

TVA INNOVATION AND RESEARCH

Connected Communities Pilot Projects

A Look Back at 2023



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Initiative Overview

Together with its partners, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is helping communities across the region become more connected using innovative technology in new and exciting ways.

Through the [Connected Communities initiative](#), TVA helps communities overcome their challenges and prepare to be part of the energy system of the future. The Connected Communities initiative links communities to resources, project ideas and funding opportunities in four focus areas: Broadband and Digital Literacy, Energy and Environmental Justice, Enhanced Community Resiliency and Economic Empowerment. Through this work, communities within the TVA service territory have the resources and guidance they need to leverage technology- and data-driven solutions to improve residents' lives, achieve environmental benefits, scale economic opportunities and become more resilient.

INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

The Key Focus Areas

To best understand the needs of communities across the region, the Connected Communities initiative began by convening a Steering Committee comprised of TVA service territory stakeholders including community groups, local power companies (LPCs), city governments and TVA representatives. The Steering Committee shaped the foundational elements of the initiative, defined what it means to be a “connected community” and selected the four key focus areas:



Broadband and Digital Literacy >



Economic Empowerment >



Energy and Environmental Justice >



Enhanced Community Resiliency >



Pilot Projects

The Connected Communities team does more than provide guidance; they actively support and fund projects that make an impact in communities across the region.

By focusing on cutting-edge pilot projects, this initiative enables the exploration and implementation of innovative smart-city solutions with the potential to equitably improve communities of all sizes and capacity.



Learn more about the initiative on the TVA Connected Communities website.

tva.com/connectedcommunities

HOW PILOT PROJECTS ADVANCE PROGRESS



Identify Priorities

Pilot projects provide an opportunity to better understand communities' priorities and areas of interest.



Produce Results

Pilot projects directly enable projects to launch and produce concrete results.



Identify Scalable Concepts

Pilot projects help identify concepts and projects that are ready for scaling across the TVA service territory.



Leverage Funding Opportunities

Pilot projects leverage other programs and funding opportunities to expand the impact of the pilot projects and grow the projects beyond the initial TVA funding.



Enable Peer Learning

Pilot projects serve as a peer learning platform to enable communities to learn from each other.

