



The 2025 National Disaster Resilience Conference (NDRC2025) agenda is designed to advance the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) partnership's goal of creating and delivering the ultimate American “DREAM” home, featuring durability, resilience, energy efficiency, affordability, and modern features.

The agenda features breakout sessions, keynote presentations, panels, and spotlight interviews showcasing best practices in construction innovation, public policy, and private market programs from expert presenters spanning academia, elected officials, financial services, home builders, leaders, professionals, public officials, researchers, scientists, and other stakeholders committed to disaster resilience.

This year’s program prioritizes attendee engagement to facilitate the joint creation and definition of a conference vision, which will be articulated and published at the conclusion of the gathering. Presentations will address two key design questions to help craft and define the shared vision to advance resilience in the future. As an NDRC2025 attendee, you will hear about:

- What were the most critical resilience developments during the past year?
- What are the most crucial resilience developments needed in the coming years?

Please plan to join us and engage in this newly streamlined gathering from start to finish. We are seeking your perspective and offering you the opportunity to add your organization's name to our shared vision, signaling your commitment as we chart a path to resilience for the future.

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

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| 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | FLASH Board of Directors Luncheon & Meeting (Directors & Advisors) |
| 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Welcome Reception Hosted by the FLASH Board of Directors (Open to All Registered Attendees) |

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

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| 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | Exhibits & Registration Open |
| Welcome Remarks – Eric Vaughn , FLASH Executive Vice President | |
| General Session Introduction – Arthur Parks , CPCU, CLU, State Farm Operations Manager, Portfolio Management | |

Keynote Presentation

Building the D.R.E.A.M. – How homeowners can have it all: homes that are **d**urable, **r**esilient, **e**nergy efficient, **a**ffordable, and **m**odern. This kickoff keynote will outline the mission for NDRC2025 and lay the groundwork for attendee engagement as they help hone the vision for the *Dream Home of the Future*. The NDRC2025 committee will announce the vision and priorities articulated during the conference in a post-conference national announcement.

Presenter: **Leslie Chapman-Henderson**, FLASH President and CEO

The next segment will open the conference and focus on the resilience fundamentals of “Build it Right the First Time.”

Panel Presentation

Extreme Winds Come in Many Shapes, Sizes, and Impacts – Downbursts, Hurricanes, or Tornadoes – Why not build with all damaging winds in mind? Hear from leading weather and engineering experts as they share case studies, analysis, scenarios, and a dialogue about why high wind construction methods are beneficial inland, well beyond the coasts.

Moderator: **Mike Coyne***, National Weather Service Southern Region Director

Panelists:

Dr. Anne Cope, P.E., Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety Chief Engineer

Dr. David Roueche, Auburn University, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering

Spotlight Presentation & Interview

The True Cost and Value of Resilient Construction – This presentation will cover two new studies from the University of Alabama. The first investigates the actual cost of building codes, and the second reflects the cost savings and value of homes built to the FORTIFIED beyond-code standard, even when tested by Hurricane Sally. Don't miss the opportunity to learn from and engage in a dialogue with the principal investigator who is presenting these critical insights that validate the case for affordable resilience.

Presenter: **Dr. Lawrence (Lars) Powell***, Alabama Center for Risk and Insurance Research Director

Interviewer: **Dottie Mazzarella**, International Code Council Vice President, Government Relations

Panel Presentation

Setting the Standard: How Dixon Trail Became California's First Wildfire Prepared Community – This panel will feature visionary homebuilders from KB Home who are constructing Dixon Trail. The first-ever residential development in California meets the IBHS Wildfire Prepared Home standard and is delivering a true “DREAM” neighborhood for homeowners in harm's way.

Moderator: **Dr. Rick Knabb***, *The Weather Channel's* On Camera Meteorologist/Tropical Program Manager, and former National Hurricane Center Director

Panelists:

Dan Dunmoyer^v, California Building Industry Association CEO

Steve Ruffner^v, KB Home President and Regional General Manager-Coastal

Alister Watt, Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety Chief Product Officer

