GIMME AIR-SHELTER

Wildfire Relief and the Public Library

Katie Rickard, MLiS

The Problem

The summer of 2018 became "Smoke Season" on the west coast. Spokane had a record number of days with poor air quality.

Fire and smoke in the summer is a growing trend for
the west, which means poor air quality for many
communities and often most directly affecting the
most vulnerable populations.

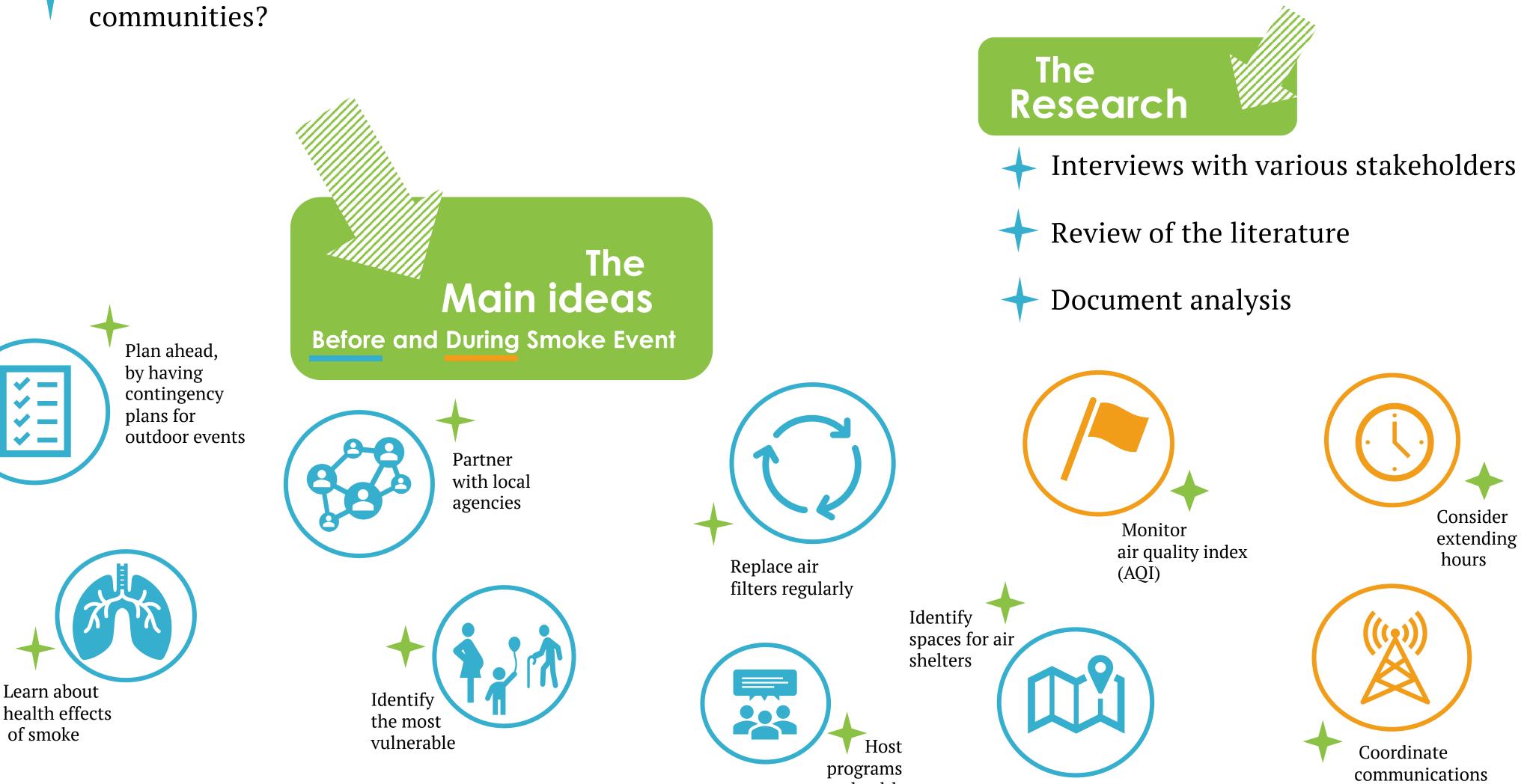
Why Libraries?

Libraries have a history of acting as "first
restorers" and "safe havens" for affected communities.

Libraries often step up during times of

How can libraries respond to this problem in their communities?

disaster and hardship, and will need to start planning for future disruptions in their communities.



Impact and Next Steps

Created an Ideas and Resources guide for public libraries

- Made recommendations for Spokane Public Library remodel
- Develop programming and partnerships with local organizations

Continue to watch community impact and iterate on ideas on health and how to prepare

and resources with local agencies





