



From Testimony to Praxis: The New Conscientious Objector as a Framework for Repair

A Shared Journey with Great Plains Action Society,
Decolonial Repair Network, and Bear Creek Friends Meeting

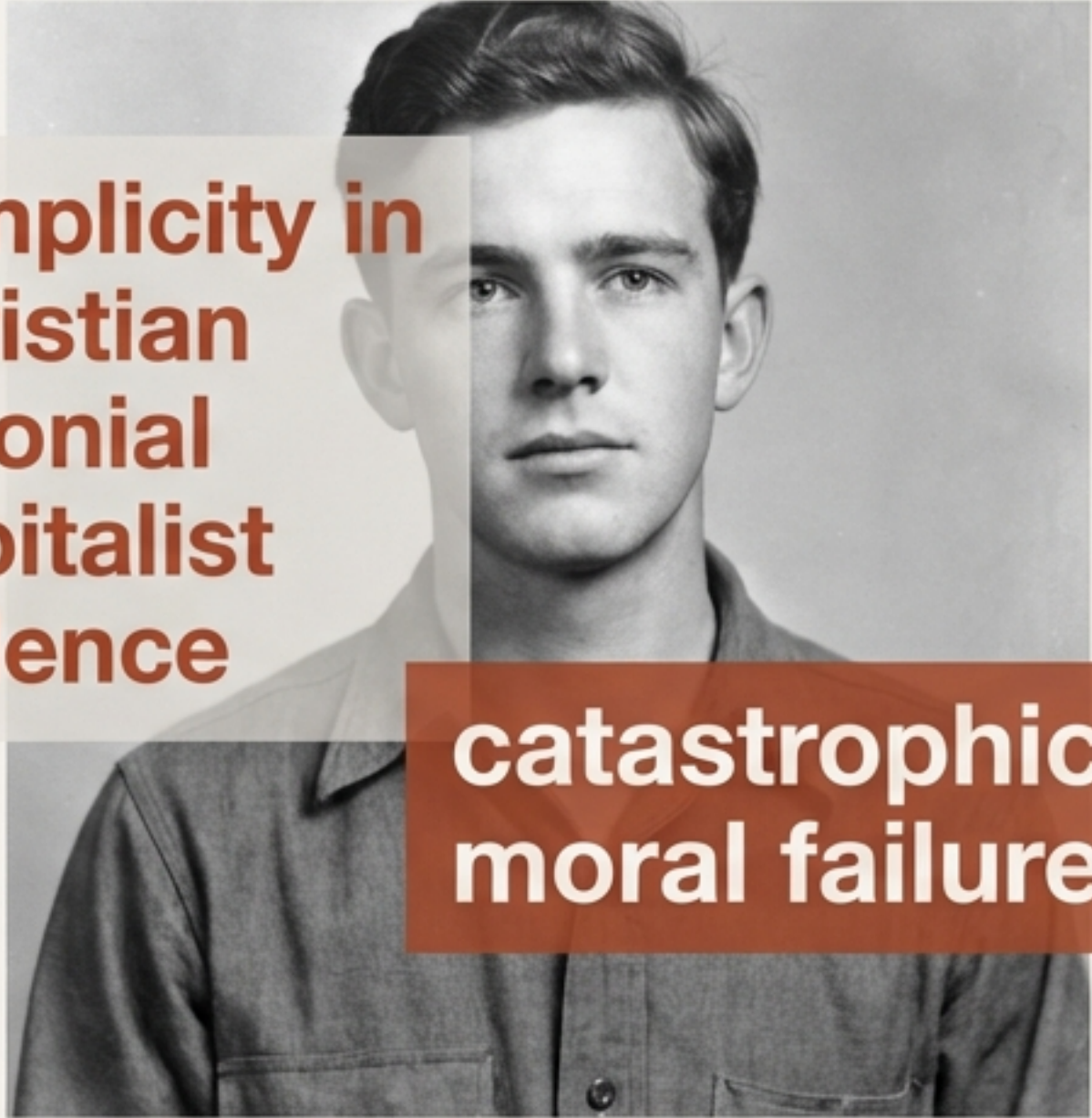


Path 1: The Evolution of Conscience

From a historical Peace Testimony to a crisis of integrity.

For centuries, the Quaker Peace Testimony was defined by Conscientious Objection—a courageous refusal to participate in war. Yet, a sober reckoning with our history revealed a “catastrophic moral failure”: our complicity in the systemic violence of colonialism, such as running Indian Boarding Schools.

