fun convening point for different sectors to become acquainted and consider "stormy day" organizational needs.

**Projects and Resources**

Panelists and participants shared the projects and resources listed below during the event. The inclusion in this list is not an endorsement by FEMA or the federal government.



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March 2022 1



# THE RNPN 2020 FORUM: “Alliances for Equity”

## 2020 Forum Overview

- Co-hosted with the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
- 26 organizations represented by speakers
- Watch at [www.fema.gov/rnpn](http://www.fema.gov/rnpn)

**ALLIANCES FOR EQUITY**  
2020 VIRTUAL FORUM SERIES

RESILIENT NATION PARTNERSHIP NETWORK  
**2020 ANNUAL FORUM**  
30+ SPEAKERS 4 WEDNESDAYS 1 MISSION

Resilient Nation Partnership Network

OCTOBER 7, 2020, 10:50 AM

**October 7: Let's Talk Equity**

A talk by Bridget Bean, Deeohn Ferris J.D., Dr. Atyia Martin, Dr. Monica Sanders, Dr. Louis Uccellini and Chauncia Willis  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Institute for Sustainable Communities, All Aces, Inc., The William Averette Anderson Fund, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) & Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management (I-DIEM)

**Live Chat**

provoking. Using the terminology "infected" is a powerful way to describe the biases that we have all been surrounded with.

Sean Boyd 1 minute ago

Thank you, Dr. Martin, for your your dynamic and insightful presentation!

Alexa Masardi 1 minute ago

Big fan of all of these three ladies' work, this is fantastic!

Message...

# “Building Alliances for Equitable Resilience” Resource & Audio Stories

BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR EQUITABLE RESILIENCE | REMEMBERING AND INCLUDING THE VOICES OF NATIVE PEOPLE

“ Tribal/Indigenous people are the First People of this nation, survived forced relocations and removals from traditional homelands, and are now emerging as the leaders in climate change adaptation and mitigation. True, long-term partnership and engagement are required and needed.


– NIKKI COOLEY, Diné Nation; Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR EQUITABLE RESILIENCE | NOTHING ABOUT US, WITHOUT US

“ Most of the signs of a struggling neighborhood can be attributed to local disinvestment, but just because a neighborhood does not receive local investment does not mean that the neighborhood has not created a community with inherent worth.


– JAKE WHITE, National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders



**BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR EQUITABLE RESILIENCE**

ADVANCING EQUITABLE RESILIENCE THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS AND DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES

April 2021

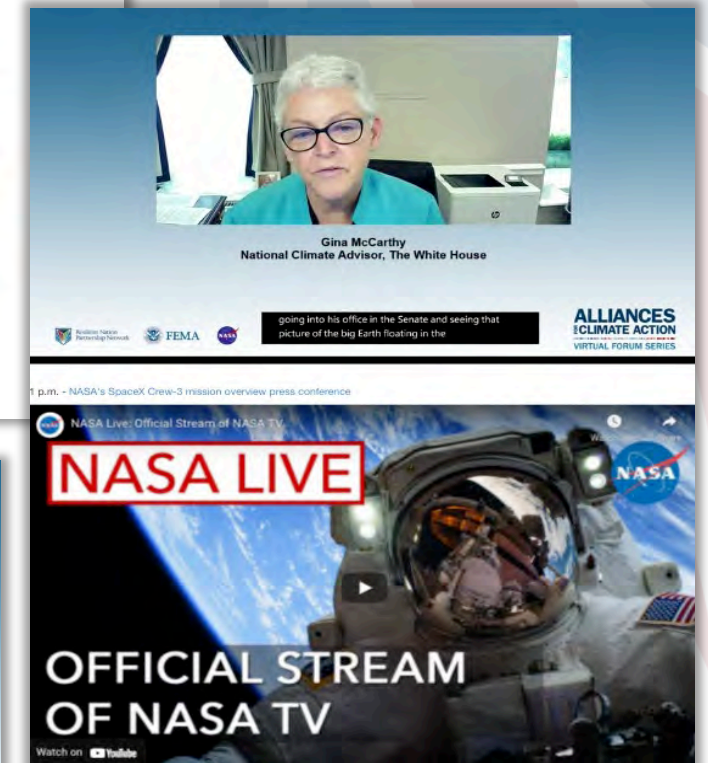




# THE RNPN 2021 FORUM: “Alliances for Climate Action”

## 2021 Forum Overview

- Co-hosted with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Over 3,000 viewers
- More than 30 organizations represented by speakers



