

November 20, 2019



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 21, Session 10.

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. EPA and HMTRI news
2. PLC questions
3. Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC)
4. Sessions to check out at the 2019 Brownfields Conference
5. Webinars, presentation power points and apps
6. Brownfield conferences, workshops and meetings
7. Funding and leveraging opportunities
8. EWDJT grantees for FY2020
9. Check in with EPA Regional Coordinators
10. Future Professional Learning Community calls

1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON AND HMTRI

EPA Happenings:

Currently, EPA news focuses is on Brownfields 2019. Check out section four of these notes for Brownfields 2019 opportunities and conference schedules.

HMTRI News:

Last PLC call in this cycle

Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Calls (PLCs) are scheduled every two weeks with ten calls per cycle. Today's call was the tenth and final call in this cycle. After a winter break we will begin a new cycle in January. If you missed any of our previous sessions, check out our notes at the following address. <https://brownfields-toolbox.org/plc-sessions/>

Annual All-Grantee Meeting

Below are a few items to consider regarding the All-Grantee Meeting.

- If possible, check in for Brownfields 2019 on Monday. You will need your badge to enter the conference meeting area Tuesday morning for the All-Grantee Meeting.
- Dress is business casual.
- If you have any housing, meeting, or logistic questions contact Heather hkballou@eicc.edu
- Bring marketing and program materials (we will display them at the EWDJT booth on the exhibition floor).
- Plan on spending some time working the EWDJT booth
- If you are not attending the conference we would still like to display your materials. Send them to: Heather Ballou, HMTRI
101 West 3rd Street
Davenport, IA 52801

FYI: Here is a tentative agenda for this year's All-Grantee Meeting and joint workshop with NIEHS grantees.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019

Location - Los Angeles Convention Center

- 8:00 a.m. **CHECK-IN, BREAKFAST, AND NETWORKING** (501 A/B/C)
Rotating introductions • Networking as participants arrive
- 8:45 a.m. **PARTICIPANT SEATING BY EPA REGION** (501 A/B/C)
- 9:00 a.m. **WELCOME / OVERVIEW OF THE DAY** (501 A/B/C)
Meeting goals and objectives • Introductions • Agenda • Housekeeping
- 9:15 a.m. **WELCOME / UPDATES FROM EPA HEADQUARTERS** (501 A/B/C)
 - *David Lloyd, Director, Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization, EPA HQ*
 - *Rachel Congdon, EWDJT Program Lead, Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization, EPA HQ*
- 9:30 a.m. **EWDJT ISSUES OF CONCERN AND QUESTIONS** (501 A/B/C)
- 10:00 a.m. **BREAK & MOVE TO NEXT SESSION**
- 10:15 a.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
 - ✓ **Program administration and management** (501 A/B/C)
Treatment of sub-grantees • Partnerships • Contractors • Use of grant funds • Funding Restrictions • Allowable and un-allowable costs • Administration issues to avoid • Reporting requirements
 - *Presenter – Jim Drummond, US EPA*
 - *Presenter – Regional Coordinator, EPA*
 - *Presenter – ACRES Representative*
 - ✓ **Program Outreach** (506)
Community assessment strategies • Establishing local relationships • EJ considerations • Partnership development • Using advisory committees effectively • Employer participation • Coordinating with ARC grantees • Opportunity Zones • Developing community awareness • Participation in public events • Student recruitment and screening
 - *Session Facilitator –Auberle-Jacob Markosky*
 - *Session Facilitator –Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps-Chris Litzau*
 - *Session Facilitator –Pathstone-Mileidy Soto*
- 11:00 a.m. **BREAK & MOVE TO NEXT SESSION**
- 11:15 a.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**
 - ✓ **Leveraging resources and program sustainability** (501 A/B/C)

Working with WIBS • Engaging community service organizations • Partnership development • Working with local government service organizations • In-kind leveraging • Corporate and private donations • Social enterprise and community development organizations

