

August 14, 2019



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 21, Session 3.

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. Placement strategies continued... St. Nicks Alliance, Brooklyn, NY
4. FY20 EWDJT Timeline
5. Webinars and presentation power points
6. Training and professional development 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**

#### **[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.

### **Funding announcements for FY20 EWDJT grants**

As we have discussed, the schedule for EWDJT grant awards has been revised from previous years. This cycle of EWDJT grantee funding will come from the EPA Federal Fiscal year 2020 budget, which begins October 1, 2019. As a result, funding announcements cannot be made before October and will most likely be made in November. This year, twenty awards will be divided among first, second, and third year grantees in addition to new startup programs.

### **Attention grantees and prospective grantees in the Southeast**

EPA is cosponsoring a one day workshop titled "Opportunities for Funding and Resources to develop and Train Local Workforces" August 21, 2019. The event will be held from 1:00 –5:00 PM CDT in the Holley Lecture Hall Florida State University, Panama City, FL. This workshop is designed to allow information exchange on programs and resources for communities interested in improving and sustaining job opportunities in Florida. Check out details and registration in section 7 of these notes.

## **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. HMTRI is in the process of event planning and will provide details as more information becomes available.

### **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.

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the [brownfields-toolbox.org/plc-sessions/](http://brownfields-toolbox.org/plc-sessions/). For questions or to be placed on the PLC register send contact information to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

## **2. PLC QUESTIONS**

At this week's PLC discussion on placement, it was noted that a major hurdle to placement was not having a driver's license. Many employers require a driver's license for employment. Drivers' licenses are used as a method of identification, transportation to jobs as well as a life skill recognized as necessary in many parts of the country. For many individuals, the cost associated with obtaining the driver's license is not feasible. EPA funds cannot be used for life skills – like the driver's license. What are some of the solutions that grantees have found to address this placement issue?

*A great question and important issue regarding student placement. HMTRI posted the question on the Listserv. Thank you for your input and ideas. In just two days over 15 participants responded.*

*Transportation appears to be a major concern to many EWDJT programs both as part of training as well as placement. To continue the dialogue on the driver's license issue, we will be discussing transportation as an impediment to both training and placement at the next PLC August 28<sup>th</sup>. Until then, here is a sampling of the ideas presented thus far.*

- *Pamela Carunchio: pcarunchio@gmail.com. Here at ECA, we have found the following: This is an issue generally with our trainees, and it does limit the opportunities that these people have. For those who cannot get their license, we look for placements that don't require them, such as city-based recycling and other waste management efforts, or FEMA projects in other locations where the employer will pay for transportation. Many of our trainees' licenses were revoked. Whenever we can, we ask the person's state representative to help him/her get the license reinstated. Some people never had a license. Philadelphia has a very good public transportation system. No question that it really does limit people's opportunities. It was great to learn that Ivan at Saint Nicks gets people learners' permits as a first step. That gives them a positive first step.*
- *Meg Burgett : MBurgett@akforum.org. Alaska has a low cost (\$15) State ID that we accept if they don't have a driver's license, which is very common in AK.*

