

# Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities

An EDA Community of Practice Initiative  
(BRECC)

Applications Info Session  
November 29, 2022

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# Agenda

## **Overview of BRECC**

## **BRECC Partners**

Community Builders

EntreWorks Consulting

West Virginia Community Development Hub

## **Applying to Coal Communities Commitment Coalition**

## **Applying to Coal Communities Action Challenge**

## **Join the BRECC National Network**

## **Q & A**

**Keep your eyes on the chat box for links to resources.**

**The webinar is being recorded. The slide deck and recording will both be available on NACo's website after the event!**

**If you have a question, type it into the Q & A box at any time during the presentation. NACo staff will read the question on your behalf during the Q & A portion at the end of today's session.**

# One-Minute Survey

**Please follow the link in the chat to answer a quick survey question about how you learned about this event.**

**<https://forms.office.com/r/hFV2h4GiJN>**



**BRECC will empower  
coal community  
leaders to rethink the  
future of their  
economies.**

# What is a coal community?

## EDA defines coal communities as

**communities and regions that can reasonably demonstrate how changes in the coal economy have resulted or are anticipated to result in job losses and layoffs** in any coal-reliant commercial sector. This includes, but is not limited to coal mining, coal-fired power plants, as well as related transportation, logistics, and/or supply chain manufacturing industries.

More information on EDA's priorities in coal communities can be found [here](#).

# BRECC Activities

## **BRECC National Network**

Open forum and peer network for coal community stakeholders

## **Coal Communities Commitment Coalition**

Leadership and peer-learning network

## **Coal Communities Action Challenge**

Technical assistance and capacity-building cohorts

## **National Storytelling Campaign**

National campaign to capture educational and inspirational stories of coal communities

# BRECC Partners

Experts in community and economic development

Hold local knowledge in coal and rural communities

Practice an intentional approach to community coaching

Demonstrate a strong track record of moving communities from ideation to implementation







# Coal Communities Commitment Coalition

## What is the Commitment Coalition?

A leadership network supporting up to 20 coal community leaders who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to advancing economic resilience and transformation.

**Local leaders,  
*is this you?***

- Invested in your community's future
- Want to connect and learn from peers
- Hope to advance and discover new approaches to diversify and revitalize your community's economy
- Seek guidance and inspiration for next steps

## What will *Coalition* members do?

- Travel to peer exchange site visits
- Learn strategies for economic recovery and transition
- Build relationships with fellow coal community leaders
- Connect with other communities engaged in economic diversification
- Share learning with home community



## Four Site Visits



# Commitment Coalition



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## Monthly Virtual Learning Series



## Peer Exchanges

- Collaborate with coal community leaders
- Connect with communities engaged in economic diversification
- Share advice and ideas across regions
- Address common challenges
- Celebrate shared solutions



# Commitment Coalition

## Public Engagement





## How to Apply

1. Visit [NACo.org](https://naco.org)
2. Download the application
3. Complete the application questions
4. Submit as an email attachment to [coal@naco.org](mailto:coal@naco.org)
5. Receive confirmation email

## Describe Your Community

- Introduce your community
- Share your community's connection to coal
- Describe local efforts to advance economic diversification

**Share Your  
Ideas and Goals**

**Explain challenges you would like to  
address through participation in the  
Coalition**

## Local Leaders

- What is your role in the community?
- How have you been involved in your community's economic transition?
- What do you hope to learn through the Coalition?
- How will you use the experience to serve your community?



## Review Process

- Dedication to community
- Track record in economic development
- Commitment to *Coalition* activities
- Collaborative and inclusive leadership
- Geographic diversity
- Capacity to serve as role model for similarly-situated communities

## Timeline

- Two-year program
- Applications due Friday, January 13th, 2023
- Selections announced in February 2023
- Kickoff webinar in February 2023



# Coal Communities Action Challenge

## What is the Action Challenge?

- A 12-month team-based technical assistance cohort to support under-resourced communities in the early stages of economic diversification.
- It will result in the creation of a strategy to take economic diversification in your community to the next step.



**Do you...**

- Want to create an economic diversification plan with the assistance of BRECC partners?
- Commit to fully participating in Action Challenge activities?
- Have a community team interested in pursuing economic revitalization?

## Create Your Community Team

- Identify at least three partners
- Include a county government representative
- List team members and contacts
- Designate team's lead contact
- Share team member experiences
- Incorporate cross-sector representation

## Action Challenge Activities

- Individualized coaching by BRECC partners
- Technical planning assistance
- Develop economic diversification strategy
- Attend quarterly virtual learning series
- Identify projects eligible for funding support
- Engage in peer mentoring
- Travel to in-person capstone event

# Action Challenge

## One-On-One Coaching



## Community-Specific Economic Diversification Strategy



# Action Challenge

## Quarterly Virtual Learning Series





# Action Challenge

## In-Person Capstone



## How to Apply

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5. Look for confirmation email

## Describe Your Community

- Introduce your community
- Share your community's connection to coal
- Describe challenges and goals to advance economic diversification

## **Describe Your Team**

- Name partners
- Share team's efforts to advance economic diversification
- Describe how your team will work together through the Action Challenge

## Review Process

- Partnership and collaboration experiences
- Appropriateness of team members
- Economic vulnerability
- Need for technical capacity resources
- Commitment to Action Challenge activities
- Potential to benefit from participation, and
- Geographic diversity.



## Timeline

- Two year-long Action Challenge cohorts
- Applications due Friday, January 13th, 2023
- Cohort 1 selections announced February 2023
- Kickoff Webinar February 2023
- Cohort 1 activities complete by February 2024
- Cohort 2 applications open November 2023



# The BRECC National Network

## **BRECC National Network Activities**

- Participate in a bi-monthly virtual learning series
- Connect with coal community peers
- Discuss problems and solutions in breakout sessions
- Gain exposure to case studies and best practices
- Learn about funding and resources available to coal communities

## How to Join

**1. Visit NACo's webpage for Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities:**

**<https://www.naco.org/resources/signature-projects/building-resilient-economies-coal-country/building-resilient-economies>**

**2. Register to join**

# Next Steps

**Download applications for the Commitment Coalition the Action Challenge at:**

**<https://www.naco.org/resources/signature-projects/building-resilient-economies-coal-communities>**

**Applications are due Friday, January 13, 2023, 11:59 p.m. EST**



# Next Steps

**Find today's presentation and a recording of the webinar on NACo's website after the event.**

**Please direct questions about the applications and BRECC to [coal@naco.org](mailto:coal@naco.org).**

**Questions?**  
**Contact [coal@naco.org](mailto:coal@naco.org)**

# Thank you for joining!



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