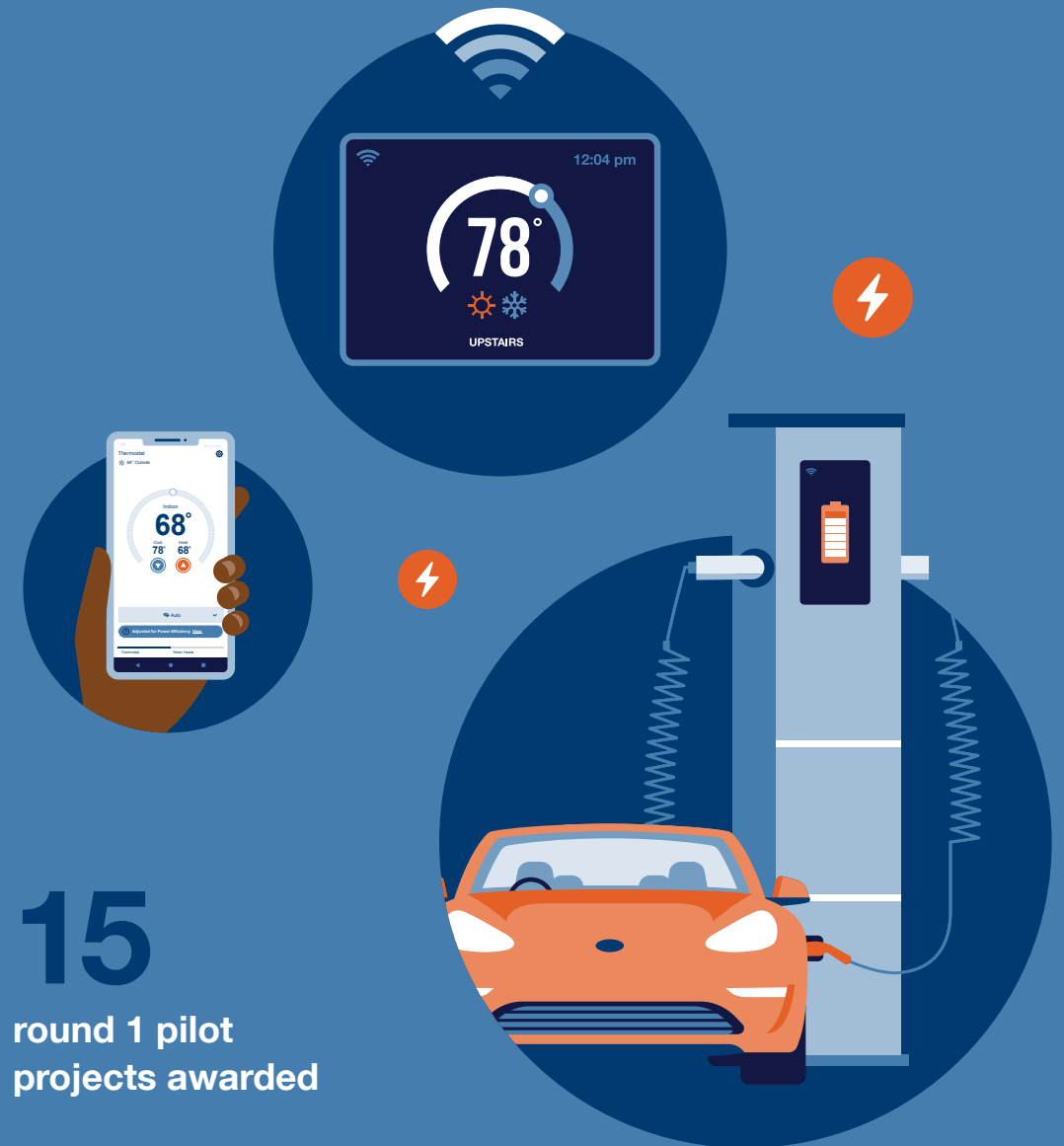
PILOT PROJECTS

Round 1 Selection Process

In 2021, TVA issued a first call for pilots to advance Connected Communities goals. An evaluation committee comprised of representatives from community groups, LPCs, local governments and TVA reviewed the submissions and selected projects with the greatest potential for impact. Of the 40 project teams that submitted applications, nine were selected to receive funding and are expected to run through September 2024.

In addition to the nine original pilot projects awarded competitive funding, the Connected Communities pilot initiative team strategically selected an additional six pilot projects to which they offered support. With a total investment of \$3.2 million, the round one call for pilots was a huge success in helping communities make progress in the four focus areas.

\$3.2M
in total awards

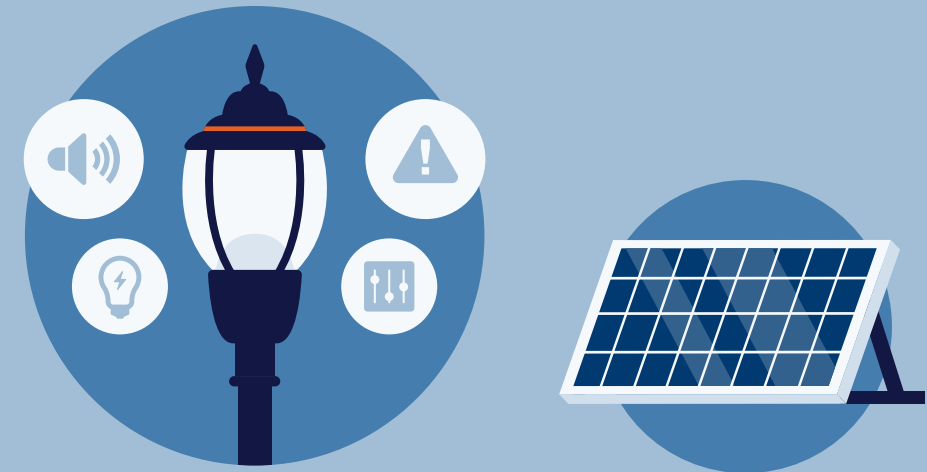


PILOT PROJECTS

Round 2 Selection Process

Following the success of the first call for pilot projects, TVA issued a second call for pilots in 2023 to select additional projects that align with the Connected Communities objectives. After a three-month period of accepting applications, the committee awarded funding to six projects, totaling a \$2 million investment in regional progress across all four focus areas. These six projects will commence in the summer of 2024 and are expected to be active through September of 2026.

\$2M
in total awards



6

round 2 pilot
projects awarded

PILOT PROJECTS

Selection Criteria

Projects seeking funding through the 2023 call for pilots were required to demonstrate an emerging technology or a new approach to connect communities to resources that directly and measurably have a positive outcome on two or more of the following areas:

- ✓ Equitable access to services such as broadband and digital literacy
- ✓ Equitable access to innovative, sustainable and connected technologies
- ✓ Energy burden of energy poverty
- ✓ Environmental health, including indoor environmental health or justice
- ✓ Enhanced resiliency for vulnerable populations
- ✓ Access to better employment, career or entrepreneurial opportunities
- ✓ Access to quality science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education

\$750K

maximum funding
per project

30%

of total project cost
contributed by applicant

PRINCIPLES FOR SELECTING PROJECTS:

1

Strategic Alignment

The project effectively addresses community or regional needs, aligns with strategic priorities and engages stakeholders in an inclusive and accessible way.

2

Feasibility

The project demonstrates thorough understanding of necessary factors to drive success, including a achievable two-year timeline and implementation considerations for long-term project sustainability.