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| 10:50 a.m. – 11:05 a.m. | Break |
| Keynote Presentation <i>Antifragile Design: Beyond Resilience</i> – While resilience aims to withstand shocks, antifragile design goes a step further—gaining strength, adaptability, and function through disruption. Drawing from concepts in ecology, materials science, and architecture, this presentation explores innovative material strategies that allow buildings and communities to thrive amid uncertainty. From dynamic systems to self-healing materials, antifragile design offers a bold new framework for confronting the intensifying challenges of disaster risk. Presenter: Blaine Brownell , FAIA, LEED AP, David R. Ravin School of Architecture Professor and Director at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and <i>Builder Magazine</i> Author | |
| Celebrating Partners in Prevention: Luncheon, Keynote Presentation, & Recognition Ceremony Hosted by the FLASH Board of Directors <i>The NDRC2025 luncheon program will feature an inspiring keynote address featuring the story of Babcock Ranch. Babcock Ranch is a groundbreaking development in Southwest Florida of energy-efficient, resilient, and sustainable DREAM homes that passed a ferocious Hurricane Ian test with flying colors. Following the presentation, there will be a recognition ceremony honoring the invaluable contributions of our new and longstanding FLASH Partners.</i> Keynote Presentation – <i>Stronger Than the Storm: Babcock Ranch and the Power of Resilient Design</i> Presenter: Tom Hoban , Kitson & Partners President & Chief Investment Officer | |
| Keynote Presentation <i>Building Resilience Before and After the Disasters: The Florida Way</i> – Director Guthrie will address the evolving landscape of disaster resilience in Florida and policy trends nationwide, drawing on his extensive experience leading state-wide preparedness and response efforts. He will highlight best practices, innovative strategies, and partnerships that are helping protect Floridians and promote speedy recovery during hurricanes, floods, and other natural hazards. Presenter: Kevin Guthrie* , Florida Division of Emergency Management Executive Director | |
| <i>This segment will showcase best practices in products, public policy, residential retrofitting programs, and private market incentivization efforts for the fundamentals of “Resilience for Existing Residential Construction.”</i> | |
| Panel Presentation <i>State Insurance Departments, True Resilience Leaders</i> – This panel will share insights about how they are driving resilience through policy leadership, including building codes and/or mitigation grant programs. Their efforts are not only fostering stable state economies but also providing solutions to insurance marketplace challenges. Moderator/Presenter: Brian Powell , NAIC/Center for Insurance Policy and Research Catastrophe Risk Mitigation Specialist | |
| Spotlight Interview <i>Financing Resilience for Homeowners</i> – Renew Financial’s programs not only promote clean energy adoption but also support disaster-resistant upgrades, helping homeowners strengthen their properties | |

against hurricanes, high winds, and floods. Learn how this innovative financing model helps make resilient home features accessible and affordable for all.

Presenter: **Vinay Gupta**, Renew Financial CEO

Interviewer: **John Zarrella**, Former *CNN* Correspondent

Break

Spotlight Presentation

Lightning Mitigation Strategies from Homes, Businesses, and Communities – Insured losses resulting from lightning damage can exceed \$4 billion annually, with a total economic impact exceeding \$30 billion annually. This presentation will explore the new and emerging technology used to detect lightning strikes, the codes and standards that can be adopted to protect buildings and structures, and other publicly available guidance resources.

Presenter: **Bryan Holland**, MCP, CSP, NEMA Managing Director, Technical Field Representatives

Participant Engagement/Idea Exchange

Demystifying and Understanding Our Homes – This engagement dialogue will split our attendees into two groups for moderated conversations and visioning to define the ultimate, simple, resilience scorecard for a home using the premise, “If we can dream it, we can do it.” The moderators and select participants will then present their concepts for a standard method, system, or other tool for verifiable, resilient homes. It’s complicated, and that is the problem. So, put your thinking cap on now to help us create a score that will be relevant for bankers, homebuyers, insurance providers, real estate professionals, and all relevant scenarios.

Facilitators: **Bryan Koon**, CEO of IEM, and **Sharon Magorien**, Strong Homes Advocate

Innovation Showcase

Shiny New and (Re-Newed) Product Solutions – This session will focus on innovative products, systems, or other solutions to help homeowners upgrade their homes to a more resilient state that may or may not include rethinking and reconsidering value for existing, current market options. The presenters will focus on affordable, achievable “hacks” to help owners and renters achieve the “D.R.E.A.M.” home of the future while dispelling myths and opening doors to reimagine old ideas with new purpose.

Panelists: **Haas Doors** and TBA

This final segment for the day is Part One of a focus on the fundamentals of the “Culture of Resilience,” showcasing best practices in risk communication, leadership voices, and emerging trends that resilience advocates can leverage.

