

the **women's** **HOME**®
Building whole lives



Learning Objectives

1

Learn how non-profits are well situated to pivot and respond to community need during times of disaster.

2

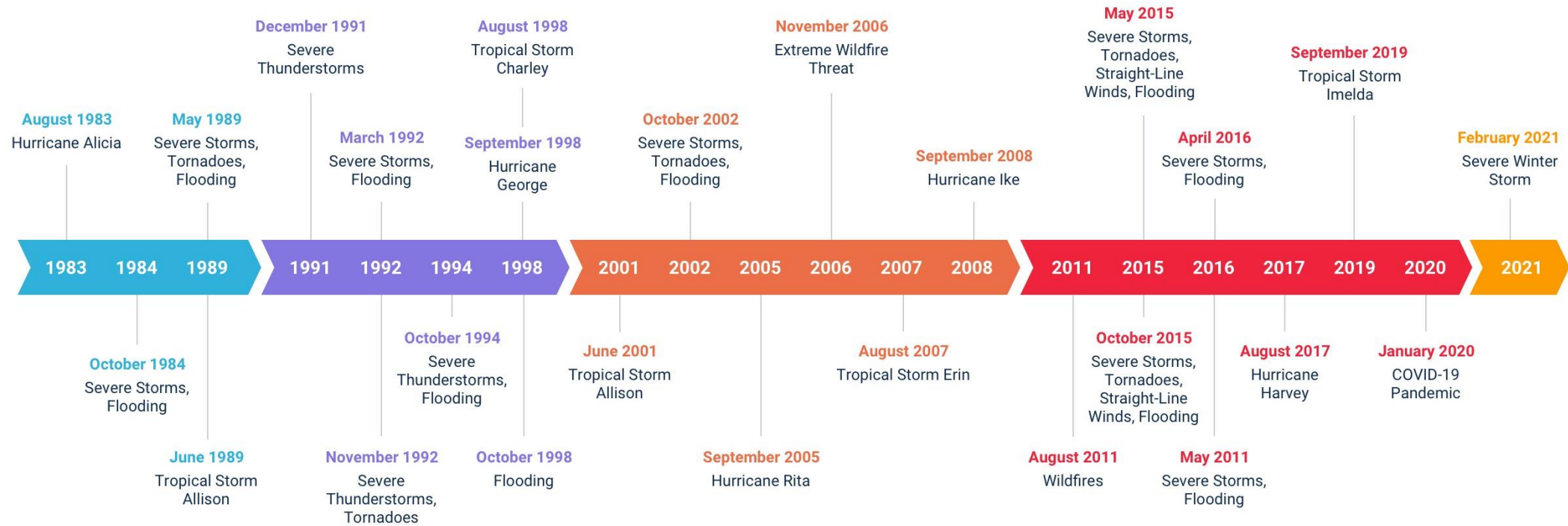
Gain a deeper understanding of how to apply your superpowers and strengths to assist with disaster response and recovery efforts.

3

Obtain strategies to develop and execute disaster preparedness plans as well as work with other organizations to increase impact.

Houston has experienced 10 emergencies in the past 10 years.





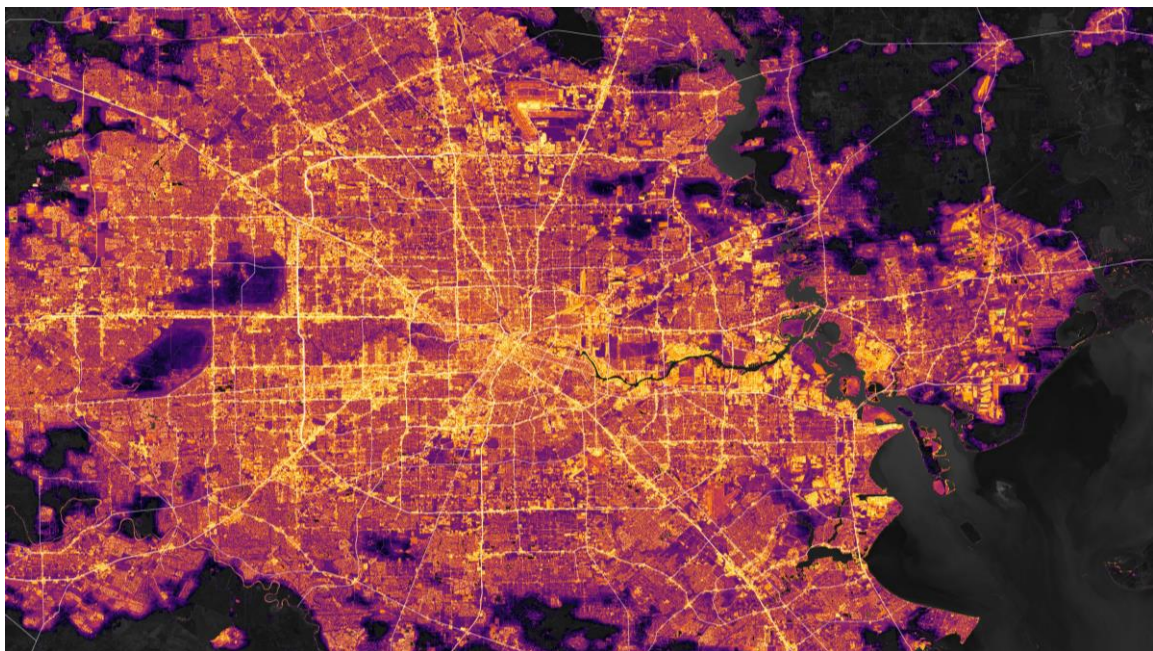
28 disasters in 41 years...