- *Session Facilitator –RecycleForce-Ken Alexander*

✓ **Training, retention, and placement (506)**

Aligning training with labor market assessments • Popular training certifications • Life skills training • Using technology effectively • Student retention and support • Gender neutrality • Employer relationships • Drug testing • Transportation

- *Session Facilitator –West End Neighborhood House-Ronike Haynie*
- *Session Facilitator –The Sustainable Workplace Alliance-David Casavant*
- *Session Facilitator –Santa Fe Community College-Janet Kerley*

12:00 p.m. **Travel to joint EWDJT/NIEHS Meeting** (Load at Gilbert Lindsey Drive in front of the Convention Center)

Location - California Community Foundation

12:30 p.m. **INTRODUCTIONS AND WORKING LUNCH**

NIEHS Health and Safety Training Programs

- *Presenter – Sharon D. Beard, NIEHS*
- *Presenter – Linda Delp, WRUC*
- *Presenter – Mitchel Rosen, NJ/NY Consortium*

1:30 p.m. **BREAK & MOVE TO NEXT SESSION**

1:40 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

✓ **Keeping it real**

Understanding the Issues • Rights and Tools for Workers around Wage and Hour Theft

- *Presenter – LA Worker Center, NIEHS*

✓ **Disaster and emergency response and training**

General conversation/relevant training

- *Presenter – John Morgan, HMTRI*
- *Presenter – Texas Southern Deep South Center for EJ*
- *Presenter – NJ/NY Consortium*
- *Presenter – NIEHS Grantee*

✓ **Emerging Environmental and Construction Training Issues**

Emerging climate issues • Apprenticeship • Work study and internships

- *Presenter – NIEHS Grantee*
- *Presenter – Cypress Mandela-Eric Shanks*

2:35 p.m. **BREAK & MOVE TO NEXT SESSION**

2:45 p.m. **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

✓ **OSHA Updates**

New fit test protocol • Silica protection and training • Finding and recruiting qualified trainers

- *Presenter – John Morgan, HMTRI*

✓ **Wildfire Cleanup Response Training and Resiliency vs. Recovery**

Disasters and recovery • Resiliency Planning

- *Presenter – UCLA WRUC*

✓ **Student Record Keeping/Retention and Post Graduate Tracking**

Records management and managing multiple partners and funding sources • Working with employers • Student tracking strategies

- *Presenter – NIEHS Grantee*
- *Presenter – MassHire MVWB-Susan Seaquist*

3:30 p.m. **BREAK & MOVE TO NEXT SESSION**

3:35 p.m. **Questions and Wrap-up**

3:45 p.m. **Bus back to National Brownfields Conference**

4:00 p.m. Suggested - **Regional Open Houses** (See National Brownfields Conference schedule for locations)

6:00 p.m. Suggested - **Environmental Justice Caucus** (See National Brownfields Conference schedule for locations)

2. PLC QUESTIONS

This week, we had a participant interested in EWDJT recycling

Unfortunately, Ken Alexander from Recycleforce was not on the call, although he will be at the conference. For anyone interested in EWDJT recycling, Ken was a guest on PLC session 219 discussing his outstanding social enterprise recycling program. You can read our session notes and listen to the MP3 at the following site. <https://brownfields-toolbox.org/plc-sessions/session-219-recycleforce/>

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. LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS (LACC)

About the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) EWDJT program

Denise - Thank you for updating us on the EWDJT program as part of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps. There are over 100 Corps with representation in every state. Some are small and some larger with expanded services to the community. The primary mission the Conservation Corps is to provide at-risk young adults with opportunities for success through job skills training, education, and work

experience with an emphasis on conservation and service projects that benefit the community. As with the LACC EWDJT program, many have expanded opportunities beyond youth and young adults. In the Los Angeles area, the LA Conservation Corps has brought together several programs under a single umbrella organization making it the country's largest corps with funding from HUD, EPA, NIEHS, and numerous federal, state and local organizations. Leveraging and sharing resources allows each program to be stronger and offer more services than each could by themselves.

