

August 28, 2019



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 21, Session 4.

This series of bi-weekly phone calls examines effective Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) strategies from experienced grantees. PLC calls share ideas among successful grantees and prepare interested organizations for the next EPA Request for Proposals. Calls will be a mix of open discussion, workforce development news, resources, and presentations from current grantees.

Topics:

1. News from Washington and HMTRI
2. PLC questions
3. Transportation issues
4. FY20 EWDJT timeline
5. Webinars and presentation PowerPoints
6. Training and technical assistance opportunities
7. Brownfield conferences, workshops, and meetings
8. Funding and leveraging opportunities
9. Post-proposal submission questions? Check in with EPA Regional Coordinators
10. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON AND HMTRI

EPA Happenings

[ACRES Webinar: For Job Training Recipients](#)

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

1pm Eastern Time

EPA will offer the following online training to aid Brownfields Cooperative Agreement Recipients in reporting their grant-funded activities using ACRES: For Job Training Recipients, this training will provide instruction on the process for submitting your Job Training data and demonstrate how to use the tools and functions in ACRES. Approximately 60 minutes. To join the session there is no need to pre-register for training, however it is recommended that you [test your computer](#) to ensure compatibility prior to the training. On the day of training, follow the instructions below (you will need to join BOTH a conference call and a virtual meeting):

- Phone: Dial 1 (408) 650-3123
- Phone: Enter the conference code 958-346-757
- Phone: the Audio Pin isn't needed
- Click the Join Meeting link next to the training you would like to attend, enter the meeting password: ACRES

[2019 National Brownfields Training Conference](#)

December 11-13, 2019

Affiliate Meeting programming (All-Grantee Meeting) on December 10

Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles CA

Brownfields 2019 is cosponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Offered every two years, the conference is the largest gathering of stakeholders focused on cleaning up and reusing formerly utilized commercial and industrial properties.

The Brownfields 2019 Educational Program is Now Live!

This year's National Conference will featuring dozens of educational sessions, the exceptional training offered by the conference has something for both beginners and seasoned professionals.

- Track 1: Sustainability, Livability, Resiliency
- Track 2: Financing Options, Real Estate, & Economic Development
- Track 3: Smart Cities and Communities
- Track 4: Community Engagement and Environmental Justice
- Track 5: State, Tribal and Local Government Programs and Partnerships
- Track 6: Liability and Enforcement
- Track 7: Cleanup and Remediation Approaches
- Track 8: Small Communities and Rural Places

HMTRI News:

2019 All-Grantee Meeting

In order to reduce grantee expenses, a one day 2019 All-Grantee Meeting will be held as an affiliate event in conjunction with the National Brownfields Conference.

The full day All-Grantee Meeting on December 10, 2019 will allow newly funded grantees to attend, reduce travel costs for all, and allow for better EPA and employer representation. The revised date (traditionally held in August) has been met enthusiastically by EPA and grantees with limited travel budgets. We are still working out agenda details and a mechanism for reimbursing two days of hotel expenses for workshop participants. You do not have to be an EWDJT grantee to attend, all PLC members are invited to the event.

EWDJT grantee representation at the 2019 National Brownfield Meeting December 11-13 2019

HMTRI has requested exhibitor space to represent the entire EWDJT grantee community. The goal of the exhibition booth is to develop EWDJT awareness among employers, potential partners and other community stakeholders. We would like to showcase accomplishments success stories and training offered by our grantees. Details for grantee participation will be discussed as we get closer to the conference.

2. PLC QUESTIONS

Can you give us details on registration for the All-Grantee Meeting and the National Brownfields Conference?

It would be OK to go ahead and register for the National Brownfields Conference. Plan on attending the full conference December 10th-13th, with travel on the 9th and 13th. Because we are still working out details on our room block for the All Grantee Meeting, there are a couple of options. Our block will be at the Sheraton but registration details have not yet been provided by the conference organizers. If you want to book a room early, you can always rebook in our block or you can wait until we get final registration details. (Those details should be finalized in the next week or two.)