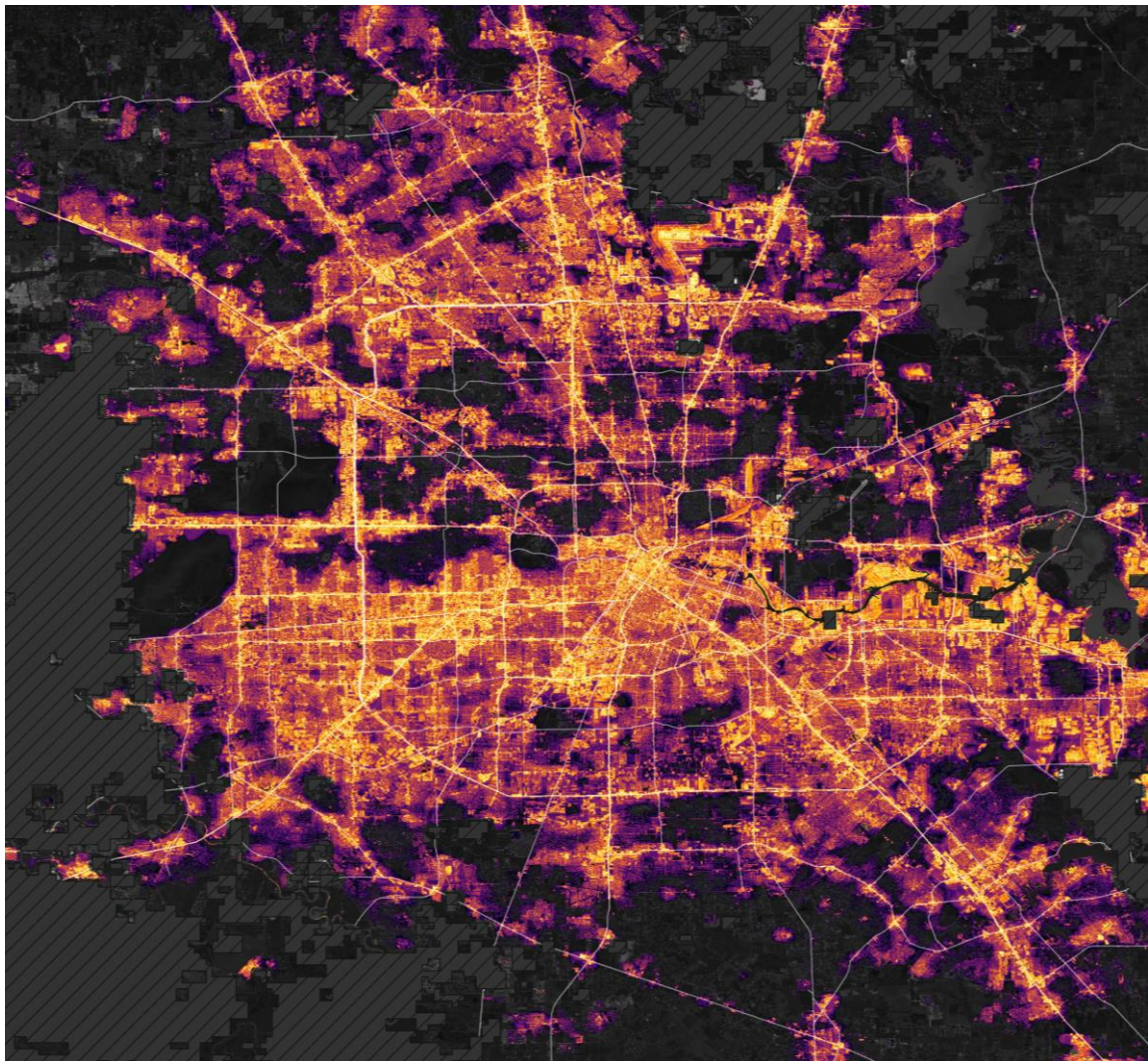
The Derecho Storm (May 2024)