While the LACC is 30 years old, expansion programs such as Youth Build, the EPA and NIEHS environmental programs are much younger. In partnership with the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Center to Protect Workers' Rights, the Corps began environmental health and safety related programs in 2001. LA Conservation Corps began offering YouthBuild in 2002 in partnership with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). By 2005, LACC received its first EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant (EWDJT). Since then, they have received nine EWDJT grants including a supplemental award for \$500k in 2009.

Organizationally, LACC locates construction and environmental programs within a larger Young Adult Corps. The Environmental Workforce Development Job Training Program offers specialized vocational training in the emerging green sector and environmental remediation fields. "Young Adult" is not applicable to the EPA program in that all ages qualify for participation in the program.

Student population

The LACC operates in one of the highest crime communities in the country with the largest populations of incarcerated and ex-offenders. Currently they are targeting unemployed and underemployed residents of the South Los Angeles, Watts, and Boyle Heights neighborhoods of the City of Los Angeles and unincorporated East Los Angeles. Students may include long-term unemployed, homeless individuals, veterans and ex-offenders.

Training

LACC is committed to train 60 students and place at least 48 graduates in environmental jobs. Currently they are running 4 cohorts of 15-25 participants. LACC relies heavily on their advisory board to stay relevant to local job opportunities. Labor market assessments indicate growth for the following occupations.

- Hazardous materials removal workers
- Construction, deconstruction and recycling
- Forklift operators
- Materials handlers
- Insulator workers with hazardous materials training

Core curriculum

In response to Advisory Board recommendations and labor market assessments, the 7 week, Monday - Friday program includes 242 hours of instruction in the following areas.

- 40-hour HAZWOPER
- OSHA 10-hour workplace safety
- CPR/first aid
- Asbestos worker

- Lead supervisor
- Lead renovation, repair, and painting
- Mold remediation
- Confined space entry
- Participants who complete the training will earn two state and three federal certifications

In addition 80, additional hours of life skills training is provided by leveraged partners:

- Anger management
- Resume building and job search instruction
- General life skills
- Financial literacy (offered by local financial institutions)

Key and leveraging partners include the following organizations

- Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Local 5
- Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department
- Electrical Training Institute
- ResCare Inc.
- IQ Personnel
- South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone
- Canoga Park-South Valley WorkSource Center
- GRID Alternatives
- City of Los Angeles Brownfields Program
- Health Homes Collaborative, IQ Personnel staffing
- Los Angeles Housing and Community Development Department
- WorkSource California
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services Greater Avenues for Independence
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services General Relief Opportunity for Work

Recruitment and screening

LACC receives leveraged services from several social service organizations including local Job Centers. Initial screening, recruitment, student services, and placement supplement LACC recruiting, screening, and placement efforts.

- Potential applicants must participate in orientation and one-on one interviews.
- Potential applicants are scored on a 1-10 basis with those having the highest ranking and motivation selected for further review and medical screening.
- Applicant must be and remain drug free.
- Ex-offenders and those on parole are welcome.
- Applicant need a high school diploma or GED.
- All participants must pass a medical screening including x-ray and stress test.

Placement opportunities

- Healthy home construction and deconstruction (including lead and asbestos remediation)
- Hazardous waste and recycling
- Transportation
- Hazardous substances remediation

- Joint Apprenticeship Trust (Local 5) provides pathways into union membership
- Tracking continues for 1 year
- Employer advisors and partners provide alternative pathways to sustainable jobs with the Career Pathways program

Denise would be happy to discuss the LACC program in more detail.

Denise Haynes

dhaynes@lacorps.org

1400 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

323-224-2550 x532

Check out the LACC website:

<http://lacorps.org/>

4. SESSIONS TO CHECK OUT AT THE 2019 BROWNFIELDS CONFERENCE

EPA Regional Open Houses

Each EPA region will have an open house from 4-5:30pm on Tuesday December 10th. Learn more about the projects taking place in the region, get an opportunity to hear from the EPA Regional Administrator, or meet successful EPA grantees from the region!