- *Rita Ware: Rita@epa.gov . A driver's license is a means of identification and in most cases a State ID serves the same purpose. I hope this helps.*
- *Jones, Catherine: catherine.jones@dnr.mo.gov. You can work with your state's Division of Workforce Development and/or Department of Social Services.*
- *They have many programs that can help fund the cost of getting a Driver's License or at least a State Identification card that looks the same just doesn't allow the person to drive.*
- *Some people don't have a vehicle and don't have a need to drive so all they really need is the State ID. In Missouri they are called: The Missouri Driver License and Nondriver License <https://dor.mo.gov/drivers/license.php>. A Nondriver License is only \$11 and good for 6 years.*
- *Penn, Shelley: spenn@feckc.org . Please send checklist for documents accepted in lieu of driver's license.*
- *Elizabeth Hughes: e.hughes@earthconservancy.org . Technically, we do not require a driver's license, but in our literature we do list it as one. That way, we can use it as an evaluative factor, if needed. Part of the reason is that the college campus where the trainings are held is not accessible by public transit. The other, as you noted, is that many of the employers require one. I do let applicants without a DL know that not having one may limit their chances of employment. Unfortunately, we have no suggestions for acquiring one. Of the three participants who did not have one, one acquired his before training began, one carpooled, and one had a family member drive him.*
- *Ronike Haynie: RHaynie@westendnh.org . My name is Ronike Haynie I am the new EPA employment specialist here at West End Neighborhood House In Wilmington , DE. This topic came up and was discussed during the Brown fields meeting in Dover, DE this past spring. During the group discussion someone mentioned the Uber Pacific North West Community Impact Initiative. Uber has partnered with local nonprofits in the pacific North West region to create a social impact. In 2018 they partnered with more than 45 nonprofits in the region, contributing over \$600,000 in financial assistance and Uber rides. Partnering with Uber or even Lyft to make sure transportation is no longer a roadblock would be asset to our program, but also securing funds for Uber or Lyft prepaid cards could also help in eliminating the transportation barriers.*
- *Morgan, John: jmorgan@eicc.edu . Find sponsors or sponsoring agencies to fund a licensing program, Check with state DVM for forgiveness programs based on need, Possibly get AAA safe driver programs to educate new drivers.*
- *Gerald Dunbar: gldcop@yahoo.com. Some strategies for getting the driver's license: Go to court and get fines reduced. Use grant funds or donations to pay when necessary. Use WIOA funds when and where allowed. See if a family member will help. Each and every year we are able to help the vast majority of those without licenses to get their initial license or have a revoked or suspended one restored.*
- *Paul Calistro: PCalistro@westendnh.org . We do not require driver's licenses to enter the program. It is a huge barrier for employment in all of our programs. If they have not lost their license due to fines or other activities there are video sand practice tests available on line. We also worked to change the law in Delaware which had taken away license for individuals who had been convicted of a drug offense.*
- *Alexandra Torres: atgalancid@winterwomen.org. We require DL. If cost is an issue, we collaborate with County to provide reduce fee co-enroll with WIOA funded program to cover the cost*
- *Chris Litzau: investinyouth@wi.rr.com . Enroll them into FSET to access assistance with issues that may prevent them from obtaining the license.*

- *Elizabeth Cornell: ecornell@limitlessvistas.org . We do not require a driver's license for all but one of our programs. A driver's license is a huge barrier to employment here in Louisiana. It is very expensive (Required driving school costs, costs for the driving test, and finally for the license itself). We have not had any luck figuring out a way to cross that bridge other than pre-planning and saving up for the costs. We have looked into getting funding to specifically cover those costs but have not yet been successful.*
- *Ilyssa Manspeizer: ilyssa@landforcepgh.org. We employ many of the techniques described above and agree that having a valid driver's license is essential. Anyone in our program / employment who gets their drivers permit while working with us can take driver training lessons that we pay for. We include these lessons in our budget every year and so far have been able to use grant dollars to pay for the training. What we don't have, and go back and forth on whether or not we should have, is a pot of money to help people clear their fines. We haven't yet wrapped our heads around how to do it equitably since not everyone has fines, and even amongst those that do, their fines vary widely.*
- *Kenneth Alexander: kalexander@recycleforce.org . 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 BMV. 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, negotiate / rearrange 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.*

#### 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](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu)

### **3. PLACEMENT STRATEGIES CONTINUED... ST. NICKS ALLIANCE, BROOKLYN, NY**

Thanks to this sessions guest, Ivan Thomas, St. Nicks Alliance, Skills Training Program Manager.

Since 2002, St. Nicks Alliance has competed successfully for seven EPA environmental workforce development grants. Surviving many challenges, this nationally recognized program remains strong.

#### **St. Nicks – A history of community strength**

After a neighborhood fire in 1974, 18 families became homeless. Parishioners of St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church responded immediately to help their neighbors rebuild their lives. By 1975, St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corp. organized to preserve and improve their community of more than 9,000 low- to moderate-income people. Ever since, St. Nicks has served Brooklyn neighborhoods with numerous community and social services. St. Nicks provides services in five main areas: affordable housing, health care, workforce, and economic development, and skills training. Reorganized as St. Nicks Alliance, the environmental workforce program has competed to win seven EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grants and has received national recognition for their efforts.

### **Issues that have challenged St. Nicks over the years**

All has not been easy for St. Nicks. Between 2009 and 2014 the recession delivered a triple blow to the EWDJT program. The local economy tanked with little hiring and extreme competition from local organized labor. St. Nicks found itself with 75 program graduates waiting for sustainable environmental job opportunities. With a flooded job market, employers were less likely to consider ex-offenders, even with excellent training and credentials. When EPA assistance ended between 2009 and 2014, St. Nicks had to rethink the entire program. Fortunately, as part of a larger organization, other programs helped sustain operations in the short term. Sustainable funding for mature well run training programs remains a major issue for most community organizations.