Questions?

Still have unanswered questions during the evaluation phase of your EWDJT proposal? Respond to this email with inquiries or send them to:

hkballou@eicc.edu

3. TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Transportation issues and funding strategies

Recently the PLC has been discussing issues that impede the placement of EWDJT graduates. During these discussions, it has become clear that one hurdle to graduate placement was not having a driver's license. Many employers require a driver's license and all require proper identification for employment. For some, the costs associated with car ownership and obtaining a driver's license are not feasible. Since EPA funds cannot be used for life skills including driver training and licensing, are there any strategies that can mitigate this placement issue? HMTRI asked our listserv members for input and ideas. Today the PLC discussed the topic of transportation, graduate placement, and transportation strategies. These post session notes present a summary of ideas submitted by EWDJT grantees.

Except for rural or suburban communities where everyone drives a car, lack of transportation can be a major road block to employment. In many cases, it can also be an impediment to training resulting in reduced retention and graduation rates. If a student has difficulty getting to training and more difficulty reporting to work on time, is he a viable candidate for EWDJT?

Worker ID, email, and contact information

Before we get into transportation issues, let's begin with information applicants must establish before being considered for a driver's license, environmental training, or employment. All EWDJT applicants need basic identification to enter the program. In many cases, a state issued driver's license serves as that basic ID. Some people do not have a vehicle and do not have a need to drive so all they really need is a state issued ID. Applicants that do not have an ID can often work with the DMV, Division of Workforce Development, or Department of Social Services to get one. Some communities have social services programs that will help fund the cost of getting a card that often looks the same as a driver's license but does not allow the person to drive. In Missouri they are called the [Missouri Driver License and Nondriver License](#). In [Alaska](#) the State ID card costs \$15 in Missouri its \$11 for 6 years. If participants travel they may need a [Real ID](#) card which further verifies their identity and residence. The Real ID requires a Birth Certificate or Permanent Resident Card, Social Security Card, and two documents verifying their home address. After October 1, 2020, Real ID will be required to travel by air. In addition to the state or Real ID, every employee hired after November 6, 1986 must complete an employment eligibility verification on an I-9 form at the time of hire. Employees must complete Section 1 of the form then the employer must complete Section 2 within three days of the employee's starting date. The I-9 will also require the ID card, social security, citizenship or permanent residence, email, address, and phone number. If applicants do not have these forms of identification, the EWDJT programs must decide if they will not consider an application or use leveraged resources to assist applicants obtain them. This is also a good time to suggest that applicants establish professional email ID's avoiding names like "BadBoy" or "Slacker". Remember, email IDs will be seen by potential employers during the placement process.

Transportation to training

Transportation to EWDJT training is an issue, while not as critical as graduate placement, can have a major impact on student retention. Transportation to training is a responsibility of both the student and program planners. When selecting target communities and training locations, EWDJT grantees must consider student access to their program. "Build it and they will come" is not a best practice. As part of the community assessment effort, program planners need to consider participant transportation to training facilities. Locations close to target neighborhoods such as community centers, churches, or public works facilities may be selected for easy access to training. Direct bus routes, walking distance, and student parking must all be considered when choosing a training site. In extremely disbursed target

communities covering vast distances such as Alaska or tribal lands, transporting and housing students at a central training location may be a viable strategy.

Students also have a responsibility when it comes to attending sessions on time all the time. During the screening process, before signing a student contract of expectations and responsibilities, applicants must demonstrate the ability to attend class. Here are a few approaches, participants have used to get to class:

- Carpool with other participants
- Driven by friend or family member
- Public facility parking passes
- Public transportation (often with subsidized fares)
- Uber or Lyft prepaid cards
- Special programs sponsored by auto dealers
- Relocation within walking or easy transport to training

EWDJT programs in developed urban communities tend to have less of an issue with transportation to training because of well-developed public transportation systems. Suburban programs have less of an issue since most residents drive. Transportation to training is most difficult in underserved rural and less developed urban communities lacking good transportation networks.