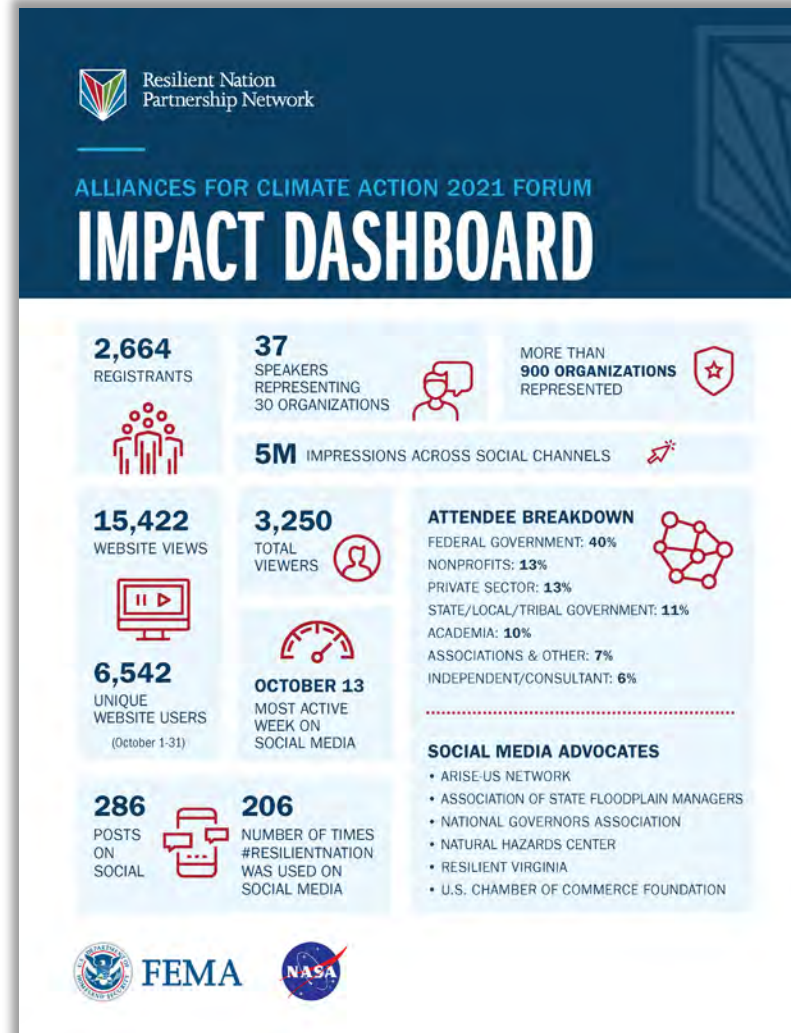


# THE RNPN 2021 FORUM

## 2021 Forum Highlights:

- 3,250 total viewers.
- 2,664 total registrants.
- More than 900 organizations represented.
- Watch all four sessions here:  
<https://www.fema.gov/rnpn>
- “Alliances for Climate Action” Resource coming spring 2022!

*“The experience of hearing from all levels around the country was fantastic. I learned a great deal and it energized me to do more.”*  
(2021 attendee)



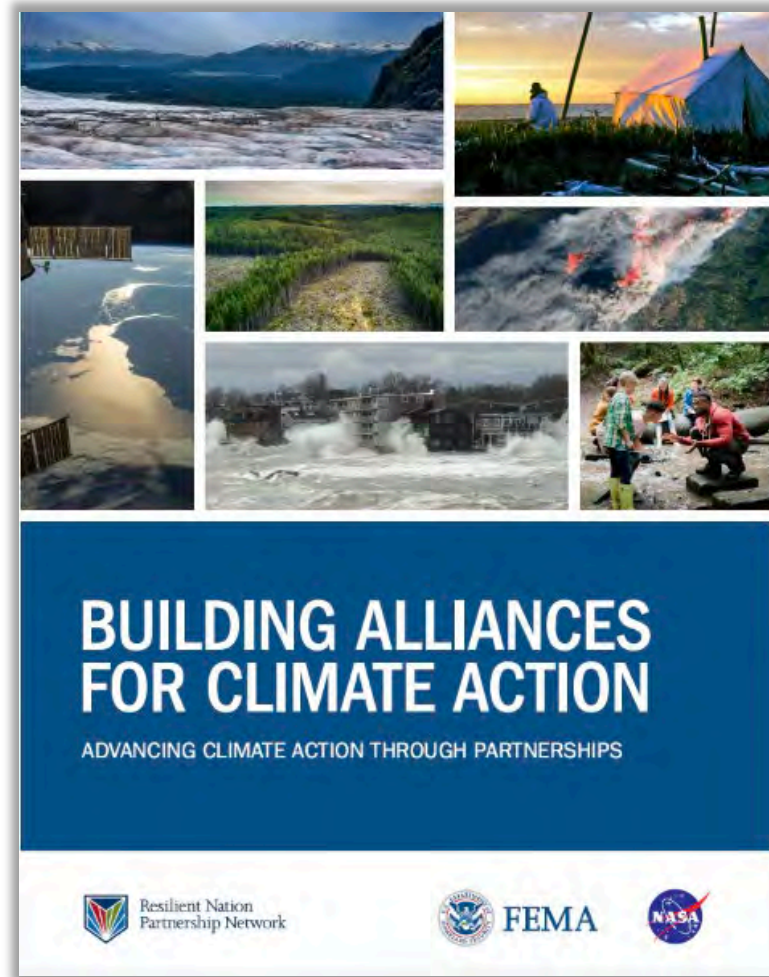
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# “Building Alliances for Climate Action” Resource

Released in spring of 2022, this co-created resource represents a unifying voice, providing partner perspectives, personal stories, insights and resources the Whole Community can use to address climate change.