Our traditional testimony was too narrow. It created a “Void of Spiritual Integrity,” demanding a deeper, more comprehensive form of objection.



**complicity in
Christian
Colonial
Capitalist
Violence**

**catastrophic
moral failure**

Path 2: The Evolution of Resistance

From a posture of protest to a prototype for the future.

For generations, Indigenous resistance has necessarily been a “posture of reactive protest.” While essential, this work, forged in crucibles like the NoDAPL resistance, is also acknowledged by GPAS leadership as being inherently “traumatic.”

The vision for the GPAS Hub marks a courageous and healing evolution: a move from this state of constant resistance toward the proactive, joyful, and sovereign act of *creation*—of building a working model of a decolonized world.



**From Protest
to Prototype.**

The Vision: Returning to Ourselves

This evolution is guided by **Indigenous Futurism**, a “methodology for decolonization” that asserts a vibrant, forward-looking Indigenous presence. It reframes ancestral knowledge (TEK) not as outdated, but as the *most advanced* science for solving 21st-century crises.

Its spiritual engine is **Biskaabiiyang**—the Anishinaabemowin concept for the collective process of identifying and “shedding the psychological and emotional burdens of colonization” in order to recover ancestral lifeways and “return to ourselves”.

a radical act of
world-building... a
living blueprint for a
decolonized future.



GUIDED BY **TEK**
(Traditional
Ecological
Knowledge)

The Convergence: A Framework for Repair

Where these two paths meet, a new framework is born: **The New Conscientious Objector (NewCO)**. This is more than an expanded Quaker testimony; it is a shared praxis for transformative accomplice-ship. It provides a “symmetrical antidote” to colonial violence by moving beyond objecting to a single war and instead engaging in **systemic non-cooperation with the entire colonial-capitalist system**.



A Shared Language: Three Braided Principles

The NewCO praxis is built on three interwoven principles that translate faith into action. They are the fulfillment of Quaker testimonies and the core methodology of the GPAS Hub. They are not separate pillars; they are a single, “braided” practice of liberation.