- US EPA Region 1 - Room 515 A
- US EPA Region 2 - Room 511 A/B/C
- US EPA Region 3 - Room 402 A/B
- US EPA Region 4 - Room 406 A/B
- US EPA Region 5 - Room 503
- US EPA Region 6 - Room 405
- US EPA Region 7 - Room 404 A/B
- US EPA Region 8 - Room 505-
- US EPA Region 9 - West Foyer Lounge
- US EPA Region 10 - 409 A/B

[National Brownfields Leadership Breakfast](#)

December 11, 2019 7:00AM - 8:45AM

Room 502B, LA Convention Center

CCLR is excited to announce that this year's National Brownfields Leadership Breakfast will feature brownfield developers NorthPoint Development and Real Estate Recovery Capital. Their insights can make the difference for your next project.

Have a complex brownfield in need of investment? Make up a marketing sheet and bring that brownfield to breakfast! Our speakers are always in the market for leads on promising sites. Questions? email jean.hamerman@cclr.org.

The Leadership Breakfast will also include awards to recognize our colleagues for excellence in public service, thought leadership, and redevelopment, as well as a federal policy update.

Following on 2017, we will present awards in these categories:

Lifetime Achievement: Excellence in Thought Leadership

Lifetime Achievement: Excellence in Redevelopment

Lifetime Achievement: Excellence in Local Public Service

Come celebrate and congratulate our awardees. *Stay tuned for the big reveal of who they are.*

Join our generous sponsors and start Brownfields2019 off right. Tickets for this much anticipated event are limited, grab yours today!

[Climate, Brownfields and Natural Disasters](#)

This year's California wildfires raised the question yet again of how California and other parts of the arid West can continue to weather an increasingly extreme climate. For brownfielders, disasters raise a host of serious issues. How can we prevent a disaster from causing contamination, whether a site is remediated or not? How can we manage post-disaster contamination, which might create a host of new brownfields?

These questions are on the cutting edge of sustainability policy. Join CCLR and our panelists at the National Brownfields Conference for two informative and timely discussions about climate, California, and our shared future. Check out [our blog](#) to learn more -- and see you in LA.

[See CCLR's full list of BF2019 activities here.](#)

[CCLR Brownfields Networking Happy Hour and Sing-Along](#)

December 11, 2019 6:00PM - 9:00PM

Mikeller DTLA

Join CCLR's Brownfields Networking Happy Hour and Sing-Along at the National Brownfields Conference! Space is limited, and tickets will go fast -- grab one for you and a friend, because thanks to our generous sponsors, this is the best Happy Hour deal you'll find in LA!

Open bar featuring craft beer and wine

Hors d'oeuvres

Networking

The best brownfields tunes you'll ever hear

Come for the networking, stay for the music, and make your enthusiasm for brownfield redevelopment heard!

[Brownfields for Local Governments: An Overview of Challenges and Opportunities](#)

[National Brownfields Conference - Room 409A/B](#)

12/11/2019 12AM-1PM PT

Based on a forthcoming white paper from the ICMA, this session provides an overview of the benefits, challenges and best practices of brownfield redevelopment for local governments. Learn about financial and non-financial incentives to attract developers, the extent to which brownfield redevelopment can positively influence your triple bottom line, and how local governments from around the world are approaching brownfields programs.

[Register for Mobile Workshops!](#)

Brownfields 2019 offers several exciting opportunities to view local redevelopment sites in Los Angeles through the featured mobile workshops.

Whether you are interested in water and wetlands, sports and entertainment, or housing and transit-oriented development these unique workshops will get attendees out to experience local redevelopment firsthand!