Transportation to employment

Almost all EWDJT grantees indicate that transportation to employment is an issue and often the determinant factor in not being able to place a graduate. Hardest hit are target communities with employer deserts, where no employers are close and transportation networks are weak. Potential mitigation strategies begin with the Labor Market Assessment. Identifying and recruiting employers with central facilities or operating in disbursed locations where they are willing to pay transportation costs can obviate the need for employee transportation. Granted, there may be a limited number of employers with those characteristics, but they are employer candidates for EWDJT non-drivers. Here are a few types of employers willing to consider candidates without a driver's license:

- Employers that pick up workers at designated locations or bus stops
- City-based recycling facilities
- Municipal utilities
- Landfills
- Waste management and scrap facilities
- Large employers that establish car pool networks
- Manpower firms with locations where the employer will pay for transportation

License Suspensions, revocations, and fines

EWDJT participants have transportation issues for various reasons including, no car, and lack of, revoked, or suspended operator permits. Applicants may enter an EWDJT program with a valid driver's license only to have it suspended for a variety of reasons ranging from failure to pay parking tickets, child support, multiple moving violations, DUI, or criminal convictions. NJ state law prohibits early reinstatement of a license suspended due to moving violations, criminal, or DUI (and suspensions can range from 9 months to 10 years). Delaware only recently changed the law which revoked the license for individuals who had been convicted of a drug offense. Failure to pay parking tickets and child support suspensions may only be mitigated with payment of arrearages and time payment agreements from

each of the municipal courts where parking tickets have caused suspensions. Lack of transportation to work translates to loss of job and a downward spiral to chronic unemployment.

Ken Alexander from RecycleForce contributed an excellent suggestion used by their organization. “We encourage those that do not have a driver’s license and never acquired one to get started and we assist with transporting them to the DMV. Those that had driver’s license, but suspended do to not making child support payments, we can assist by referring them to our third party attorney that does pro bono work to have fees waived, get reinstatement fees waived, renegotiate arrearage by paying a set fee (as low as \$1.00) towards rear, and pay going forward. It all depend on the county and state laws and rules that pertain to fees that accrued while the non-custodial parent was incarcerated or indigent. Otherwise, we assist the individual with getting a court date to go before the judge in traffic court to pay fees or defend tickets.

Kenneth Alexander
kalexander@recycleforce.org”

This is a similar strategy used by Cypress Mandela in Oakland, CA except they have used EWDJT staff to vouch for the sincerity and motivation of their students.

Funding options and strategies

Contributions from Essex County, NJ provide an excellent summation of the limited funding options faced by EWDJT programs.

“Most, if not all employers in New Jersey require a valid driver’s license for many of the types of employment sought through this program. In fact, many apprenticeship programs also require reliable transportation as well. The majority of our clients are low or lower income and have barriers to employment – usually the causative factor in income status. In New Jersey, even in more urban areas, many low income residents do not have driver’s licenses as the cost of driver training can be prohibitive, and they also do not have the resources to purchase and insure a car. Even basic liability insurance in NJ is costly. Others have suspended licenses for a variety of reasons ranging from failure to pay parking tickets or child support, multiple moving violations, DUI, or criminal convictions. To my knowledge, federal funds, including WIOA, cannot be used for basic driver education and licensing, although once licensed for 2 years, WIOA finds can be used for CDL licensing. State funds also cannot be so used. We have searched without success for private funds, national and local, to provide initial driver education costs. As far as suspensions, it is a catch-22 for those suspensions that may be lifted with initiation of time payments- the ability to pay the reinstatement fee and remain current with time payments, where permitted, usually requires employment or some source of income.

rguarino@dedte.essexcountynj.org “

Auberle in McKeesport, PA in my opinion is one of our most socially conscious EWDJT programs. Abby contributed the following strategy for addressing participant transportation issues.