3

Impact

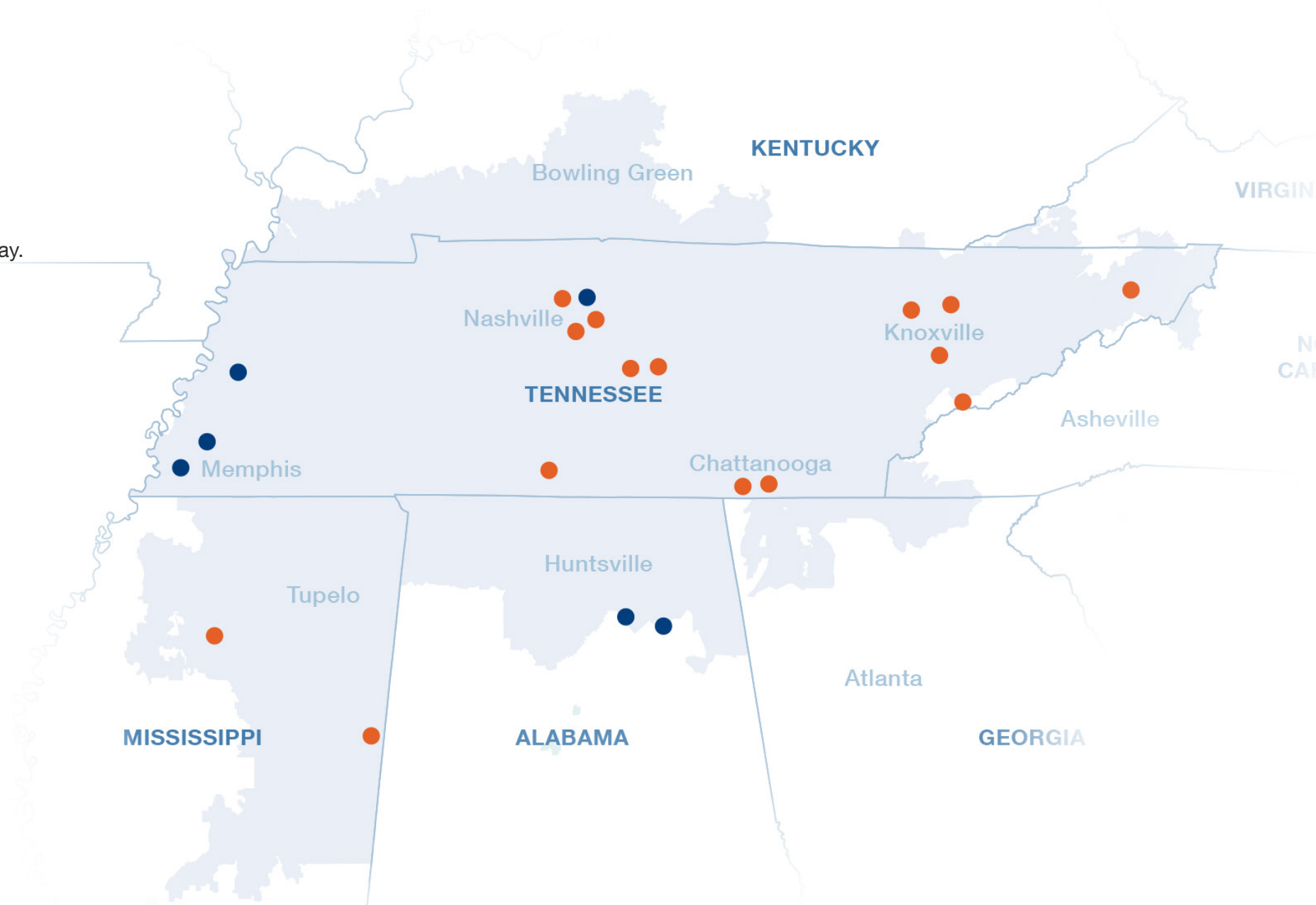
The project will yield significant innovative or transformative benefits, unlocking value for the community today and enabling the better pursuit of data- and technology-driven innovations in the future.

PILOT PROJECTS

Across the Region

The Connected Communities initiative has 15 active round 1 pilot projects across the region, and six round 2 pilot projects soon to be underway.

Want more information about a specific project? All pilots are highlighted in detail on the [TVA Connected Communities website](#).



15

round 1
pilot projects
currently active

6

round 2
pilot projects
soon to be underway

Broadband and Digital Literacy

Increase access to broadband, digital devices and digital literacy training to ensure residents in your community can participate in online education, telemedicine, telecommuting and energy saving utility programs.

INCLUDES

- ✔ ACTNow (Access, Connectivity, Tools)
- ✔ Community Hotspots
- ✔ Connecting MHA
- ✔ Connectivity and Health in Orchard Knob
- ✔ Residential Demand Response Through Connecting MHA
- ✔ Tech Upgrades at City of Knoxville Recreation Centers



BROADBAND AND DIGITAL LITERACY

ACTNow

(Access, Connectivity, Tools)

Projected Budget: \$373K

Through the ACTNow pilot, the Columbus Housing Authority (CHA) sought to address the digital needs of limited-income public housing residents that relate to healthcare, education and economic prosperity. By offering courses to residents of all skill levels, this pilot program helps seniors engage in telemedicine, students access online learning tools and working adults readily access online workforce development and employment opportunities.

ACTNow also provides mentoring and programming for students aimed at increasing awareness and knowledge of digital literacy and explaining the role of STEM in computing. By providing devices, education and services, ACTNow enables residents to be more independent and prepares today's youth for employment opportunities in the digital future.



“ The Connected Communities team were really great accountability partners. Sometimes when you're the creative piece, you may lose sight. They helped make sure we stayed on budget and that we worked within our time frames. They always made sure we came back to center and didn't lose sight of our goals.

DR. ANGELA VERDELL | general manager, Columbus Light and Water

[LEARN MORE](#)

BROADBAND AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Community Hotspots

Projected Budget: \$12K

To expand their resident's connectivity, PES Energize is providing access to public, high-speed Wi-Fi to unserved and underserved residents in three Giles County rural communities—Lynnville, Elkton and Minor Hill. The first month after all hotspots were installed, over 650 unique devices connected to the internet through the three hotspots, and they continue to be heavily utilized by the communities. PES Energize continues to evaluate how the hotspots are used and deploys surveys to gather community feedback and assess what internet services are being accessed via the new hotspots.

This project is the smallest of the pilot projects and demonstrates how a simple solution can be quickly deployed to serve local communities in the immediate future and beyond. This pilot serves to guide other communities or businesses looking to adopt and implement a similar system of Wi-Fi access points for connectivity to the internet in their own communities.

