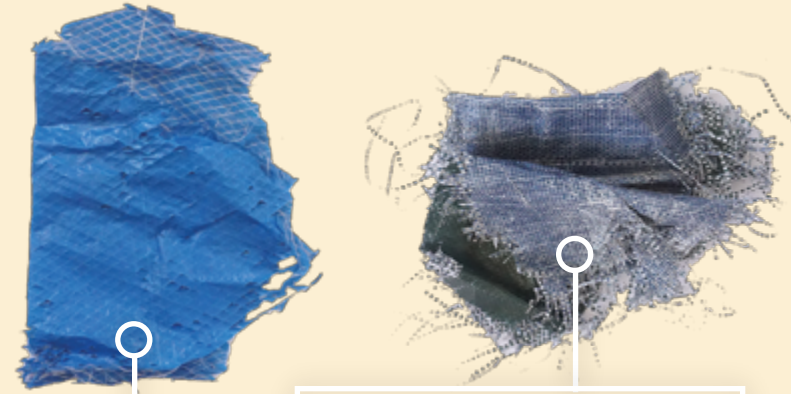






Billboard as a Tarping Solution

The Problem: Blue tarps that are given out by FEMA in the aftermath of a hurricane often fail. Tarps can be used for years before a homeowner is able to replace a roof. During these days, tarps are subjected to wind, sun, rain, and if they are not high quality- they will fail. Standard tarping uses strips of wood fir and nails or screws to secure down the tarp. Each time you put a nail into a roof, you put another small hole. Thus Louisiana Just Recovery Network was eager to find an alternative solution.



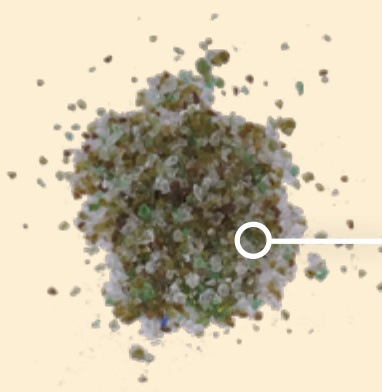
Failed tarps retrieved from houses in St. James Parish.



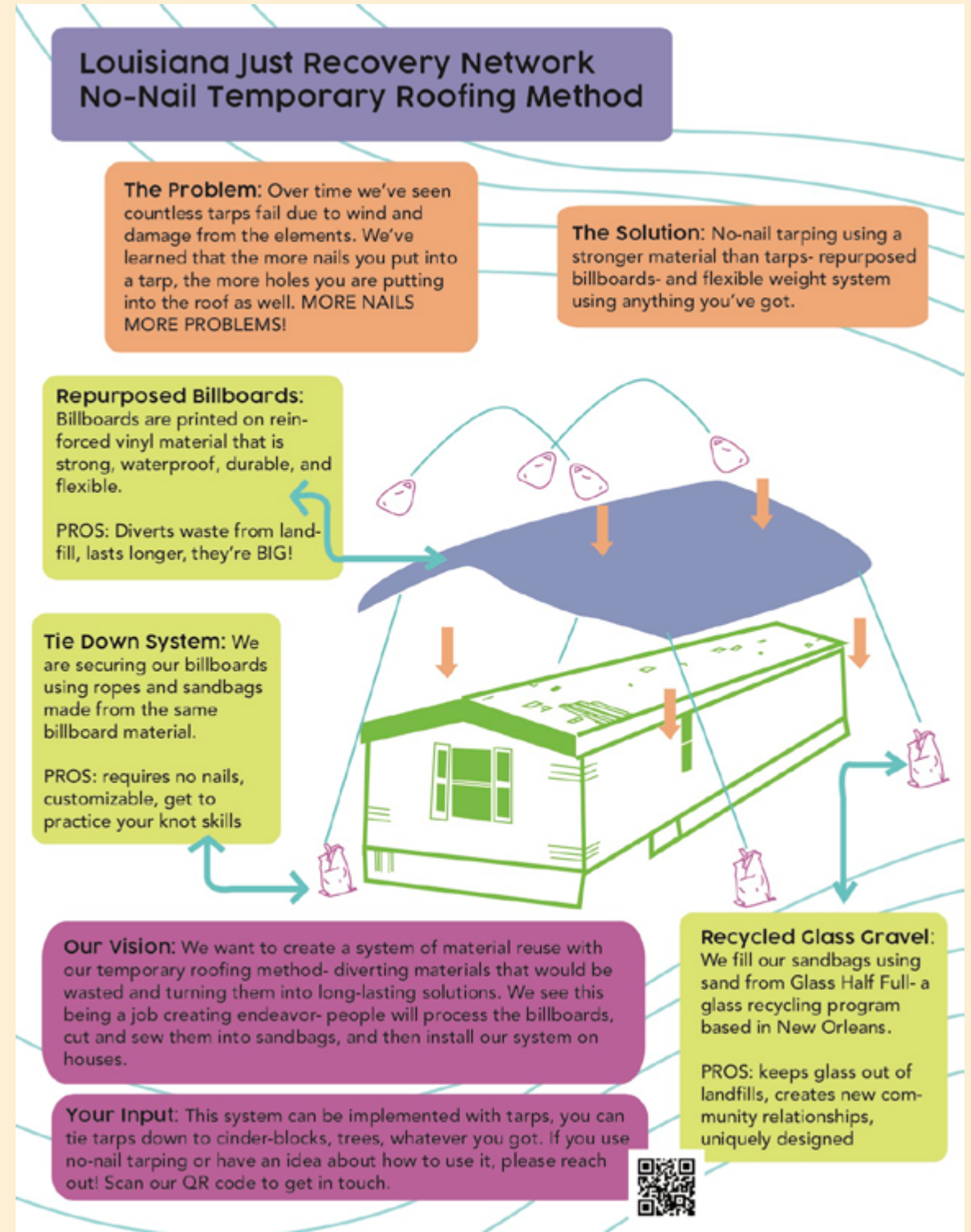
A Solution: Billboards. Billboards are a material that are meant for being outside, meant to withstand wind, rain, harsh weather. They are made from vinyl and have an inner rib stop grid meaning they do not rip even when holes are put into them. Billboards cannot be recycled- they are made from strong plastic and will not breakdown in landfills easily.



Sandbags Made From Billboards: We prototyped sandbags sewed from billboards filled with sand from Glass Half Full. We used this to pilot our sandbag tarping system.



Sand: Sand made from recycled glass bottles by Glass Half Full Nola- a non-profit that fills a gap in New Orleans glass recycling.



A Plan: We presented a No-Nail Tarping Plan at the Gulf South Gathering for Climate Justice and Joy to get feedback. While the plan was well received, the tarping solution was never quite implemented. Nailing into roofs is faster and once nailed, tarps are less likely to move around. This is important because LJRN serves an elderly population.



A roof on a home in St. James Parish lies bare amid a roof repair. The roof was repaired 4 months after it was damaged from Hurricane Ida.