9 Fatalities

\$1.2 Billion in Damages in Houston, TX



Houston Before the Derecho Storm



Houston After the Derecho Storm

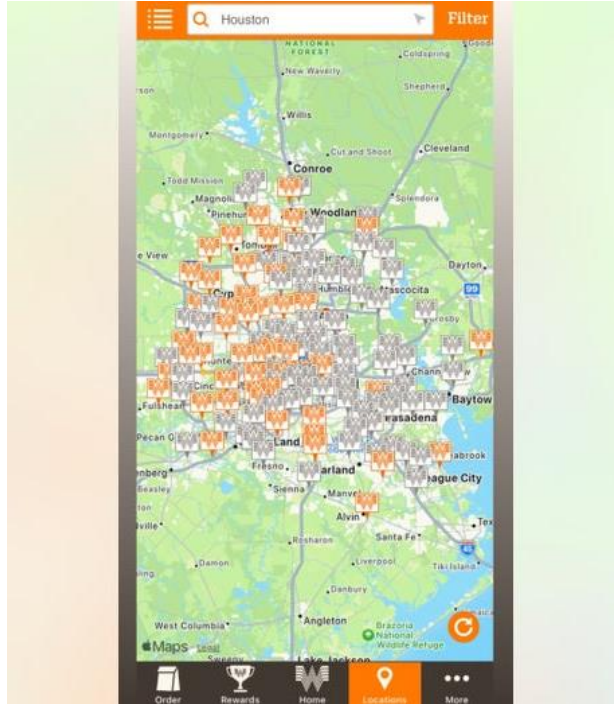


Hurricane Beryl (July 2024)

42 Deaths

\$32 billion in damages in the Houston, TX Area



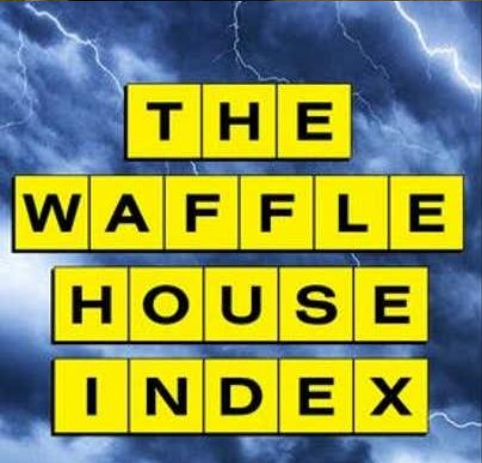


The Whataburger Index





The Waffle House Index



The Waffle House Index is an informal metric named after the restaurant chain to determine the effect of a storm and the likely scale of assistance required for disaster recovery.

GREEN

Full menu: the restaurant sustained little or no damage and has full power

YELLOW

Limited menu: the restaurant is running out of food or has limited power

RED

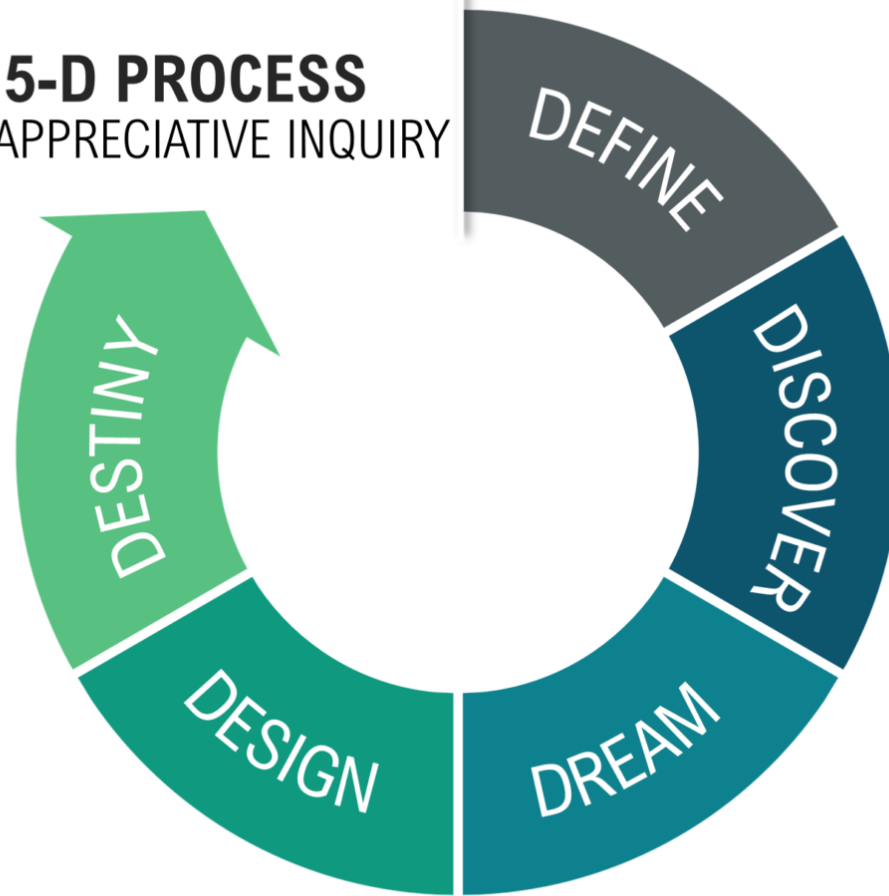




It's all so
overwhelming...
how do I begin to
respond?