**8****Wi-Fi hotspots**

installed in communities
across Giles County, TN



“Bringing the internet to a centralized location in these communities allows people to connect closer to their home... It provides that ease of access, which can be the make or break for a lot of these community members.”

GARRET LAARMAN | PES Energize

[LEARN MORE](#)



BROADBAND AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Connecting MHA

Projected Budget: \$850K

SmartMark Communications and partners are revitalizing three MHA properties to add fiber infrastructure to enable Wi-Fi access in affordable housing projects across the community. A unique aspect of this pilot project is the ability to tie together internet access and energy-saving information. By offering free Wi-Fi service for three years and quarterly energy education including tips and information regarding energy usage on a designated website, this pilot helps residents reduce their energy bills.

Connectivity will also enable homes to be “smart home” ready so residents will have the opportunity to benefit from future in-home technologies that automate energy reduction and boost savings, making this pilot project a win-win for residents.

LOOKING AHEAD



Expanding on the success of this pilot project, [Residential Demand Response Through Connecting MHA](#) utilizes the newly connected Wi-Fi in one of the MHA complexes to conduct a demand response (DR) pilot project.



“ The Connecting MHA pilot truly demonstrates the impact of internet access not only on energy and financial savings but on quality of life. To hear the stories of our participants reminds us how much the future of the grid rests on positive customer engagement and that we have an opportunity as an industry to make an impact for the greater good.

JULIET SHAVIT | president and chief executive officer, SmartMark Communications, LLC

[LEARN MORE](#)

BROADBAND AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Connectivity and Health in Orchard Knob

Projected Budget: \$870K

Since 2019, the Orchard Knob Collaborative has focused on addressing disparities to improve health and wellness outcomes and strengthening the community. In 2022, a TVA Connected Communities Grant allowed the Collaborative to provide additional resources and opportunities to residents. Activities and trainings include participation in the Tech Goes Home program which provide computers, training and assistance in finding affordable in-home internet access; access to community-based and virtual fitness activities; home health upgrade assistance with HVAC, insulation, smart thermostats, indoor air quality monitoring and more.

The combination of increased connectivity with home improvements results in a future-ready, Smart Community approach to connectivity and improved quality of life for those who live in the Orchard Knob neighborhood.



34%

of households

in Orchard Knob are
without broadband



“ I don’t know of many funders who would give the kind of flexibility we had from Connected Communities to let the community be the driver... We just had a lot of support to be more driven by the needs of the community.

DEB SOCIA | former executive director, The Enterprise Center

[LEARN MORE](#)

BROADBAND AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Residential Demand Response Through Connecting MHA

Projected Budget: \$1M

This pilot project expands and unites the “[Connecting MHA](#)” and “[Home Energy Management System Platform](#)” pilot projects to offer connectivity and energy education to ensure residents benefit from smarter energy management and DR.

The Open HEMS software combined with a DR program through Middle Tennessee Electric (MTE) enables residents to save on energy bills and support MTE during peak times by allowing adjustments to their Wi-Fi-enabled thermostats and water heaters. This pilot project helps reduce peak load across the MTE service area and offers residents a \$15 monthly incentive for participation, helping alleviate energy burden.



\$15

monthly incentive

provided to participating MHA residents



“ I think that a lot of the successful outcomes of this collaboration and communication is the direct result of an active and supportive TVA.

JULIET SHAVIT | president and chief executive officer, SmartMark Communications, LLC

[LEARN MORE](#)

BROADBAND AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Tech Upgrades at City of Knoxville Recreation Centers

Projected Budget: \$100K

The City of Knoxville Parks & Recreation (Knoxville Parks & Rec) Department has 15 facilities across the city, most of which are in low to middle-income communities in at-risk areas. These facilities were mostly used for fitness and recreation, but Knoxville Parks & Rec saw the potential to host more community activities in these spaces. The department was already planning to provide Wi-Fi access and public computers in its recreation facilities, and the pilot project funds allowed them to expand their plan to include smart TVs, portable laptops, tablets and other equipment, in addition to digital educational opportunities.

By focusing on digital literacy and technology training services in addition to upgrading the technology, the pilot project enables resident access to digital healthcare, jobs and education. Through this project, the facilities provide various classes and educational opportunities for free or a very small fee, ensuring lower-income residents benefit from internet connectivity and available technology-centered programming within the community.



“ Most people living within 10-15 minutes of the recreation centers don’t have internet access. With broadband being a super determinant of health, when that conversation came up, somebody said [users] will just be on YouTube. But I was able to say no, it will lead people to education and to all these different opportunities.

