



# Land Access & Opportunity Board

## Community Resilience Hub Award Information Sheet

### Phase 1: Letters of Intent

The Land Access and Opportunity Board (LAOB) is offering a **Community Resilience Award** to support **Community Resilience Hubs** in Vermont.

These funds are meant to help communities meet needs that are not being met right now. The main goal is to help communities work together to prepare for and respond to emergencies and everyday challenges.

During the year-long grant, required meetings, trainings or calls may happen. After the grant year ends, funded groups will share what they learned with future grant recipients to help communities learn from each other.

Funds will **not** be paid all at once. Instead, this is a **reimbursement grant**. Your organization will pay costs first and then submit invoices to be repaid. You may request **up to \$50,000** for a community resilience hub.

---

#### What Is a Letter of Intent (LOI)?

A **letter of intent** is a short introduction to your project and organization. It helps us understand your idea before you apply for the full grant, gauge interest.

- It is **not** the full application.
- It is **required** to move forward in the process.
- Your ideas do not have to be final. Changes are okay later.

Everyone who submits an LOI will be invited to a **recorded webinar** that explains the grant and application process. After the webinar, you will receive an invitation to apply for the full grant.

---

## Grant Timeline

### Timeline

- **Jan 19** – LOI opens
- **Jan 2; 4:00 pm EST** – Webinar on Letter of Intent ([click here to register](#))
- **Feb 14** – Letter of Intent due
- **Feb 15** – Full application released
- **Feb 18; 4:00 pm EST** - Webinar on RFP process and elements
- **Mar 31** – Applications due
- **Apr 15** – Applications reviewed
- **May 4** – Grants approved
- **June 15** – Contracts signed, payments begin
- **July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027** – One-year grant period with quarterly reports

---

### Information You Will Be Asked to Provide

On the Letter of Intent form, you will be asked for basic details such as:

- Your name and email
- Organization or project name
- Mailing address and project location
- Your role in the project
- The organization that will manage the grant funds
  - This organization must be able to receive checks, provide a W-9, and have liability insurance of at least \$1 million
- Two contact people for the project
- Any partner organizations you plan to work with

---

### What Does “Resilience” Mean?

**Resilience** means a community's ability to survive, respond, and recover from disasters—and to become stronger afterward.

Disasters can be sudden (like floods) or ongoing (like high food costs, housing problems, or climate change). Strong communities listen to and are led by people who are most affected by these problems.

You will be asked to confirm whether you understand this idea of resilience.

---

### **What Is a Community Resilience Hub?**

A **community resilience hub** is a place—or group—that helps people get information, supplies, and support.

Examples include:

- A library or church that stores emergency supplies and hosts meals
- Several buildings that provide power, water, or storage during emergencies
- A group chat that connects local groups working on emergency response
- A community center that supports people in everyday needs and emergencies

A hub is not just a building. It is **people working together** to help their community. Hub members do not need to be staff or town employees.

---

### **Resilience Hub Project Focus Areas**

Projects may focus on things like:

- Emergency supplies and preparedness
- Food and water access
- Medical and first aid needs
- Power and energy backup
- Warming, cooling, or shelter
- Transportation and equipment
- Hygiene and sanitation
- Support for children, seniors, people with disabilities, immigrants, and farmers

- Emergency planning and volunteer coordination
  - Flood recovery
  - Mutual aid and neighbor support
  - Financial resources
  - Basic needs like food, transportation, and health support
  - Shared tools and internet access
  - Community building, skills training, and local leadership
- 

### **Project Summary (300 Words Max)**

You will be asked to briefly explain:

- **Activities** – What will you do?
- **Timeline** – When will the project start and what are your first goals?
- **Partnerships** – Who will you work with?
- **Needs** – What problems does this project help solve?
- **Budget** – About how much money is needed?

Questions? Contact us at: [laobfacilitator@vhcb.org](mailto:laobfacilitator@vhcb.org)