LANDBACK

Fulfills the Testimony of:
Integrity

Practiced as:
Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Mutual Aid

Fulfills the Testimony of:
Equality

Practiced as:
A Decolonial Economy

Abolition

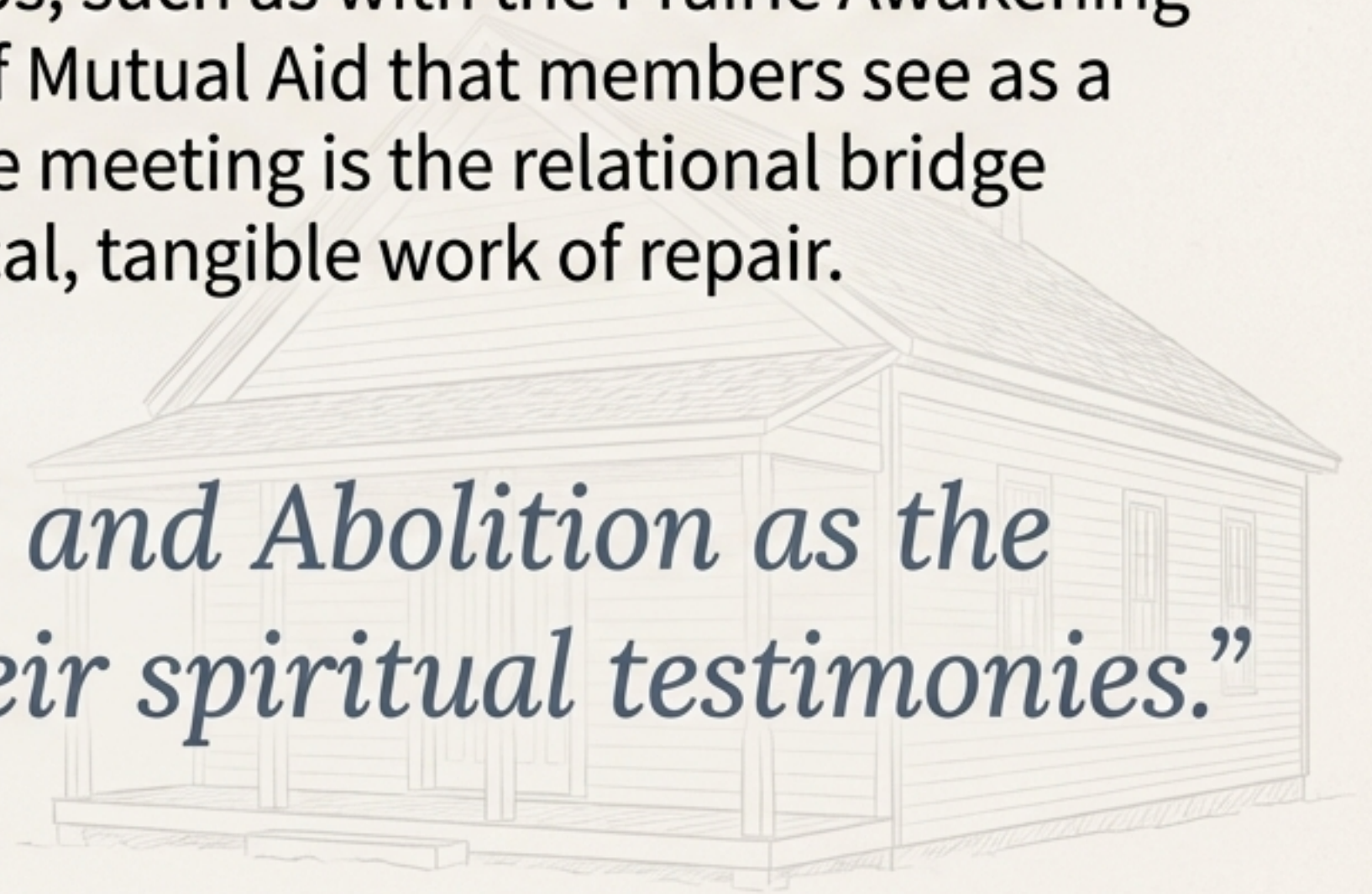
Fulfills the Testimony of:
Peace

Practiced as:
Healing Justice

The Local Prototype: Bear Creek Friends Meeting

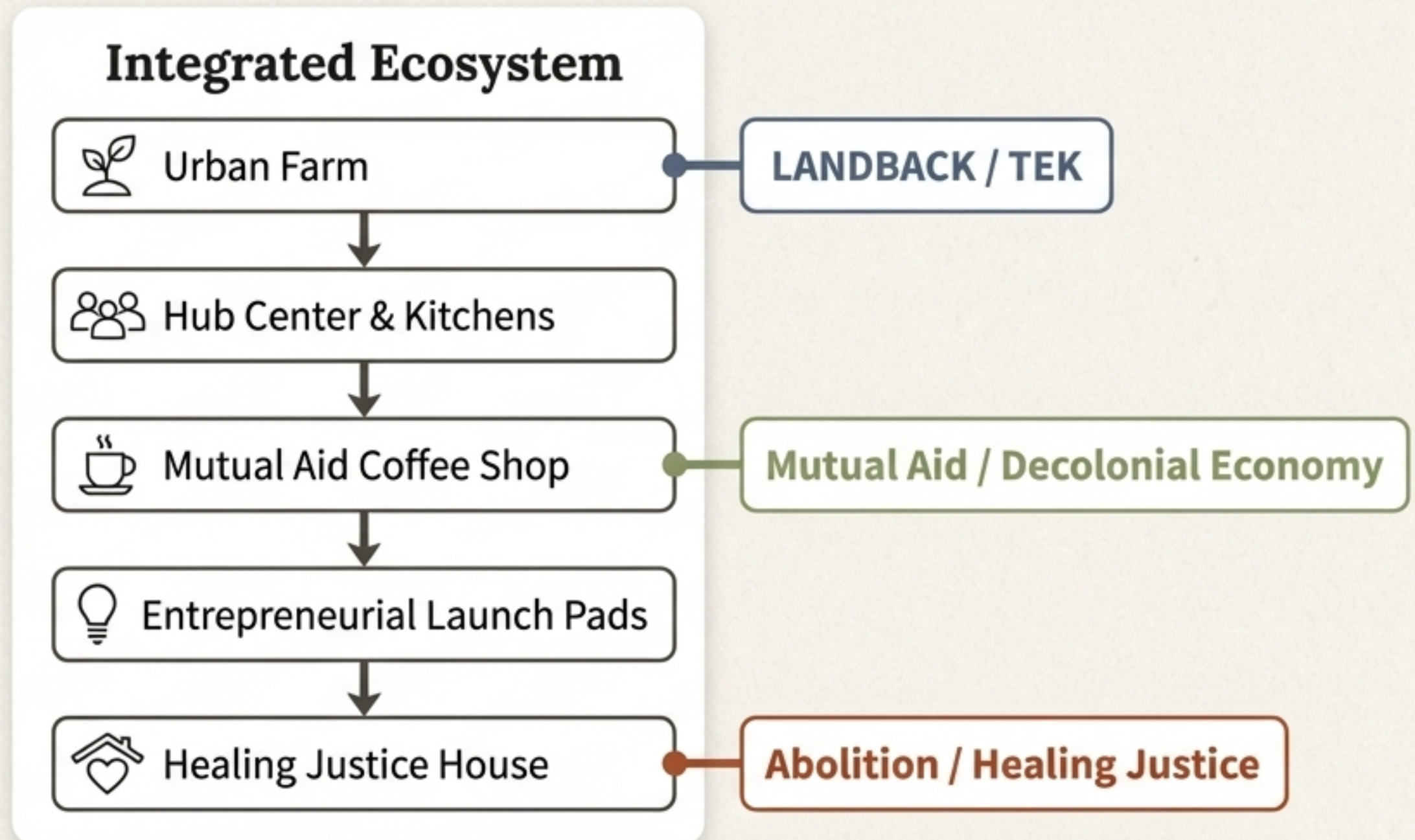
Theory becomes practice at the local level. Bear Creek Friends Meeting serves as the crucial prototype for how a historical Quaker body becomes a transformative accomplice. Through sustained relationships, such as with the Prairie Awakening celebration, and an existing “lived ethos” of Mutual Aid that members see as a “natural extension” of their community, the meeting is the relational bridge between institutional caution and the radical, tangible work of repair.