AARON BROWNING | deputy director, Knoxville Parks & Rec

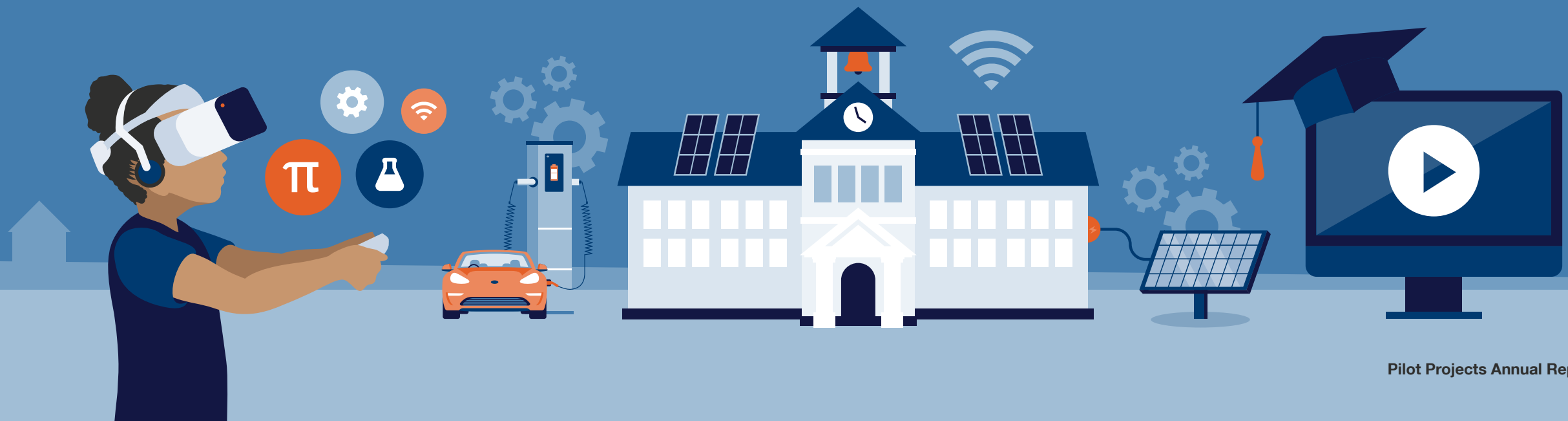
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Economic Empowerment

Attract clean technology-related businesses to the region by ensuring a skilled workforce is ready and available to fill those jobs. Not only will it help our region's economic growth, but it also brings economic security for families in your community.

INCLUDES

- ✓ Base Camp Coding Academy
- ✓ Building the Future of East Tennessee's Workforce
- ✓ Economic Solutions Through Solar Innovation



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Base Camp Coding Academy

Projected Budget: \$562K

Base Camp Coding Academy is an organization that provides training to prepare underserved youth and adults in Mississippi for careers in software development. Funding from Connected Communities enabled this existing initiative to expand their programming to adult learners, creating a more diverse student profile. This pilot project funding enables the program to update their strategies and curriculum, ensuring that what is taught in the classroom is still relevant for every graduate to achieve technical proficiency and employment success today and in the future.

The Base Camp Coding Academy Graduate Institute pilot program started in September 2022 and saw 18 students graduate in August 2023. Post-graduation job placement for the first cohort students shows that 9 of 18 graduates have obtained jobs in the digital sector.



“ The Connected Communities application is one of the most accessible applications I’ve seen: just tell us what you want to do. Their energy was about seeking to figure out what works so other communities can repeat it without making the same mistakes, just leveraging the lessons learned.

KAGAN COUGHLIN | cofounder, Base Camp Coding Academy Graduate Institute



18
graduates
from the first
cohort of students

50%
of graduates
have obtained jobs in the
digital sector as of 2023

[LEARN MORE](#)

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Building the Future of East Tennessee's Workforce

Projected Budget: \$582K

In partnership with the University of Tennessee, East Tennessee PBS produced *Job Pop!*—a series of 60-second videos covering skilled labor and STEM-field career opportunities within the Tennessee Valley for public television broadcast, online distribution and in-classroom use. The *Job Pop!* videos mix the style and aesthetic of TikTok with the substance of Mr. Rogers to create engaging content that is both enjoyable and informative. Additionally, East Tennessee PBS created complementary digital curriculum for teachers, parents and students to increase learning retention and expand engagement in regional workforce development.

The project aims to improve the value students place on their STEM education by demonstrating real-world opportunities that are visible and accessible. By removing barriers and increasing accessibility, this pilot project helps students in the Tennessee Valley connect with various workforce development opportunities in a way that also supports teachers and parents. Through the materials created in this pilot project, more students will actively participate in creating a sustainable workforce to support growing STEM-related industries.



“ The financial support of the TVA Connected Communities pilot program is providing us the ability to address a critical community issue, workforce development, in a very dynamic way that builds on our organization's core strength – early childhood education.

BARBARA SHIPLEY | chief development/marketing officer, East Tennessee PBS

[LEARN MORE](#)