Appreciative Inquiry Process

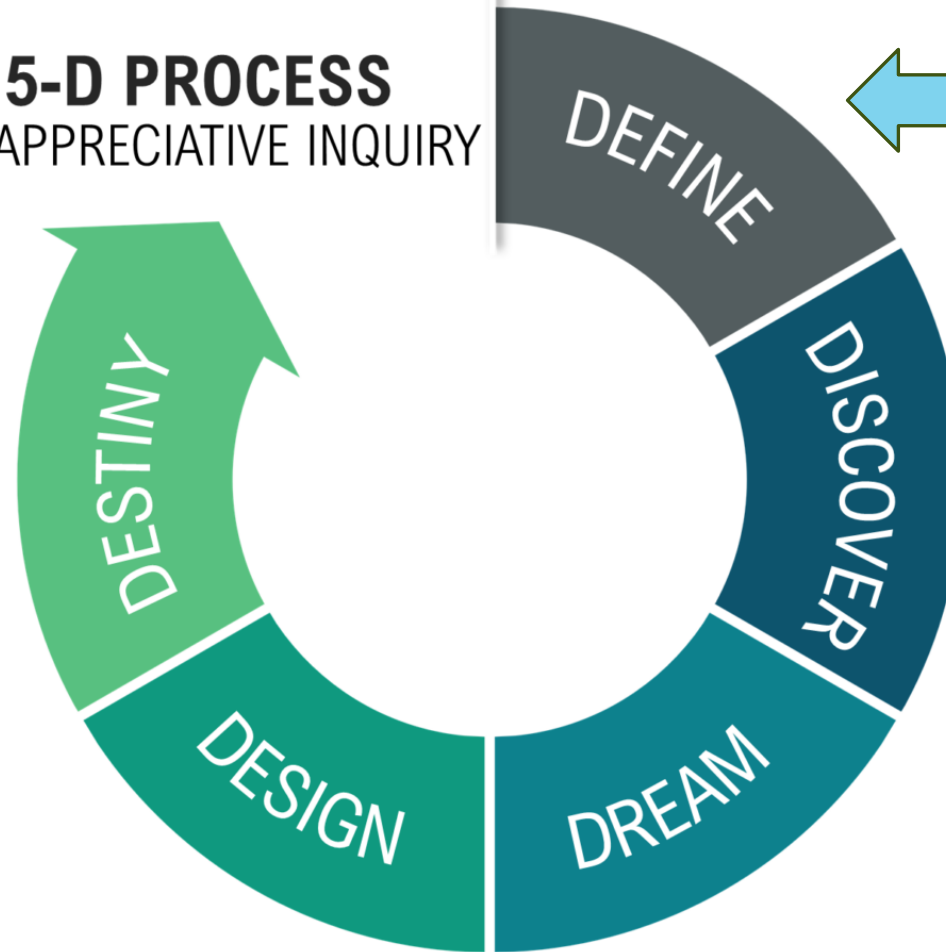
5-D PROCESS
OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY



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Step 1: DEFINE

5-D PROCESS
OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY

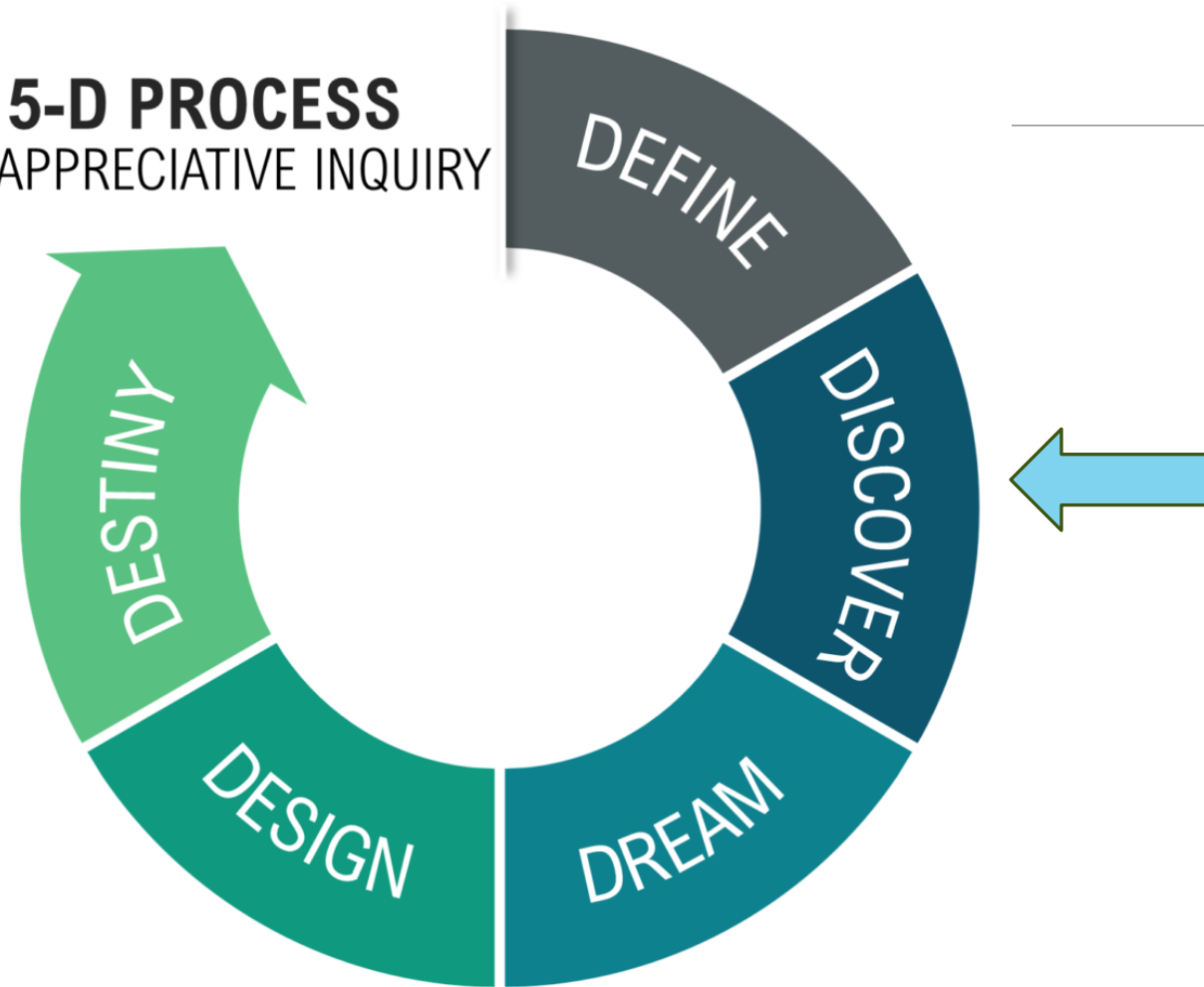




DEFINE: How
do non-profits
help in times
of disaster?

Step 2: DISCOVER

5-D PROCESS
OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY



Discover Exercise

In groups of 2-3 people, share a story about a disaster situation that was effectively addressed by an organization.

What happened?

Why was it successful?

What were the key elements that made it successful?