“Embracing Mutual Aid and Abolition as the inevitable fulfillment of their spiritual testimonies.”



NewCO in Action: A Living System

The GPAS Urban Resilience & Innovation Hub is the physical proof of the NewCO praxis. It is not a collection of buildings, but an integrated “living system” where healing, ecology, and economy are one single practice. Colonial capitalism separates our lives; this blueprint proves they are a single, braided practice of liberation.





The Foundation is Healing

The Abolition pillar is not destructive; it is about building a world where carceral systems are obsolete.

The **Healing Justice House** is the foundation for this work. It is a community-based alternative that recognizes that “to be in a constant state of resistance is traumatic,” and that healing is a “prerequisite for liberation.” Without it, the rest of the work is unsustainable.

- 1. Holistic Approach
- 2. Challenging Dominant Paradigms
- 3. Fostering Collective Liberation
- 4. Cultivating Resilience
- 5. Promoting Policy Change

An Invitation to Build

This is not a theoretical project. It is happening now. The foundational component of the Hub—the **Healing Justice House**—needs renovation. This is a direct, **time-sensitive** opportunity to put our faith into practice and move from **theory** to **action**.

WHAT: Renovation of the Healing Justice House

WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 30th - Saturday, Dec. 6th

WHERE: 418 E Benton Street, Iowa City, IA

CONTACT: eric.anglada@gmail.com

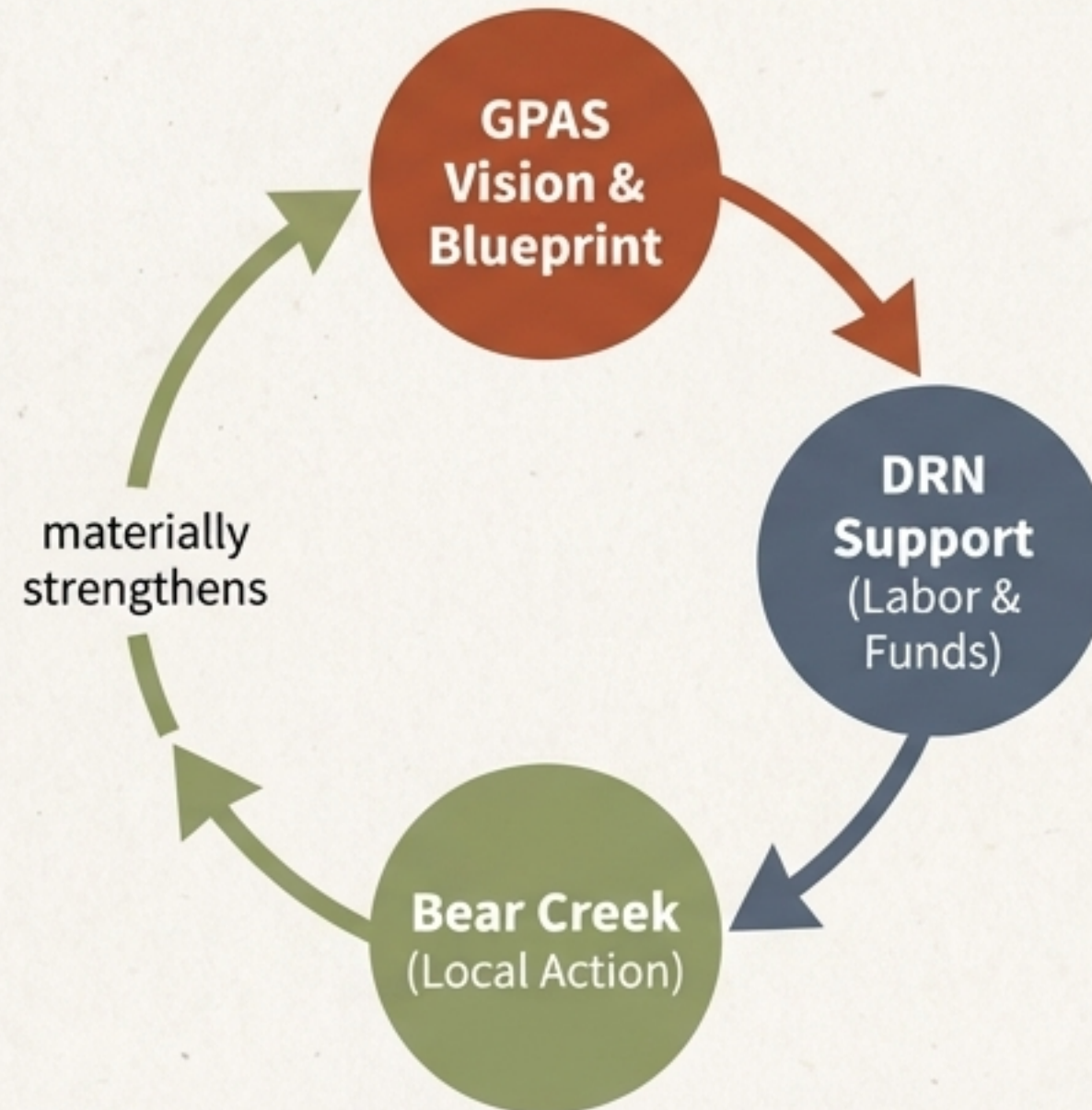
Our Role: Solidarity, Not Charity

This is not charity. It is a tangible act of Mutual Aid and Decolonial Repair. As the Decolonial Repair Network states, “white people bear a particular responsibility to repair the harm.” Our support is an answer to a direct call from Indigenous leadership. We are invited to show up—to follow, to listen, and to contribute our labor and resources to a vision defined by and for the Indigenous community.

How You Can Support	
Give Time:	Join the renovation work for all or part of the week.
Provide Sustenance:	Bring meals for the work crew.
Offer Shelter:	Offer housing for volunteers.
Contribute Funds:	Provide funds for materials and supplies.

The Interdependence of Our Liberation

The success of this entire vision rests on our interdependence. The philosophical demands for Abolition are given tangible direction by the LANDBACK blueprint of GPAS. The Decolonial Repair Network ensures non-Native allies provide material support. Bear Creek Friends Meeting demonstrates how local communities can bridge the gap from complicity to accomplice-ship. No single piece can succeed alone.



From One House to a Replicable Future

Your contribution is not just about one house. You are helping build the physical foundation for the entire revolutionary ecosystem. The GPAS Hub is, by design, a 'replicable model' and a 'prototype for 21st-century decolonial urbanism.' Its success will provide a tangible, working blueprint for other communities facing these same cascading crises. This is how we stop talking about a better world and start building it.

A Replicable Model for a Just Transition

The GPAS Hub is more than a local project; it's a prototype for 21st-century decolonial urbanism, proving that a world that prioritizes people and the planet is not only possible, but practical and resilient.



From Testimony to Praxis.
From Protest to Prototype.
Returning to Ourselves, Together.