[Check out the National Brownfields Conference Schedule](#)

Featuring +100 educational sessions offered in a variety of formats, this year's Brownfields will give you the tools to hone your expertise and prep yourself with the most cutting-edge tools in the brownfields industry. Choose from our 9 session formats, and 8 conference tracks to customize your very own Brownfields experience.

5. WEBINARS AND PRESENTATION POWERPOINTS

[Opportunity Zones beyond the Numbers: Can This be a Win-Win?](#)

NOTE SCHEDULE UPDATE: 12/2/19 11AM-12PM PT/2-3PM ET

Sponsored by Greenberg Traurig

Will Opportunity Zones (OZs) deliver on their promise to bring investment and benefits to underserved neighborhoods, and what does this mean for brownfield redevelopment? Hear two perspectives on implementing Opportunity Zones from CCLR's sage advisers — Elly Walkowiak, Assistant Director for Community and Economic Development at the City of Tacoma, Washington, and Curt Toll, attorney at Greenberg Traurig. Elly and Curt will provide public and private sector perspectives on the risks and benefits associated with Opportunity Zones, along with case studies. Join us where the rubber hits the road for this insightful discussion.

NIEHS Wildfire Resources and Disaster Preparedness Application

The NIEHS WTP and its awardees have provided resources and training in support of wildfire response operations in the United States. These resources are aimed at protecting the health and safety of those responding to wildfires. The NIEHS/CPWR Disaster Preparedness mobile app, which includes information on wildfires, allows workers exposed to hazards on disaster sites to access a full suite of awareness-level training resources.

[NIEHS Wildfire Response Training Tool and Resources](#)

[NIEHS/CPWR Disaster Preparedness App](#)

[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.

6. BROWNFIELD CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND MEETINGS

[National Conference on Worker Safety and Health](#)

December 3-5, 2019

Baltimore, MD

The National Conference on Worker Safety and Health (#COSHCON19) brings together a diverse, inclusive and bilingual group of participants of workers, occupational health and safety experts, unions, activists and academics united around common goals. The conference aims to empower workers, make workplaces safer and reduce the toll of on-the-job injuries, illnesses and fatalities. The conference will take place December 3-5, 2019 in Baltimore, MD.

[8th Annual Public-Private Partnership Conference & Expo](#)

March 2-4, 2020

Dallas, Texas

Next March, the 8th annual Public-Private Partnership Conference & Expo returns to Dallas with over 1,350 senior representatives from governments, higher education institutions, local economic development organizations, and leading firms in the global construction, development, and financial markets. The P3 Conference attracts professionals from all corners of industry, and invites project owners to forge new partnerships with experienced P3 partners while learning from public sector experience.

Join us for the year's biggest P3 event as we explore the future of public infrastructure and advancements in the P3 model. Over 150 presenters will discuss active and upcoming projects, sharing key insights for leveraging private sector resources for public infrastructure. Those attending participate in interactive workshops, and conversations specifically tailored to the needs of public agencies evaluating P3s. The P3 Conference is designed for all levels in the market including those beginning to explore P3s and seeking to better understand where alternative and accelerated project delivery methods can be applicable.

[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.

7. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES

[Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving](#)

Funding is now available for the EPA 2020 Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving. Applications are due February 7, 2020. Please share this information with your networks.

[Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#)

[Announcement on Grants.gov](#)

Main Street Initiative Scholarships

The National Main Street Center is accepting applications for two full scholarships to the Main Street America Institute. [Applications are due December 15.](#)

EPA FY 2020 Brownfields Cleanup, Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund grants Grant Competition **Application submission deadline December 3rd.**

We encourage current and prospective EWDJT grantees to coordinate with assessment and cleanup grantees as they work with the same communities and stakeholders as workforce development grantees. Guidelines for the new round of Brownfields Cleanup, Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund grants is posted on EPA's website. Applicants that were selected for an FY19 Multipurpose Grant may not apply for an FY20. EPA will provide one outreach webinar to discuss the FY 2020 Assessment, RLF, and Cleanup Grant guidelines on October 24, 2019 at 2pm (ET). Join the webinar through EPA Web Conferencing and/or via conference call (dial-in number: 1-866-299-3188/ access code: 202-566-1817). Assessment or Cleanup Grant. The RLF Grant guidelines have been restructured to align with Assessment/Cleanup Grant guideline format. The FY20 Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines are now available:

[Assessment Guidelines](#)

[Cleanup Guidelines](#)

[Revolving Loan Fund Guidelines](#)

Technical assistance resources for workforce development

The best place to search for sustaining partners and benefactors includes local government offices, nonprofit and community organizations, corporate and family foundations. Many local government programs are supported by Federal or State block grants to be administered locally. Here are a few national organizations to "check out" that support local efforts providing life skills training, remedial education and student services.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), <https://www.hhs.gov/>

DHHS Office of Child Care (OCC), <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/parents>

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf>

DOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA), <https://www.doleta.gov/>

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), <https://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>

Institute for Urban and Minority Education, <http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/>

About MyMoney, <https://www.mymoney.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Financial Literacy and Education Commission, <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/financial-education/Pages/activities.aspx>

U.S. Federal Reserve, <https://www.federalreserve.gov/>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* has announced a [funding opportunity to build environmental literacy of K-12 students and the public](#) so they are knowledgeable of the ways in which their community can become more resilient to extreme weather and/or other environmental hazards, and become involved in achieving that resilience. NOAA has identified \$.5 million for investment, projecting a total of 8 awards.

For both priorities of this funding opportunity, eligible applicants are limited to institutions of higher education; K-12 public and independent schools and school systems; other nonprofits, including community-based organizations and informal education institutions, such as museums, zoos, and

aquariums; state and local government agencies; and Indian tribal governments in the United States. For-profit organizations, foreign institutions, and individuals are not eligible to apply; however, for-profit organizations, foreign institutions, and individuals may participate as project partners. Likewise, federal agencies are not eligible to receive federal assistance under this announcement, but may be project partners

Projects should build the collective environmental literacy necessary for communities to become more resilient to the extreme weather and other environmental hazards they face in the short- and long-term. Building sufficient environmental literacy in a community means that these communities are composed of individuals who are supported by formal and informal education that develop their knowledge, skills, and confidence to: (1) reason about the ways that human and natural systems interact globally and where they live, including the acknowledgement of disproportionately distributed vulnerabilities; (2) participate in scientific and/or civic processes; and (3) consider scientific uncertainty, cultural knowledge, and diverse community values in decision making.

Projects should demonstrate how they will engage community members to build these capabilities, particularly through active learning, during the award period. Projects should leverage and incorporate relevant state and local hazard mitigation and/or adaptation plans and collaborate with individuals and institutions that are involved in efforts to develop or implement those plans.

Projects may focus on a single location or multiple locations and a single type of environmental hazard or a range of hazards that impact a community or communities. Projects will be based on the established scientific evidence about current and future extreme weather and other environmental hazards facing communities and should consider relevant socioeconomic and ecological factors in the targeted location(s). Particular attention should be paid to populations within communities that have greater exposure and have fewer resources to deal with the impacts of extreme weather and/or environmental hazards that are the focus of the project. Projects must relate to NOAA's mission in at least one of the following areas: ocean, coastal, Great Lakes, weather, and climate sciences and stewardship. They must also utilize NOAA's scientific data, data access tools, data visualizations, and/or other physical and intellectual assets available on these topics. In order to facilitate the use of NOAA's assets, projects are strongly encouraged to partner with relevant NOAA entities (offices, programs, etc.)