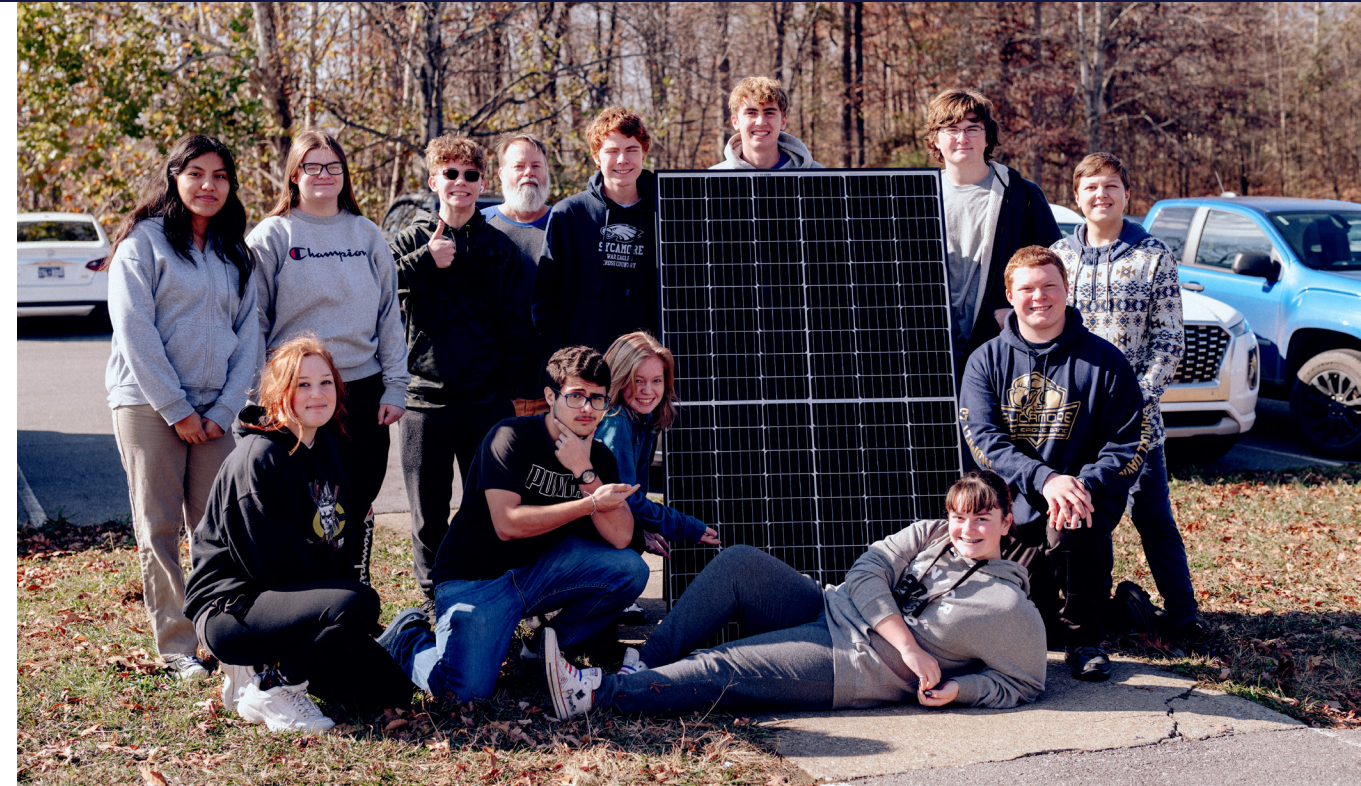
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Economic Solutions Through Solar Innovation

Projected Budget: \$268K

Through the Connected Communities grant, Cheatham County School District (CCSD) has constructed a 40kW Solar array with a Lion Energy battery backup system. The DC batteries can support a higher load than AC batteries and enable the critical functions of the connected facilities to operate for up to 48 hours in the event of a power outage. The CCSD system can fully service the cafeteria's large freezer, cooler and all incidental plugs, enabling the CCSD to use the cafeteria as a disaster safe zone and provide food during a crisis.

This pilot project also includes a solar curricular component for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) and STEM programs for its Sycamore High/Middle Schools complex. This prepares students for post-secondary job opportunities associated with renewable energy, specifically solar power. The curriculum also serves as an introduction to solar science for college-bound students interested in design, engineering and operation and maintenance.



“ If we had a question about the grant or when we had a delay, they were very accommodating and very understanding, but they let us operate our project. We had the autonomy to see the vision through to the end.

CHRIS COOPER | coordinator for CTE and Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) Education, CCSD

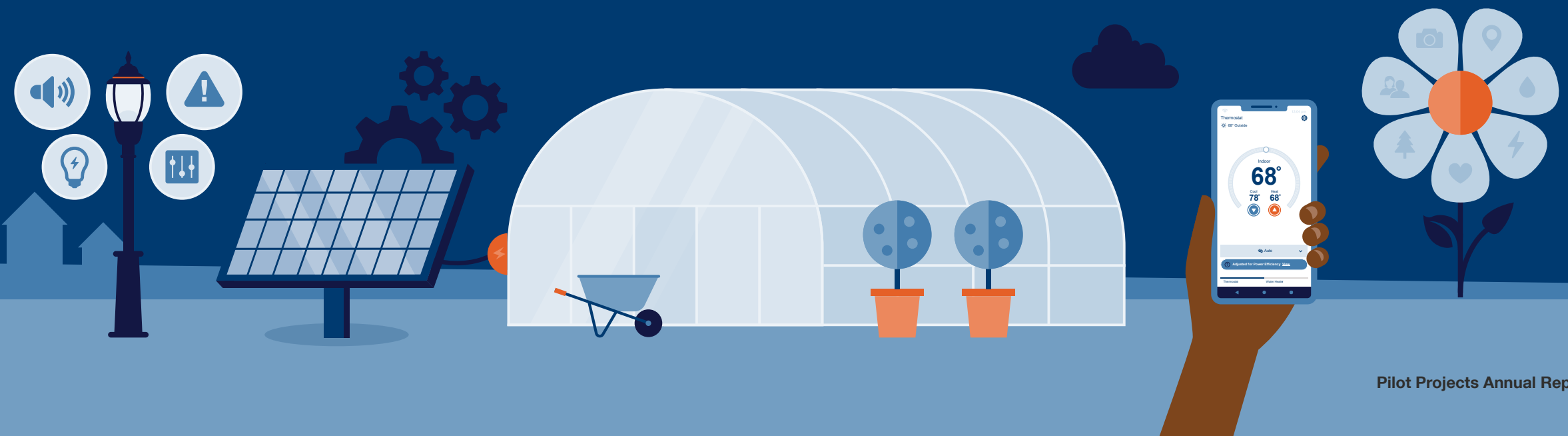
[LEARN MORE](#)

Energy and Environmental Justice

Increase access to energy efficiency improvements and demand response programs to help reduce energy costs for your residents. Promote clean energy technologies and healthy built environments to reduce community emissions and environmental health risks.

