Storying Resilience
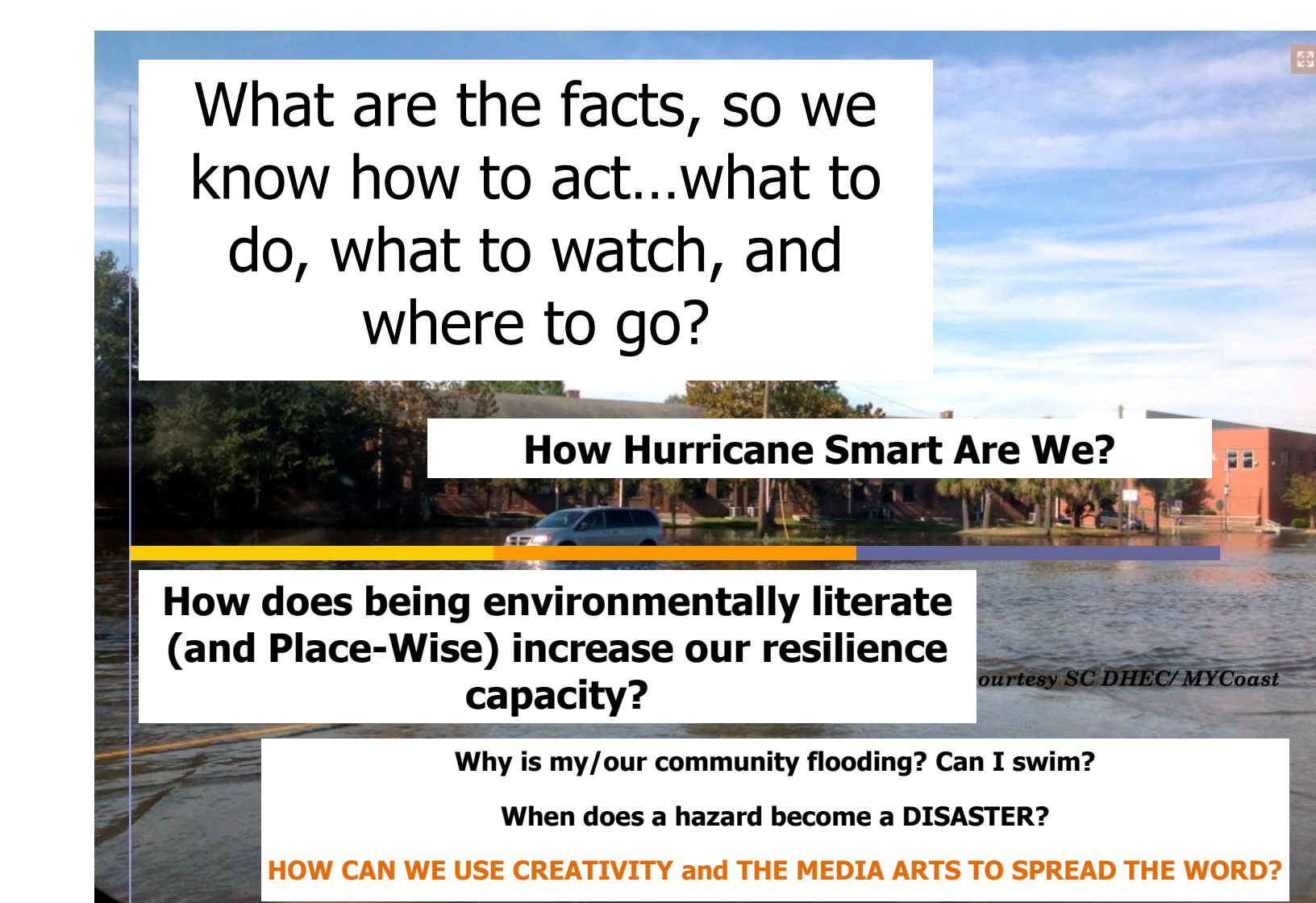
Kids Teaching Flood Resilience©

This capacity-building community and youth-based initiative deploys an emerging curriculum for "Educative Resilience Generation", developed by Dr. Merrie Koester, at the University of SC Center for Science Education. A NOAA Weather Ready Nation Ambassador program of excellence, KTFR affords students opportunities to become environmentally literate citizens, capable of employing evidence-based thinking, place-based analysis, model-based inquiry, and digital media arts to document and communicate hurricane hazard risk, stormwater management and water quality challenges, water safety practices, and saltmarsh ecosystem services. The work acknowledges the globally and locally disproportionate impacts of climate change, sea level rise, and development practices on historically marginalized communities.

The outreach is based on the claim that our youth can and should be regarded as vital resources for a community-based form of pre-disaster resilience and effective hazard risk messaging. The work centers the mitigation of educational vulnerability:

Educational vulnerability is a multi-jurisdictional problem caused by a lack of access to or awareness of the knowledge and resources that might reduce one's risk of harm from a potential hazard. Poor, historically marginalized communities are those that environmental issues like sea level rise and unsustainable development practices are most likely to adversely impact. They are also the most likely populations to lack access to (or trust) traditional means of hazard risk information disbursement.

What are the facts, so we know how to act...what to do, what to watch, and where to go?

How Hurricane Smart Are We?

How does being environmentally literate (and Place-Wise) increase our resilience capacity?

ourtesy SC DHEC/ MYCoast

Why is my/our community flooding? Can I swim?

When does a hazard become a DISASTER?

HOW CAN WE USE CREATIVITY and THE MEDIA ARTS TO SPREAD THE WORD?

Objectives

- Build upon existing strengths and community assets, positioning youth as **Weather Ready Ambassadors**— as protagonists in **real time disaster risk reduction stories**.
- Disrupt pre-existing conditions of EDUCATIONAL VULNERABILITY by challenging students to learn, appreciate, apply, and persuasively communicate science knowledge generated through the use of "NOAA Smart Tools", model-based inquiry, and place-based analysis of stormwater management, development practices, and situational vulnerabilities.
- Add value to students' personal lives through the development of educational resilience and college/career-building skills by working with community STEM, emergency management, and media arts mentors.
- Through GET HURRICANE SMART Innovations and Activities, drive home all the reasons why ONE SHOULD NEVER EVER SAY "WHATEVER", ESPECIALLY IN A HURRICANE!

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