

# Definitions for RISE Challenge Illinois Materials

**Community Assets:** The people, structures, facilities, and systems that have value to the community.

**Hazard Mitigation:** Sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from hazards.

**Natural Disaster:** Include all types of severe weather, which have the potential to pose a significant threat to human health and safety, property, critical infrastructure, and homeland security.

**Natural Hazard:** The source of harm or difficulty created by a meteorological, environmental, or geological event.

**Prevention:** Actions necessary to avoid, prevent, or stop an imminent threat or actual act of terrorism.

**Protection:** Actions necessary to secure the homeland against acts of terrorism and manmade or natural disasters.

**Preparedness:** Actions individuals, organizations and communities can take now to ready themselves for a disaster or other adverse event (i.e. information awareness, making and publicizing emergency plans and having emergency supplies ready).

**Recovery:** Actions necessary to assist communities affected by an incident to recover effectively.

**Resilience:** Ability to adapt to changing conditions and withstand and rapidly recover from disruption due to emergencies.

**Response:** Actions necessary to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs after an incident has occurred.

**Risk:** the potential for damage, loss, or other impacts created by the interaction of natural hazards with community assets.

**Vulnerability:** characteristics of community assets that make them susceptible to damage from a given hazard.