“At Auberle, we built our program to include driver’s training (at no cost to the EPA,) knowing that this would be a requirement of many of our employers. We use two main strategies:

We have business partners who pick up our participants who do not have licenses at central locations, usually along major bus routes in the Pittsburgh region, and then transport them to the worksite.

Meanwhile, the Employment Institute assists students in working with our driving school who offers lessons at a discounted rate to Auberle participants to obtain their licence-4 lessons and a test. Then, as

participants are working and have a few pay checks under their belts, we work with the participants to budget their money appropriately to be able to purchase their first vehicle/car insurance. We leverage other funding sources, such as WIOA Out of School through our Workforce Development Board or other donations, to assist participants in overcoming this barrier. If a participant isn't clean, we require our participants to be clean in order to obtain their license through our program, we leverage our Behavioral Health Department and make a referral for the participate in Drug and Alcohol therapy through our outpatient program so they can pass a clean urine screen at no cost to the EPA.

Abby Wolensky
abbyw@aublerle.org “

Thank you for all your contributions regarding this contentious issue impacting the retention and placement of EWDJT participants. Unfortunately we have not resolved the critical issue of transportation and graduate placement, but we will continue to “shine a light” on strategies that have helped some of our successful EWDJT grantees.

4. FY20 EWDJT TIMELINE

The timeline for each individual grant will depend on the official award date. A hypothetical schedule based on currently available information might look like the time line presented below. Let's assume a grant is announced in November. The FY20 EWDJT grant would extend from the official start date for three years. The first two years would focus on program development and delivery with a final year for additional training, placement, tracking, and program sustainability efforts. The work schedule might look like this:

July-September 2019

- Rejections for not meeting threshold criteria – Completed
- Proposal evaluations continue with recommendations for funding

October-November 2019

- Twenty funding awards announced –After the new fiscal year begins (may slip into November)
- Award letter and acceptance by applicant

November- December 2019

- Work plans reviewed and approved
- Terms and Conditions finalized
- Funding authorized
- Official notice that funds are available for spending
- Program planning and preparation for the first cohort under the new grant
- Post award meetings with Advisory Board, partners, instructors and community stakeholders
- All-Grantee Meeting - December 10th
- National Brownfields Conference – December 11-13th

January-March 2020

- Community awareness, program development, and marketing continues
- Quarterly and ACRES reporting due every quarter
- Leveraged services for program participants confirmed
- Recruitment and student assessment for initial training cohorts
- Training begins

April – July 2020

- Community awareness, recruitment and student assessment continues

- First cohort graduation and placement in “full swing”
- Quarterly and ACRES reporting due every quarter
- Training continues, curriculum review based on student feedback and assessments

July 2020 – November 2021

- Placement, community awareness, recruitment, and student assessment continues
- Training continues, revisions to curriculum if necessary
- Annual All-Grantee Meetings with idea exchange, leveraging and placement opportunities
- Anticipation and preparation for the next EWDJT funding cycle
- Search for additional support and backstop funding for program sustainability

November 2021 – November 2022

- Last year of the grant, training windup - placement, tracking
- Continued search for Federal and local funding for program expansion

5. WEBINARS AND PRESENTATION POWERPOINTS

[Real Estate \(RE\) Development Academy for Communities](#)

EPA's Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization

September 13, October 18, and November 8, 2019

1-3pm ET

Plan to join EPA's RE-Development Academy for Communities, a three-part FREE webinar series where you will learn the process for redeveloping a contaminated site through the eyes of a property developer.

Audience: Community members (including local, regional and tribal government representatives, economic development and environmental protection departments, community nonprofits, brownfield redevelopment agencies and land banks, & other local stakeholders), technical assistance providers, state and tribal staff, others.