Today, Ivan reviewed the St. Nicks EWDJT program and the strategies they have used to place graduates.

### **Training and placement at St. Nicks EWDJT**

#### **Target community:**

Undereducated, unemployed, veterans, and public housing residents in Brooklyn, New York

#### **Training and placement goals:**

- Train 56 students
- Place at least 45 graduates in environmental jobs

#### **Core training program:**

179 hours of instruction

- 40-hour HAZWOPER
- OSHA 30-hour construction health and safety
- Asbestos handler
- Confined space entry
- Four federal certifications and one state certification

#### **Key training and placement partners:**

- City of New York
- Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation
- New York City Brownfield Partnership
- Evergreen, Inc.
- New York City Department of Environmental Protection
- Big Apple Occupation Safety Corporation
- Two Trees Management Company
- Aerotek
- Resource Options, Inc.
- WRS Environmental Services, Inc.
- Horsepower Electric

#### **Placement strategies at St. Nicks:**

The program uses a business manager who works closely with its partners, vendors and stakeholders to identify and track job opportunities for graduates. His responsibility is to identify and keep in contact with potential employers. Close relationships to potential employers is important. It is important to be available when they are seeking screened, trained, and certified workers. It is most important to maintain contact even when there are no immediate openings. When openings arise, the EWDJT program needs to

be first in line. St. Nicks Emails potential employers a list of certifications and training provided to graduates early in the cohort. Potential employers are invited to graduation as well as local government officials.

### **Working with organized labor**

St. Nicks has been able to establish a relationship with Local 12 – the local environmental remediation union. This agreement allows for direct entry into the apprentice program, bypassing a lengthily application process.

### **Working with local governmental organizations**

Working with the NY Department of Environmental Protection, graduates have additional opportunities for environmental pathways. St. Nicks invites local government officials to program events and graduation. Elected officials enjoy photo opportunities with students from their community. Their attendance also encourages potential employers to attend.

### **Drug Testing**

Drug tests are provided throughout the program, primarily for marijuana. St. Nicks may accept positive testers and will work with them to clean up. It is understood that many employers conduct random drug tests and sustained employment will not be possible if graduates do not abstain from drug use.

### **Ex-offenders**

New York has a “ban the box” program that prohibits potential employers from denying consideration for employment to ex-offenders. Depending on the offense and situation, graduates have a reasonable chance for employment. Before participants graduate, they are asked to look ahead 90 days and identify time when they may have to take off from work. Before being sent out for interviews, issues are discussed with employers to avoid surprises or tardiness by the new hire. This approach results in developing close relationships between the program, the employer and newly placed graduates. Job training programs need to consider the number of difficult ex-offenders entering any one training cycle. In addition, the number and types of offence are of major importance and must be considered as part of the recruitment screening process.

### **Tracking program graduates**

To assist graduates, St. Nicks offers a limited free recertification program which brings graduates back as mentors and as potential advocates for recent graduates. Graduates are also invited to graduation and program events. This is a great tracking, mentoring and placement strategy. Graduates are often in a position to recommend current graduates for open positions.

If you would like to discuss St. Nicks EWDJT program further, you can contact:

#### **Ivan Thomas**

**Skills Training Program Manager**

**St. Nicks Alliance**

790 Broadway 2nd Fl.

Brooklyn, NY 11206

P: 718.302.2057 ext. 412

C: 718-255-9824

Fax: 347.381.3208

[ithomas@stnicksalliance.org](mailto:ithomas@stnicksalliance.org)

<https://www.stnicksalliance.org>

#### **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 10<sup>th</sup>
- National Brownfields Conference – December 11-13<sup>th</sup>

##### **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

### [Application of Environmental Justice to State Environmental Impact Assessment](#)

July 23, 2019 (2:00 - 3:30 PM ET)

Participant conference line: (888) 273-3506, Conference ID: 5894926

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has launched a training webinar series to build the capacity of environmental justice practitioners working at the state level. The fourth webinar on “Application of Environmental Justice to State Environmental Impact Assessment” is now open for registration. This webinar will provide a basic primer on environmental justice methodologies which can be used by state practitioners during National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review and other environmental impact assessments. It will also build on this foundation with presentations regarding the State of Alaska’s efforts to address health issues in environmental impact assessment and the State of Kentucky’s efforts to address transportation-related community impacts.

Registration is required. Registered participants will receive details on how to access the webinar when you register. For more information, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>. For questions about the series, please contact: Charles Lee at [lee.charles@epa.gov](mailto:lee.charles@epa.gov).