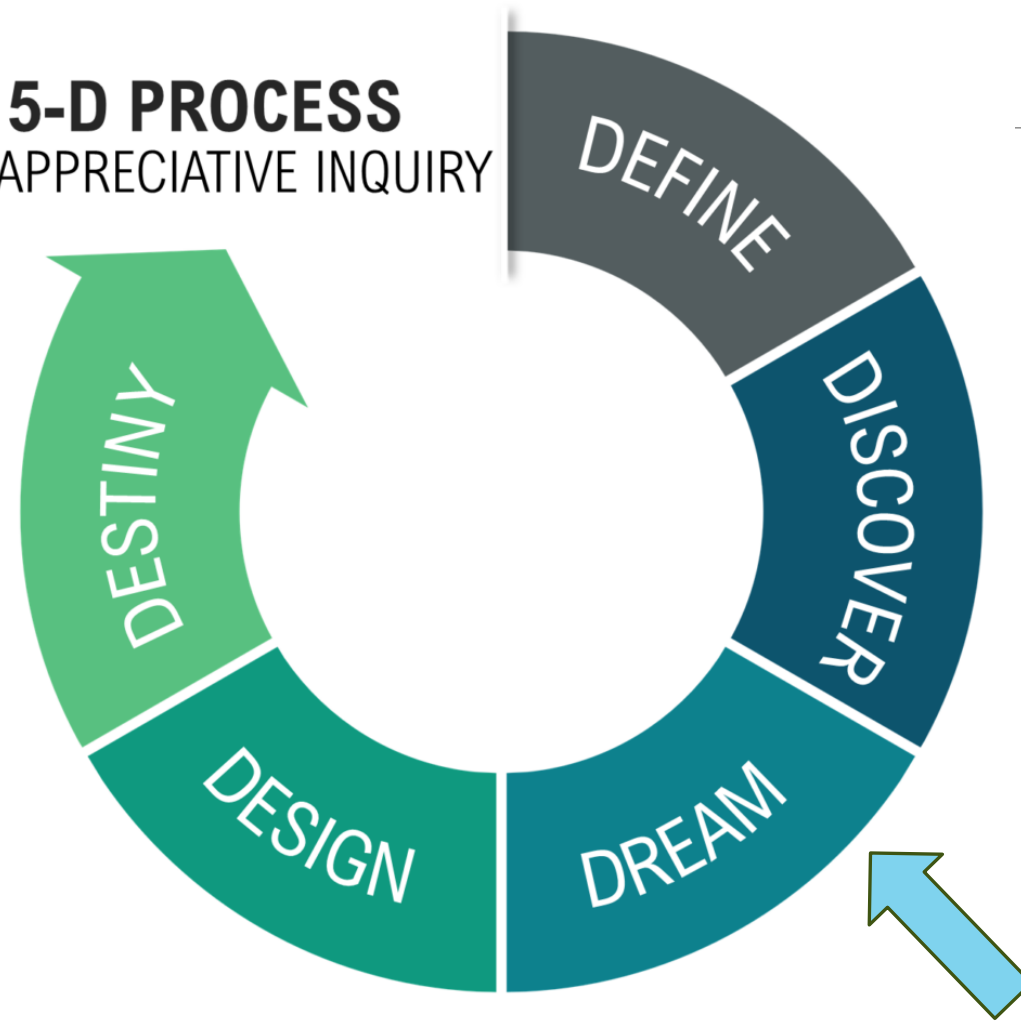


Key Learnings from Discovery

OBSERVATIONS FROM
PARTICIPANTS WILL
BE RECORDED HERE.

Step 3: DREAM

5-D PROCESS
OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY



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Dream Exercise

Think about your organization and the emergencies that it might face.

If you had the ideal response during a disaster, what would it look like?

What would the headline be in the paper?

How would you share it with your supporters and community?

Share your thoughts in groups of 2-3 people.



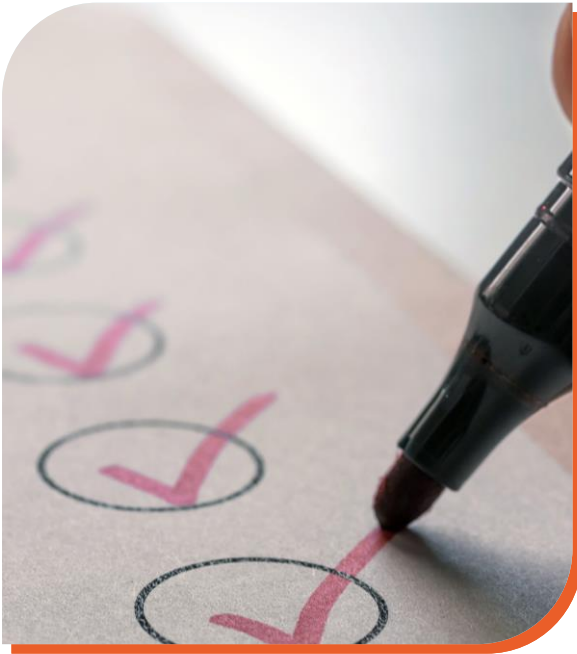


SVG • PNG • DXF • EPS

Tips for Times of Disaster – “Be Prepared”

BE PREPARED.

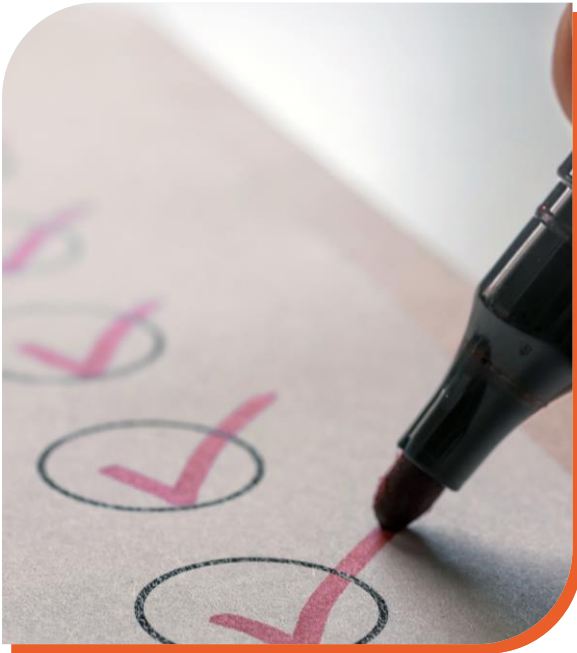
Disaster Preparedness Checklist



1. **Develop a Written Emergency Preparedness Plan *** - Include who is responsible for each task, how communications will be delivered, procedures for before/during/after an emergency, supply list, HR policies (i.e. Hazard pay, remote work policy, etc.), identify response teams, as well as special considerations for your staff and the populations you serve.
2. **Be familiar with Emergency Preparedness Plan**- know your role and responsibilities, understand your organization's plan, ASK QUESTIONS for clarity.
3. **Stockpile Supplies in Advance** – Order and keep emergency supplies on hand before an event occurs including shelf stable food, bottled water, batteries, flashlights, electric or gas-powered generators, first aid kits, prescription/OTC meds, cigarettes, special activity supplies/things to keep people busy, cleaning supplies and PPE.