Purpose: Increase your understanding of the real estate redevelopment process through the eyes of a developer! Learn about:

- Factors that motivate or discourage development of contaminated properties
- How & when developers make decisions
- Special issues to consider (compatibility of site cleanup & reuse, contaminant type & location, institutional or engineering controls, etc.)
- Pre & post redevelopment activities, determining cost & return on investment

To Register:

[September 13 Webinar: Redevelopment Process: The Intersection of Real Estate and Brownfields](#)

[October 18 Webinar: Peering into the Crystal Ball: How the Market Decides Future Use!](#)

[November 8 Webinar: Pulling Back the Curtain: How Developers Make Money!](#)

[NIEHS Presentations available](#)

Workplace Stress and Addiction Workshop

The presentations are available from the Exploring Workplace Training Interventions Addressing Workplace Stress and Addiction Workshop and the NIEHS WTP Awardee Meeting, which took place on May 14-16 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. WTP Awardee United Steelworkers Tony Mazzocchi Center for Health, Safety and Environmental Education hosted the workshop. The meeting brought awardees together to provide program updates, exchange information regarding training, and discover new areas of interest to awardees.

Urban Redevelopment: Building Stronger Communities

November 7, 2019

Brooklyn, NY

CCLR is back in Brooklyn convening regional players tackling the reuse of abandoned and distressed properties for stronger communities. This conference will spotlight community voices, non-traditional financing options, brownfield redevelopment along waterways, and report outs from City and State agencies. The current information and contacts you'll gain will position you ahead of the curve in a rapidly evolving regulatory and program landscape.

TechDirect

TechDirect, prefers to concentrate mainly on new documents and the Internet live events. However, we do support an area on CLU-IN where announcement of conferences and courses can be regularly posted. We invite sponsors to input information on their events at <https://clu-in.org/courses> . Likewise, readers may visit this area for news of upcoming events that might be of interest. It allows users to search events by location, topic, time period, etc. If you have any questions regarding TechDirect, contact Jean Balent at balent.jean@epa.gov.

6. TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES

ACRES training for EWDJT grantees

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

1 p.m. Eastern Time

EPA will offer the following online training to aid Brownfields Cooperative Agreement Recipients in reporting their grant-funded activities using ACRES. To join the session there is no need to pre-register for training, however it is recommended that you [test your computer](#) to ensure compatibility prior to the training. On the day of training, follow the instructions below (you will need to join BOTH a conference call and a virtual meeting):

Phone: Dial 1 (408) 650-3123

Phone: Enter the conference code 958-346-757

Phone: the Audio Pin is not needed

WebEx Session EXIT

Click the Join Meeting link next to the training you would like to attend, enter the meeting password: ACRES

Environmental Education Webinars

Check out upcoming and archived webinar series for environmental educators.

Topics include school recycling programs, teaching outdoors, farm-to-school programs, and more.

Local Foods, Local Places Technical Assistance

Deadline: September 30, 2019

EPA invites communities interested in revitalizing neighborhoods through development of local food systems to apply for [Local Foods, Local Places](#) technical assistance. Local Foods, Local Places supports projects that:

Create livable, walkable, economically vibrant main streets and mixed-use neighborhoods.

Boost economic opportunities for local farmers and main street businesses.

Improve access to healthy, local food, especially among disadvantaged populations.

How to apply: See the complete [application instructions](#)

Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities

Five EPA grantees provide technical support to following types of Brownfields grants.

- *Assessment Grants provide funding for brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.*
- *Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up brownfield sites.*
- *Cleanup Grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.*
- *Multipurpose (MP) Grants provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area.*
- *Area-Wide Planning Grants provide funding to communities to research, plan and develop implementation strategies for cleaning up and revitalizing a specific area affected by one or more brownfield sites.*

Technical assistance support organizations include the following.

[New Jersey Institute of Technology \(NJIT\)](#) Supports communities in EPA Regions 1, 3, 4

[Center for Creative Land Recycling \(CCLR\)](#) Supports communities in EPA Regions 2, 9, 10

[Kansas State University \(KSU\)](#) Supports communities in EPA Regions 5, 6, 7, 8 & Tribes

[Groundwork USA \(GW USA\)](#) Supports brownfields and equitable development approaches

[Council of Development Finance Agencies \(CDFA\)](#) Supports brownfields funding/financing

Technical assistance associated with job training and workforce development is the responsibility of HMTRI.

[Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute \(HMTRI\)](#) Supports environmental workforce development & job training in all regions

7. BROWNFIELD CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND MEETINGS

[Kentucky Brownfield Grant Review Intensive](#)

September 4, 2019, 8:00 AM - 4:15 PM Central

Frankfort, KY 40601

Join us for our one-day EPA brownfield grant proposal intensive, which will provide participants with a solid understanding of grant writing tips and tricks that will help make proposals stronger and stand out from the competition. We will be hosting grant reviewers from the regional Targeted Assistance to Brownfield center (New Jersey Institute of Technology) and federal EPA Region 4, who will stay to provide a one-on-one consultation to communities during the afternoon session.

[2019 West Virginia Brownfields Conference](#)

September 10-12, 2019

Morgantown, WV

The WV Brownfields Conference & Main Street/ON TRAC Training is West Virginia's premier redevelopment event that combines educational programs with networking opportunities between communities, local governments, development professionals, and service providers. The conference features expert panels, interactive workshops, technical training, and project case studies.

The Conference Planning Committee is currently seeking mobile workshop and breakout session ideas to fill limited slots for the 2019 Conference in Morgantown, WV on September 10-12. We are looking for session ideas focused on downtown development, remediation and site preparation strategies, re-use planning approaches, and redevelopment funding opportunities. Creative session formats, such as town

hall or roundtable discussions and interactive workshops, as well as traditional panel presentations, are encouraged.

[2019 Alabama Brownfields Conference](#)

September 26, 2019

Birmingham, Alabama

The 2019 Alabama Brownfields Conference will be held on September 25th & 26th at the newly renovated Hilton Birmingham at UAB in the heart of Birmingham's resurgent Southside. Stay tuned for registration and sponsorship opportunities. For more information see the events tab on the webpage below.

[2nd National Opportunity Zone Boot Camp & Pitch Competition](#)

October 17, 2019

Newark, New Jersey

The New Jersey Institute of Technology in downtown Newark will host the 2nd National Opportunity Zone Boot Camp & Pitch Competition, a groundbreaking real estate redevelopment event with real investment potential and prizes at stake in a live project competition! [BrownfieldListings.com](#) (BL), the national redevelopment ecosystem, is thrilled to announce another dynamic and deeply substantive real estate redevelopment event navigating the critical path to successful long-term investment in any of the 8,700+ areas designated as an "Opportunity Zone" (OZ). In collaboration with the New Jersey Innovation Institute, the groundbreaking and action-oriented [Newark Opportunity Zone Boot Camp & Pitch Competition](#) will take place October 17, 2019 at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in downtown Newark, New Jersey. The day's blended educational program will brief attendees on the nuts & bolts of real-world real estate redevelopment in OZs by hosting a diversity of leading experts in the many disciplines implicated by the new OZ regime, including: finance, law, lending, real estate development, brownfield redevelopment, economic development, community development, environment, engineering, regulation, community engagement and public policy. Worksheets & takeaway materials will be provided on site and every presentation will be shared with attendees afterwards!

The [Newark Opportunity Zone Boot Camp & Pitch Competition](#) concludes with an open and free [project competition](#) that places real people pitching real projects in front of redevelopment experts to judge who presents the most compelling and impactful OZ investment opportunity. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded in the reception that follows!

Anyone with an OZ project may freely enter it into [Pitch Competition](#). Semi-finalists will be selected and notified on a rolling basis. And every qualified entry will be included in the event's Project Marketplace!

This is a must-attend event for: (1) real estate investors, developers and redevelopers, (2) communities, corporations and landowners, (3) professionals working in real estate, economic development or community development, (4) public sector staff working in local, state or federal government on redevelopment and reinvestment in OZs, and (5) anyone interested in learning about real estate investment into OZs and how to leverage greyfield, brownfield, landfill and even Superfund assets in this once-in-a-generation community reinvestment opportunity into our nation's chronically under-invested communities.