# THE RNPN 2022 FORUM: “Alliances for Inclusive Resilience”

## 2022 Forum Overview

- Co-hosted with the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative (MRCTI)
- Featured 34 speakers from 32 unique organizations.

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# ALLIANCES FOR INCLUSIVE RESILIENCE

## VIRTUAL FORUM SERIES

FEMA MRCTI

Resilient Nation Partnership Network

# ALLIANCES FOR INCLUSIVE RESILIENCE

Join the RNPN and leaders from the private and public sectors as we discuss how to build community trust and advance community resilience for all.

**SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT:**

 <b>KRISTEN AVERYT</b> Senior Climate Advisor, Office of NOAA	 <b>VICTORIA SALINAS</b> Acting Deputy Administrator, FEMA	 <b>ERRICK SIMMONS</b> Mayor of Greenville, Mississippi	 <b>SYDNEY SNOW</b> Climate Policy and Advocacy Director, OAI	 <b>LAURA PAUL</b> Executive Director, Lower Main Organization
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**Additional speakers include:**  
 Melissa Aho, Policy Director and Chief Resilience Officer, Washington State Department of Natural Resources  
 Stacy Bennett, Behavioral Science Associate, World Resources Institute  
 Ron Harris, Chief Resilience Officer, Minneapolis, Minnesota

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5TH 1-3 P.M. ET

RESERVE YOUR SPOT

Questions?  
 FEMA\_ResilientNation@fema.dhs.gov  
 fema.gov/rnps

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## DAY TWO

### Making Resilience Priorities Complementary

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12TH 1-3 P.M. ET

RESERVE YOUR SPOT

Resilient Nation Partnership Network

# ALLIANCES FOR INCLUSIVE RESILIENCE

Join the RNPN and leaders from the Whole Community as we explore how to unify resilience and equity across key sectors.

**SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT:**

 <b>GLORIA MONTANO GREENE</b> Deputy Undersecretary, Farm Production and Conservation, U.S. Department of Agriculture	 <b>DR. LUELLA TONI LEWIS</b> Principal, Health Equity Center	 <b>COMMISSIONER BRIDGET SHEA</b> State Court, Texas	 <b>CARLOS ALBERTO VELAZQUEZ</b> Program Director, Institute Renewable Energy Council (IREC)	 <b>MAYOR SHARON WESTON-BROOME</b> Baton Rouge, Louisiana
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**Additional speakers include:**  
 Rahim Usman, Project Director, Resilient Communities Program, Massachusetts Project Tribal Nation  
 Heather Holinger, Senior Climate Policy Specialist, Office of the Secretary of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation  
 Cely Miraglia LaFontaine, National Director of Climate Resilience and Land Use, GreenLink USA  
 Commissioner Victoria Beahm, Ramsey County, Minnesota

MRCTI



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## Quotes from our Partners

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"I strongly encourage you to check out FEMA's [RNPN]. I can't heap enough praise on the work that this has done to provide an effective national platform for best practices, case studies, sector collaboration, and more. I'll go as far as to say I find it a shining example of how federal agencies are able to [affect] positive change and progress on emerging issues without being overly prescriptive – this is genuinely a stakeholder-driven effort." –*Pacific Disaster Center*

"...it has been such a pleasure working with you and the FEMA team, and I am excited to see how the work can continue because it demonstrates such an amazing linkage between grassroots and government and art, which I love. I also am tremendously appreciative of the visibility that this platform has provided RedLine. There were folks from DC and Baltimore on the call that have reached out since to connect with our work, and as a tiny organization, this is so helpful to our communications and outreach efforts, thank you! –*RedLine Contemporary Art Center*

"On a separate note, we, at NWF, are thankful for the newsletter and the Resilient Nation Partnership broadly as a source of excellent information to our coastal work. This is a great excuse for all of us to get connected and if we can help you in any way in the future just let us know." –*National Wildlife Federation*

"I just want to give a shoutout to everyone in [the] Resilient Nation Partnership Network. It is a cool thing and I'm so excited about it." – *former White House National Climate Advisor, Gina McCarthy*

# STORIES OF RESILIENCE: VOICES THAT INSPIRE

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## Share your story at [fema.gov/rnnp/stories](https://fema.gov/rnnp/stories)

- We want to learn more about **your** journey toward resilience. Share your wins and challenges to help others learn from your experience.
- You can submit photos, video, audio or text about your resilience journey.
- *Tip:* Share your story about natural hazards or climate adaptation in under three minutes.



# Share your story!

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- Share your personal resilience journey with changemakers from across the nation.
- [www.fema.gov/rnnpn/stories](http://www.fema.gov/rnnpn/stories)



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# LEARN MORE

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For more information and to join the distro list,  
email: [FEMA-ResilientNation@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-ResilientNation@fema.dhs.gov)

Website: [www.fema.gov/rnpr](http://www.fema.gov/rnpr)



**Bradley Dean**  
Partnerships Lead  
Resilient Nation Partnership Network  
[bradley.dean@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:bradley.dean@fema.dhs.gov)