### [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.

## [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](mailto:balent.jean@epa.gov).

## 6. TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 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.

## 7. BROWNFIELD CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND MEETINGS

### [Opportunities for Funding and Resources to Develop and Train Local Workforces](#)

**August 21, 2019, 1:00 –5:00 PM**

**Holley Lecture Hall Florida State Univ, Panama City, FL**

This workshop is designed to allow information exchange on programs and resources for communities interested in improving and sustaining job opportunities in Florida.

The core capability for economic recovery after disasters is the ability to revitalize businesses and restore economic activities that retain and create new jobs. Returning a community to self-sufficiency requires engaging local workers in the critical jobs that will be required to develop a healthy economy. The objective of this forum is to highlight resources that may provide funding, technical assistance and other support for the creation of environmental, historic preservation, health care and other jobs that contribute to the economic growth and advancement of a strong quality of life.

In addition to federal agencies, featured speakers include:

- CareerSource Gulf Coast
- Career Source Chipola
- Apalachee Regional Planning Council
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection

### **Registration:**

There is no charge to attend but you are asked to register no later than August 15

### [Annual Georgia Environmental Conference](#)

August 21-23, 2019

Jekyll Island

In its 14th year, the [Annual Georgia Environmental Conference](#) is the state's largest, most comprehensive, and diverse educational opportunity for environmental professionals in Georgia and the Southeast region.

### [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](mailto: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 SCHOLARSHIP 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.

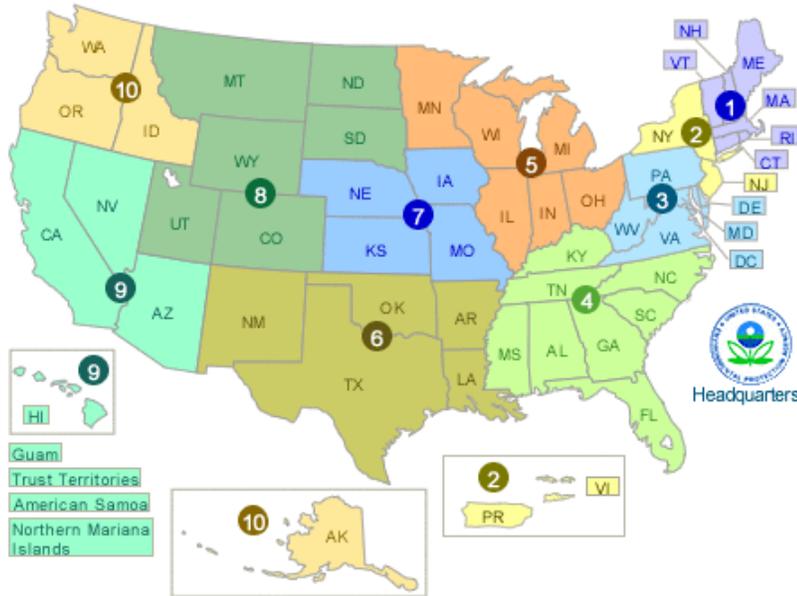
**National Trust Preservation Funds**

**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.

**9. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS**

<b>EPA Region 1</b> Danny Rodriguez	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1060 E-mail: rodriguez.danny@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 2</b> Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 3</b> Gianna Rosati	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3406 E-mail: rosati.gianna@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 4</b> Wanda Jennings	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	Phone: (404) 562-8682 E-mail: jennings.wanda@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 5</b> Linda Morgan	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	Phone: (312) 886-4747 E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 5</b> Craig Mankowski		Phone: (312) 886-9493 E-mail: mankowski.craig@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 6</b> Rita Ware	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	Phone: (214) 665-6409 E-mail: ware.rita@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 7</b> Alma Moreno Lahm	IA, KS, MO, NE	Phone: (913) 551-7380 E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 8</b> Christina Wilson	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	Phone: (303) 312-6706 E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 9</b> Nova Blazej	AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU	Phone: (415) 972-3846 E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 9</b> Noemi Emeric-Ford		Phone: (213) 244-1821 E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 10</b> Deborah Burgess	AK, ID, OR, WA	Phone: (206) 553-2580 E-mail: burgess.deborah@epa.gov



## 10. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

Mark your calendar for future Cycle 21 PLC calls.

- August 28
- 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](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](http://HMTRI.BrownfieldsToolbox.org) 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](mailto: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.