[2019 Southeast Brownfields Conference](#)

October 27-30, 2019

DoubleTree Universal Orlando

Orlando, Florida

As the region's premiere brownfields conference, this is your opportunity to learn more about local brownfields redevelopment programs. The event will comprise presentations on managing redevelopment initiatives, obtaining project funding, successes and lessons learned, and more. Build your network of colleagues and peers. Learn from others and share your ideas. Make plans to join us for another great event. Abstracts will be accepted until June 14, 2019. Please submit all abstracts to FBASE2019@terracon.com. NJIT will be in attendance and available to any community looking to get FREE one-on-one technical assistance!

[National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program](#)

April 22-25, 2020

Hilton Washington DC National Mall

District of Columbia

Leaders from various sectors will engage in 3 plus days of free exchange of new ideas and new approaches to building healthy communities. These general and interactive training sessions will feature voices of experience, research, discussions, and thought-provoking dialogue. The program format will feature needs and challenges of communities, governments, municipalities, tribes, faith-based organizations, and others with interests in environmental justice and health disparities and how addressing them together can build health communities. This joint conference will highlight programs and collaborations that work, as well as initiatives that will not prove successful. Program speakers will feature representatives from Federal and state agencies, local governments, tribes, community groups, business and industry, public interest groups, academia, and other entities. This interactive forum will give conference participants the opportunity to network with a variety of interests from diverse quarters. All conference participants will realize informative and productive resources that can support their individual program goals and objectives. Conference participants will also see examples of approaches that produce positive results through innovation and collaboration. All in all, the conference will prove beneficial and informative to participants.

8. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES

[Guide to Finding Federal Assistance and Resources for Environmental Justice Efforts](#)

This EPA guide offers general guidance and tips on searching for funding opportunities, as well as information on tools, trainings and other relevant resources that are available to help address community needs. The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) includes several federal agencies and White House offices that increase local community capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions to environmental justice issues.

[Eileen Fisher -SUPPORTING WOMEN IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE](#)

“We believe that a future with inclusive, equitable and sustainable systems for all people depends on deepening the connection between women’s rights and environmental justice. After extensive research, we have designed a grant program to address the fact that, globally, women and girls are the most vulnerable to climate change and hold the firsthand experience to solve it. Linking these two issues not only feels like a natural next step for our company, it is essential to accelerate progress towards improving the status and rights of women and the health of our planet.

Beginning in 2019, we will award \$200,000 annually in amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000. Applicants must align with one or more of these key points:

1. Increasing women's participation in decision-making. Nonprofits and applicable programs are not required to have an explicit environmental focus, but they must be able to demonstrate how their program creates positive environmental outcomes.
2. Training women and girls in climate change adaptation, mitigation and advocacy. Nonprofits and applicable programs must provide women and girls with knowledge, tools and access to contribute to climate change resiliency and/or advocate for improved climate change policies.
3. Engaging women in the sustainable economy. Nonprofits and applicable programs must create opportunities for women to pursue livelihoods that elevate them as leaders in environmental solutions while improving their well-being and that of the planet.

Eligibility

Organizations must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

- Be an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization*
- Provide direct services
- Address one or more of the above key points
- Program's mission focuses primarily on individuals who identify as female
- Executive leadership reflects the demographics of the program's beneficiaries
- Program has been generated by and/or co-designed with the communities it serves
- Able to provide financial statements for one full year of operations
- Able to complete an application and participate in an interview in English

*While organizations must be IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofits, there is no geographic restriction on the programs for which they are applying.

[Research to build resilience in vulnerable communities.](#)

Applications deadline: September 26, 2019.

The [funded research activities under this announcement](#) are intended to build better resilience in vulnerable communities against issues such as chemical contaminants, natural disasters and changing environmental conditions.