Spotlight Presentation

Presenter: **Dr. Brenda Rourke***, NAIC/Center for Insurance Policy and Research Communication Research Scientist

Telling the D.R.E.A.M. Home Story on Black Mountain

A New Opportunity for All at NDRC2025 – Sometimes the facts are enough, but our brains are wired for story. When we look back across the disaster resilience movement, we will see that our most significant leaps forward followed memorable and inspirational stories. Join us for this session about an upcoming two-year project that will allow America to learn anew the magic and methods behind a D.R.E.A.M. home as we rebuild for Hurricane Helene survivors through a partnership with Fuller Center Disaster ReBuilders, Mennonite Disaster Service, and many more.

Wrap & Reflect

Networking Dinner Event

Thursday, November 20, 2025

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Exhibits Open

This morning of breakout sessions will allow attendees to gain additional expert knowledge on the three key focus areas for NDRC2025 through an interactive and robust dialogue. The breakouts are designed to inspire fresh thinking and bold action, encouraging all participants to consider how they can play a pivotal role in advancing resilience.

Breakout Session #1 – Build it Right the First Time

This moderated dialogue will focus on the data, ideas, presentations, and information from the first segment of NDRC2025. Participants will create, rank, and later share their priorities for the final vision statement of the conference.

A panel of Subject Matter Experts (SME's) will be on-hand to backstop the topic, field questions, and ensure a successful ideation that answers the question, "What's next?"

SME's: **Aaron Davis**, BuildStrong America Deputy Executive Director, **Dr. Pataya Scott**, IBHS Codes and Standards Engineer, and more.

Breakout Session #2 – Resilience for Existing Residential Construction

This moderated dialogue will focus on the data, ideas, presentations, and information from the second segment of NDRC2025. Participants will create, rank, and later share their priorities for the final vision statement of the conference.

A panel of Subject Matter Experts (SME's) will be on-hand to backstop the topic, field questions, and ensure a successful ideation that answers the question, "What's next?"

SME's: **Tim O'Neil**, My Safe Florida Home Program, **Brian Powell**, NAIC/Center for Insurance Policy and Research Catastrophe Risk Mitigation Specialist, and more

Breakout Session #3 – Creating a Culture of Resilience

This moderated dialogue will focus on the data, ideas, presentations, and information from the third segment of NDRC2025, as well as the upcoming topics on social media, technology, and influence. Participants will create, rank, and later share their priorities for the final vision statement of the conference.

A panel of Subject Matter Experts (SME's) will be on-hand to backstop the topic, field questions, and ensure a successful ideation that answers the question, "What's next?"

SME's: **Cheryl Nelson**, Meteorologist and *Prepare with Cher* Founder

This final segment for the day is Part Two of a focus on best practices in risk communication, leadership voices, and emerging trends that resilience advocates can leverage to achieve a "Culture of Resilience."

Keynote Presentation

Influence Me, Convince Me, and I'll Mitigate! – This session will focus on the rise and shift in influencer voices in today's marketplace, with some surprising insights into demographic trends to help attendees explore new ways to grow the U.S. culture of resilience through best practices in earned media, social platforms, and evolving digital tools, including AI.

Presenter: **Colleen McAdams***, USAA Influencer Manager

Signature Resilience Voices & Collaborative Dialogue

The *2025 National Weatherperson of the Year* and former National Hurricane Center Director Bill Read will join past NHC Directors for this dialogue to explore signature voices for resilience and how they have accelerated past initiatives, including "Turn Around, Don't Drown!" "#HurricaneStrong" and more. These proven leaders will tackle topics including "How to Burst the Weather Bubble Myth," wherein people think that certain areas are immune to weather phenomena.

Moderator: **Cheryl Nelson**, Meteorologist and *Prepare with Cher* Founder

Panelists:

Dr. Rick Knabb*, *The Weather Channel's* On Camera Meteorologist & Tropical Program Manager, and former National Hurricane Center Director

Max Mayfield, Former National Hurricane Center Director

Bill Read, Former National Hurricane Center Director and *2025 National Weatherperson of the Year*

Mike Brennan*, National Hurricane Center Director

This segment will close with the official opening of voting for the *2026 National Weatherperson of the Year* competition.

Luncheon & Closing Session

Designing the Future: What's Next, What's Needed? – This final session will include a facilitated, two-way attendee engagement session and luncheon to finalize the NDRC2025 Vision for the D.R.E.A.M. Home of the Future. The vision will be captured and published as the NDRC2025 outcome and statement, and all attendees will have the opportunity to sign on as supporters of the collectively created vision.

Facilitator Team: **TBA**

12:25 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

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*Invited