**Executive Team*

Disaster Preparedness Checklist



4. Build Relationships in Your Community – Build ongoing relationships with other non-profits, funders, OEM, government agencies, churches, individuals, City/County/State representatives

5. Safety/Emergency Preparation Meetings – Develop a staff committee to develop and test emergency plans before an event occurs.

6. Prepare a Personal Disaster Plan - Create a plan for your personal life. Test it out and update periodically before a disaster occurs. This will allow you to be ready to step in as a first responder or essential staff in the workplace.

Tips for Times of Disaster – Be Proactive



Proactive Tips for Addressing Disasters



HOST EXECUTIVE
MEETINGS 1-2X DAY TO
ADDRESS EMERGING
NEEDS AND FACILITATE
TIMELY DECISION
MAKING *



KEEP AN OPEN AND
HONEST LINE OF
COMMUNICATION WITH
STAFF AND
SUPPORTERS*



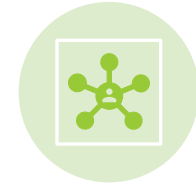
MAINTAIN ONGOING
COMMUNICATION WITH
FUNDERS AND PUBLIC
OFFICIALS ABOUT YOUR
NEEDS*



CONDUCT REGULAR
WELFARE CHECK-INS
WITH STAFF AND
CLIENTS



SEND OUT RESOURCES
AS THEY BECOME
AVAILABLE



HAVE CLEAR
COMMUNICATION WITH
CLIENTS ABOUT YOUR
ORGANIZATION'S
SERVICE CAPACITY
DURING A DISASTER



STAY UP TO DATE ON
THE LATEST NEWS AND
FILTER IMPORTANT
INFORMATION

**Executive Team*

Tips for Times of Disaster – Act with Empathy and Trust

Act with

Empathy and Trust.



Empathy and Trust in Action

Conduct regular welfare check-ins with staff and clients

Take the leap – buy what you need and trust the funding will come

Ask your supporters to trust you and un-restrict funding

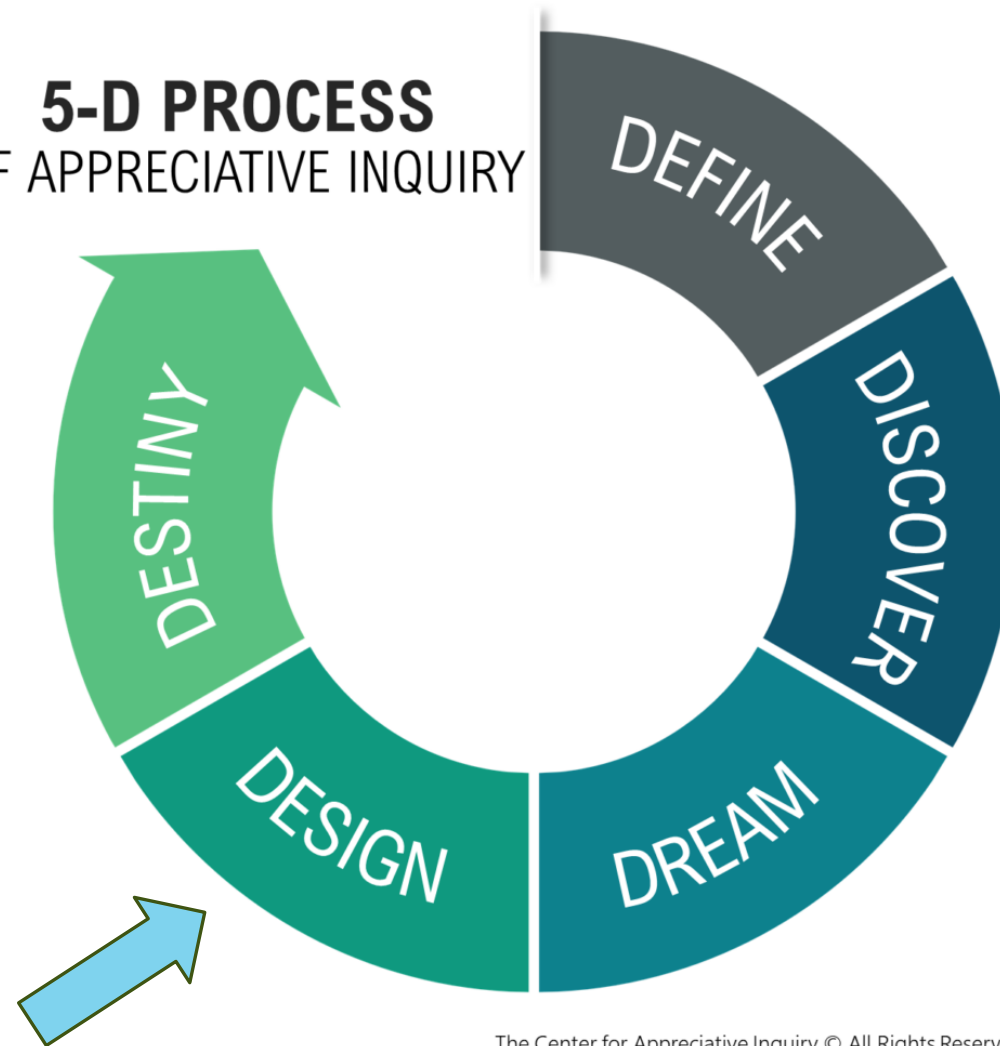
Lean into the strengths of your team

Set reasonable expectations of your staff

Figure it out!