[National Trust Preservation Funds](#)

Deadline: October 1

Grants from National Trust Preservation Funds (NTPF) are intended to encourage preservation at the local level by providing seed money for preservation projects. These grants help stimulate public discussion, enable local groups to gain the technical expertise needed for particular projects, introduce the public to preservation concepts and techniques, and encourage financial participation by the private sector.

[NIEHS Hazardous Materials Worker Health and Safety Training](#)

Letter of Intent Receipt Date: October 21, 2019

Application Receipt Date: November 21, 2019

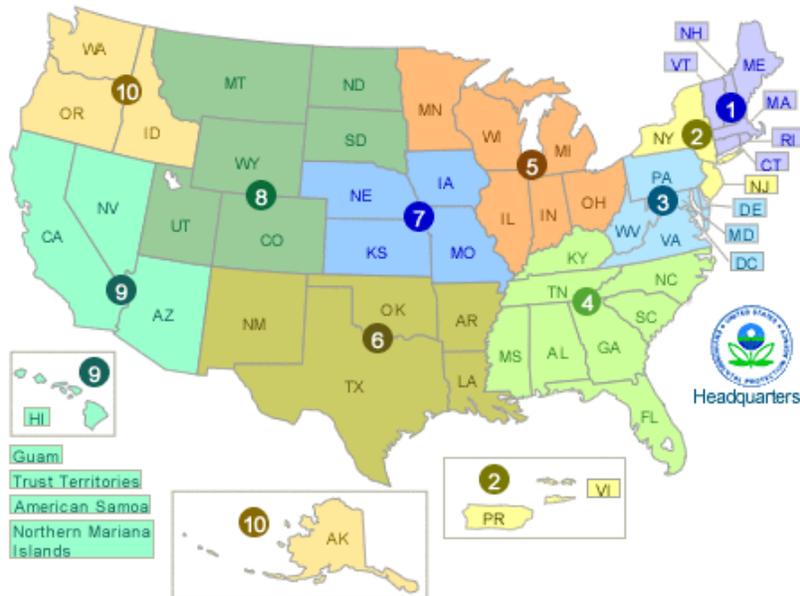
2019 FOA Briefing Informational Meeting: September 12, 2019

NIEHS invites applications for cooperative agreements to support the development of model programs for the training and education of workers engaged in activities related to hazardous materials and waste generation, removal, containment, transportation and emergency response. This funding opportunity announcement aims to prevent work-related harm through safety and health training. The training

programs will transmit skills and knowledge to workers in how best to protect themselves and their communities from exposure to hazardous materials encountered during hazardous waste operations, hazardous materials transportation, environmental restoration of contaminated facilities or chemical emergency response. A variety of sites, such as those involved with chemical waste cleanup and remedial action and transportation-related chemical emergency response, may pose severe health and safety concerns to workers and the surrounding communities. These sites contain many hazardous substances, sometimes unknown, and often a site is uncontrolled. A major goal of the Worker Training Program (WTP) is to support institutional competency-building for the development and delivery of model training and education programs.

9.EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS

EPA Region 1 Danny Rodriguez	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1060 E-mail: rodriguez.danny@epa.gov
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EPA Region 3 Gianna Rosati	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3406 E-mail: rosati.gianna@epa.gov
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10. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

Mark your calendar for future Cycle 21 PLC calls.

- September 11
- September 25
- October 9
- October 23
- November 6
- November 20

Join our 30-minute discussion with EPA EWDJT grantees, alumni and new interested stakeholders. PLCs give grantees a chance to highlight their programs and an opportunity for others to learn from their experience. For questions or to be placed on the PLC register, send your contact information to hkballou@eicc.edu.

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](#) website for more information on Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs. All [PLC session notes and recordings](#) are also located on the website. For those interested in providing content or suggestions, please contact Heather Ballou at hkballou@eicc.edu.

NOTE: The PLC brings together ideas and opinions of individuals interested in environmental workforce development and job training. Ideas and opinions are not those of EPA or its policy and should not be taken as official guidance.