INCLUDES

- ✓ Alerting Elders to Air Quality Health Risks
- ✓ Johnson City Smart Poles
- ✓ Home Energy Management System Platform
- ✓ Living Building Certified Education Center



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Alerting Elders to Air Quality Health Risks

Projected Budget: \$1.06M

Three³, Inc. and partners designed the Elder Alert System for Imminent Environmental Risk (EASIER) software to improve the resilience of elders by alerting them of potential indoor and outdoor environmental risks to their health. The project team is installing indoor and outdoor air quality monitoring sensors and providing internet service, a tablet and a backup battery in limited-income homes, which serve to educate, improve resiliency and support elders aging in place with dignity.

The EASIER alert system communicates with elders through a well-designed user interface on a tablet that is provided as part of the pilot project. The interface is designed so that elders feel confident and comfortable understanding both the displays and the alerts. By understanding alerts, elder community members can make important decisions about activities to stay healthy.



30

appropriate alerts

are provided to users and networks



“ We’re very grateful for the support from TVA. This is a very unique opportunity to work on transformative research with a very intense community engagement... The research and the techniques we developed can be used by people, which makes our contribution to the Knoxville community very exciting. We get to see it come to life and see how it impacts people.

XIAOPENG ZHAO | professor of biomedical engineering, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

[LEARN MORE](#)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Johnson City Smart Poles

Projected Budget: \$500K

BrightRidge and partners retrofitted and supplied 49 light poles with LED lighting controls, four-color LED lights and multiple smart sensors in downtown Founders Park and King Commons Park playground. Smart pole technologies offer new opportunities for expanded city services and more data streams while also improving the experience for city or town residents. In addition to smart lighting, smart poles offer a wide variety of benefits to the town, the local power company and all residents.

This pilot project is the first phase in a series to expand smart pole deployment and use in Johnson City, Tennessee. By understanding the power and energy consumption of the five different types of equipped poles, BrightRidge is gaining insights into their operational behaviors to make informed decisions.

LOCATIONS

49

smart poles



Founders Park

Location 1



King Commons Playground

Location 2



“ The good partnership we have between TVA, BrightRidge and the city has been valuable so many times with other projects, and this was no different. TVA brought in the experts, and we all sat down and we listened to what the city wanted. It really helped the city feel like they were empowered to make good decisions for themselves.

BONNIE DONNOLLY | chief development and market strategy officer, BrightRidge

[LEARN MORE](#)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Home Energy Management System Platform

Projected Budget: \$750K

TVA brought together partners to develop an open-source home energy management system (HEMS) technology that provides tools to monitor and manage energy use, which helps residents lower their utility bills. By optimizing energy consumption, HEMS can reduce overall household energy expenses, leading to greater affordability for limited-income families.

The open-source software (OSS) developed in this project supports community-level energy efficiency programs, reducing operational costs and providing personalized customer experiences. OSS enables customization and flexibility by allowing any local power company to access, modify and share the code, encouraging collaboration and innovation. On a regional scale, open-source HEMS enhances grid communication, allowing for better energy management and integration of renewables. This improves grid resilience and efficiency, ensuring a more sustainable energy future for both residents and the regional power grid.



“ Ultimately, this is about managing the grid, because if we don’t do that, then power is less reliable, and power is more expensive. This technology addresses that challenge.

WILLIAM MAGUIRE | CEO and cofounder, ACE IoT Solutions, LLC

[LEARN MORE](#)

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Living Building Certified Education Center

Projected Budget: \$250K

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont (Tremont) is planning to retrofit a historic farm that borders the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to be Living Building Certified to create a space that incorporates the benefits of nature and sustainability with a focus on better serving minority and marginalized communities. In 2019, the project team purchased land that borders Great Smoky Mountains National Park to build a day-use and residential education center that positively impacts the environment and the community.

The yet-to-be-named second campus strives to be Tennessee's first Living Building Challenge-certified project, opening a range of possibilities for the organization and the community. To achieve the certification, Tremont will work with regional partners to develop a campus that meets key imperatives to promote the responsible use of water, materials and resources. Their success will be a campus that integrates the build and learning environments to support a thriving community living in balance with the natural world.

Architectural plans are still in progress and include dorms, an education and activity center, a dining hall, staff housing, outdoor learning areas and agricultural and landscaping designs that blend the interiors with the exterior. Most structures will be new construction except for an adaptive reuse of an existing brick home.



“ Because of our mission to connect people to nature, we were looking at a second campus and we wanted something authentic to our mission. Our goal from the start was to create something that gave back to nature, something that protected the environment, something that taught people how to experience and connect with the outdoors.