Step 4: DESIGN

5-D PROCESS
OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY



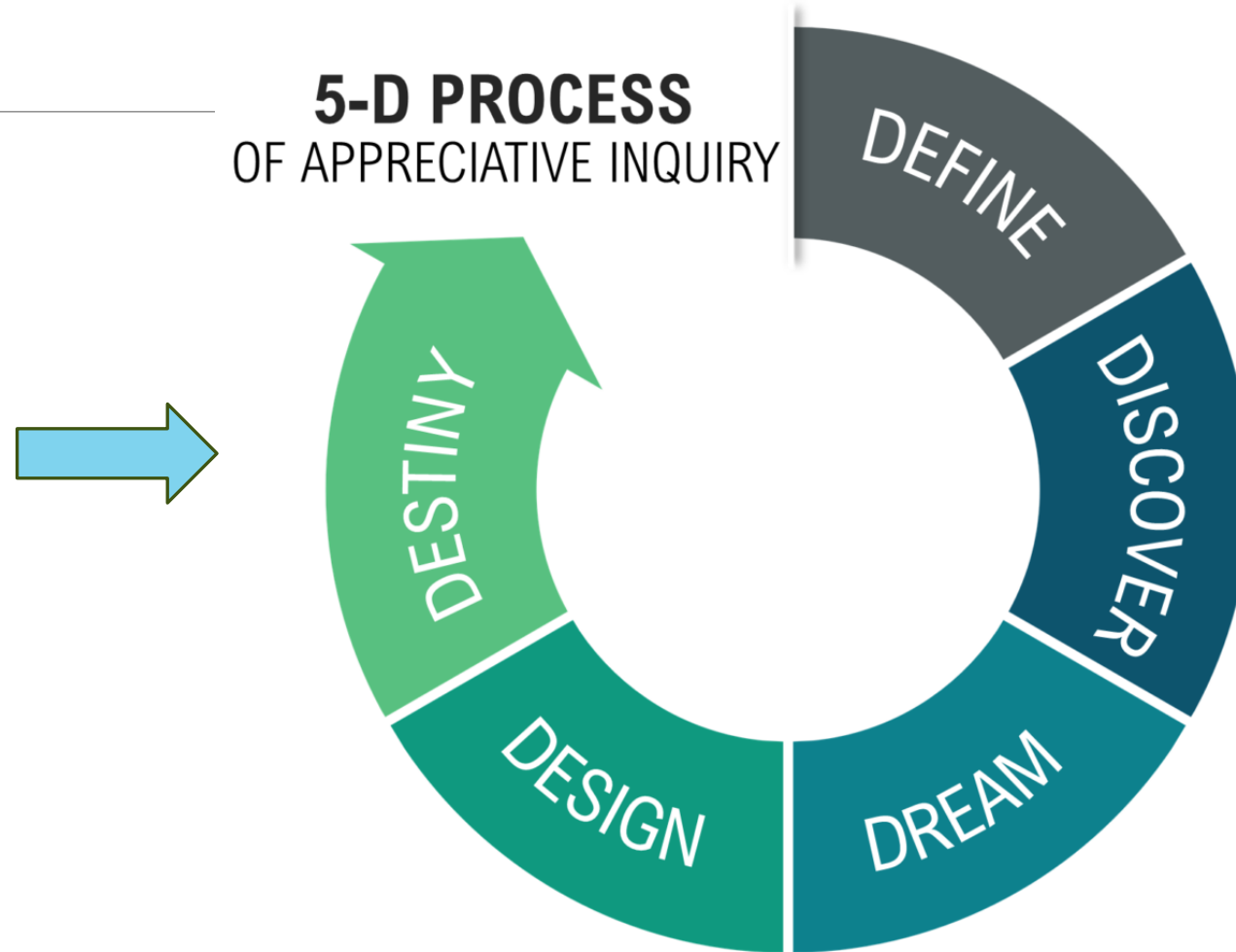
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Design Exercise



Write down 2-3 action steps you can take now to prepare for the next emergency in your community.

Step 5: DESTINY





13 Tips for Leaders in Times of Disaster

Q & A

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your
face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his
hand.



Harnessing Your Superpowers in Times of Disaster

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