In an era of constant disruptions, what gives communities the ability to bounce back in the face of new challenges? What does it mean for the way we build—and rebuild—cities, neighborhoods, industries and networks? In times of change, why do some people, communities, companies and systems thrive, while others fall apart?

These are some of the questions asked and answered by international resiliency trainer and speaker Andrew Zolli, co-author of “Resilience: Why Things Bounce Back” and a strategic advisor to a wide array of governmental organizations, NGOs, startups, cultural and civil society groups, and companies such as Nike and GE. He will be a special guest to Greater Des Moines on April 25 for a community conversation about the resiliency of the region’s people and institutions.

“If we cannot control the volatile tides of change, we can learn to build better boats,” Zolli writes in “Resilience.” “We can design—and redesign—organizations, institutions, and systems to better absorb disruption, operate under a wider variety of conditions, and shift more fluidly from one circumstance to the next.”

Zolli’s trip to Greater Des Moines is a follow-up to a meeting last summer, when 150 nonprofit executive directors, board members and their corporate partners met to discuss how to navigate through times of disruption. To continue the conversation, several organizations have partnered to bring Zolli to Greater Des Moines for a day of discussion that is open to the public and especially applicable to leaders working in corporate, government and nonprofit settings.

There will be two opportunities to learn more about the emerging field of resilience and its applicability at the individual, organizational and community level to ensure continuity and recovery in the face of constant change. First, Zolli will give a talk as part of The Tomorrow Plan Speaker Series over the lunch-hour. That afternoon, he will lead a half-day nonprofit leadership training opportunity.

Both events are free and open to the public, but space is limited and registration is required. Details are below.
Learning to Bounce Back: Creating Resilient Communities

DATE: Wednesday, April 25, 2018
TIME: 11:30 a.m.  Pick up prepaid lunches.
         11:45 a.m.  Historical preview with State Curator Leo Landis
         12 - 1 p.m.  Keynote with Andrew Zolli.
LOCATION:  State Historical Building, Museum of Iowa,
           600 E Locust St, Des Moines.
FEE:  Event is free. Lunch (optional) is $11.
LUNCH:  Bag lunches from Cafe Baratta’s available for purchase
        online at app.tikly.co/events/2677
RSVP:  Please RSVP online at app.tikly.co/events/2677
AUDIENCE:  Corporate and nonprofit CEOs, board members,
            community leaders, elected officials, planners, change-makers,
            committee and task-force members, and more.

The Agile Turn: Fostering Resilience in People, Organizations and Systems

DATE: Wednesday, April 25, 2018
TIME: 2 - 5 p.m.
LOCATION:  Des Moines University, Student Education Center, 3200 Grand Avenue, Des Moines.
FEE:  No charge.
RSVP:  Registration is required. Space is limited; priority will be given to nonprofit organizations serving the Greater Des Moines Region.  Please register online at desmoinesfoundation.org/resilience.
AUDIENCE:  Nonprofit executive directors, senior and emerging nonprofit leaders, nonprofit board members, and corporate partners.