CATEY MCCLARY | president and chief executive officer, Tremont

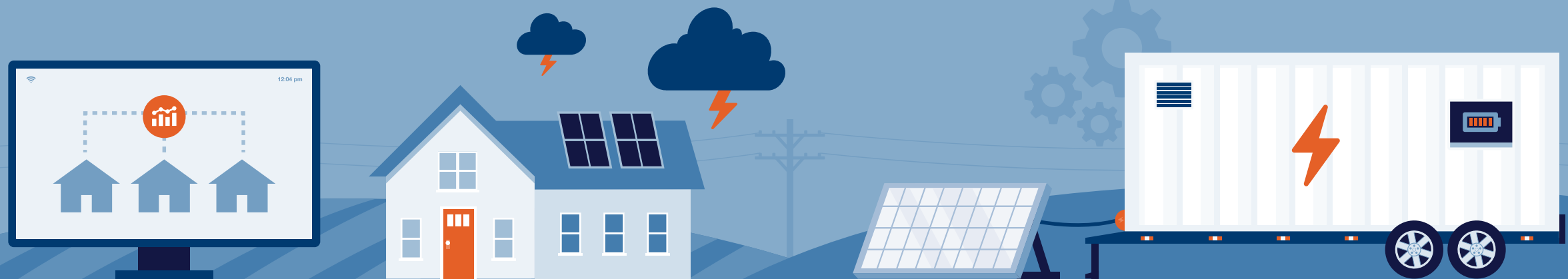
[LEARN MORE](#)

Enhanced Community Resiliency

Ensure your community has a plan and the right infrastructure in place to prepare for and recover from disasters, reduce disruptions to power and prevent cyber attacks to minimize impacts on the most vulnerable populations.

INCLUDES

- ✓ The ARCHER Project, Resiliency Planning Framework
- ✓ Synthetic Resiliency Modeling on Extended Power Outages



ENHANCED COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

The ARCHER Project, Resiliency Planning Framework

Projected Budget: \$1.25M

The Accelerating Resilience of the Community through Holistic Engagement and use of Renewables (ARCHER) project provides a methodology to understand risks – social, energy, environmental and grid – that can minimize the burden of power outages on local residents, especially disadvantaged communities. Funded by the US Department of Energy (DOE), the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) is seeking to bring this methodology to Nashville, developing a community-focused planning framework that uses distributed energy resources (DER) to boost energy resilience to prevent power disruptions during extreme weather events, particularly in underserved communities.

The pilot project began in March 2023, with planning efforts including stakeholder engagement strategies, needs assessments and a preliminary resiliency framework. Efforts will help inform investments in community resilience by accounting for energy and social burden differences, access to services and living conditions across the community.



“ We always talk about grid resilience as keeping the lights on and restoring power as quickly as possible. But when you look at it through the lens of community resilience, there are different actions that a utility would take to provide resilience to the community.

JARED GREEN | principal technical leader, EPRI

[LEARN MORE](#)

ENHANCED COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

Synthetic Resiliency Modeling on Extended Power Outages

Projected Budget: \$160K

EPRI collaborated with partners, including the city of Nashville and Nashville Electric Service (NES), to model an extended power outage in Nashville to study the potential benefits of placement and adoption of DER across the city. In the event of a citywide outage scenario, everyone experiences the outage at the same time, but those with and without DER at their homes or businesses are not impacted equally.

The team collected data from three use cases, investigating the impacts of the first 24 hours, the first 72 hours and a full week of a citywide outage scenario. By modeling a realistic scenario, stakeholders can measure the social justice impact on residents and the economic impacts on businesses.

MODELING SCENARIOS

3

scenarios

24

hours

of a citywide
outage

72

hours

of a citywide
outage

1

week

of a citywide
outage

“ In these times where it seems like areas of the United States are experiencing unprecedented climate conditions that are causing unforeseen circumstances like outages, it’s been really interesting to watch how the Connected Communities group, in particular, sees their social agency in helping communities prepare and manage their way through these events.

DEAN BITTNER | chief technology officer and cofounder, RUNWITHIT Synthetics

[LEARN MORE](#)

Looking Ahead

TVA's Connected Communities initiative is directly helping communities across the region.

Through this support, communities are able to leverage technologies to improve lives, deliver environmental benefits and scale economic opportunities through resources, guidance and pilot project funding.

Moving into 2024, TVA will continue supporting the active pilot projects and expand support to the following six additional communities selected for pilot funding in the second round:

For more information, access to resources available through the initiative and to sign up for future pilot funding announcements, please visit the [Connected Communities pilot projects webpage](#).

Engaging Children in the Power of STEM Education and the Career Pipeline

Junior Achievement of Memphis and the Mid-South will increase the technologies available at their newly launched, state-of-the-art Wang Experiential Learning Center to provide local students with workforce education and skill attainment.

Driving Tennessee Forward - EV Technologies

Southwest Tennessee Community College is creating a program that provides the community with equitable access to EV charging stations and develops a curriculum for students to learn the necessary skills for jobs related to EV charging.

Lighting the Way: Resilient Ripley Microgrid

The National Institute for Hometown Security and Resilient Energy & Infrastructure (REI) are building a resilient microgrid in Ripley, Tennessee, to lower the cost of energy for local city facilities and ensure the community has reliable power during emergencies.

Connected Community Through Sustainable Service

Guntersville Middle School in Guntersville, Alabama, seeks to transform its lakeside area into a sunrise-to-sunset district that provides a public education space, increased amenities for residents and guests alike and an opportunity for students to learn about new, clean technologies positively affecting their community.

High-Tech Connect Center

Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative will open a community-based technology center in Kilpatrick, Alabama, that features indoor and outdoor learning environments, providing the community access to fiber internet, digital literacy training and more.

Connecting Families for Student Success

Nashville Public Education Foundation seeks to launch the Connecting Families for Student Success, a program to enhance parental access to, understanding of and involvement in their children's academic journeys.

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