Priority 1 awards will support new projects located in Southern and Western Regions of the United States. The Southern Region includes the following states and territories: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas, and the United States Virgin Islands. The Western Region includes the following states and territories: Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

Priority 2 awards will support the evolution of projects funded under the 2015-2016 funding opportunities from this program (NOAA-SEC-OED-2015-2004408 and NOAA-SEC-OED-2016-2004737). The full list of awards that support or supported eligible projects can be found here: <https://go.usa.gov/xVGzr>. Projects for this priority must be implemented within the United States and its territories. For Priority 1, projects must be between 2 and 5 years in duration and the total federal amount requested from NOAA for each project must be no less than \$250,000 and no more than \$500,000 for all years of the project, including direct and indirect costs. For Priority 2, projects must be between 2 and 5 years in duration and the total federal amount requested from NOAA for each project must be no less than \$100,000 and no more than \$500,000 for all years of the project, including direct and indirect costs. It is anticipated that awards funded under this announcement and selected this fiscal

year will be made by September 30, 2020 and that the projects funded under this announcement in fiscal year 2020 will have a start date no earlier than October 1, 2020.

[Tennessee will use millions of dollars in grant money to help at-risk rural communities.](#) / (MGN)

By WVLT News

Posted: Wed 4:48 PM, Oct 30, 2019

NASHVILLE, Tenn (WVLT)-- The state of Tennessee will use millions of dollars in grant money to help 38 distressed and at-risk rural communities across Tennessee.

The funds were approved by the Tennessee Workforce Development Board. The Rural Initiative Funding Opportunity Announcement (RIFOA) has made \$3 million in funding available to local workforce development boards to support workforce expansion efforts in the targeted counties.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development accepted grant applications from different counties to determine how much funding each recipient would receive.

The state's 15 distressed counties will split \$2.1 million of the \$3 million in grant money. The remaining amount will be divided among 23 counties that the state said were at-risk.

"In alignment with the Governor Lee's priorities for Tennessee, we are excited to be able to make these funds available," TDLWD Commissioner, Jeff McCord, said. "These grant dollars will foster the opportunity to develop and maintain a qualified workforce in the places where it is needed most."

Each county will receive funding for specific programs that local leaders felt would help address workforce development in the area. "The members of the Tennessee Workforce Development Board want to do everything we can to give the residents in our rural communities the skills that will allow them to help themselves to better job opportunities," board chairman Tim Berry said.

Officials said programs funded by the grants will create greater opportunities for residents in these counties to take part in skills training in high-demand growth sectors.

[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.**

8. EWDJT GRANTEES FOR FY2020

Congratulations to the 26 programs recommended to receive EPA funding, especially five new communities including one last funded in 2008. Awards have been made to the following organizations

- Alaska Forum Inc. (Anchorage, Alaska)
- Auberle (McKeesport, Pennsylvania)
- City of New Bedford (New Bedford, Massachusetts)
- City of Pittsburg (Pittsburg, California)
- City of Richmond (Richmond, California)
- City of Rochester (Rochester, New York)
- City of Springfield (Springfield, Missouri)
- Civic Works Inc. (Baltimore, Maryland)
- Colorado Department of Local Affairs (Denver, Colorado)
- Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa Inc. (Tampa, Florida)
- Cypress Mandela Training Center Inc. (Oakland, California)
- Earth Conservancy (Ashley, Pennsylvania)
- El Centro (Kansas City, Kansas)
- Full Employment Council (Kansas City, Missouri)
- Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps. (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
- Hunters Point Family (San Francisco, California)
- Lorain County Board of Commissioners (Elyria, Ohio)
- Lost Angeles Conservations Corps (Los Angeles, California)
- OAI Inc. (Chicago, Illinois)
- PathStone Corporation (Rochester, New York)
- Southern University at Shreveport (Shreveport, Louisiana)
- St. Louis Community College (Bridgeton, Missouri)
- The Fortune Society Inc. (Long Island City, New York)
- Training to Work an Industry Niche (Charlotte, North Carolina.)

- Workforce Inc. dba RecycleForce (Indianapolis, Indiana)
- Zender Environmental Health and Research Group (Anchorage, Alaska)

Here is the formal announcement from EPA.

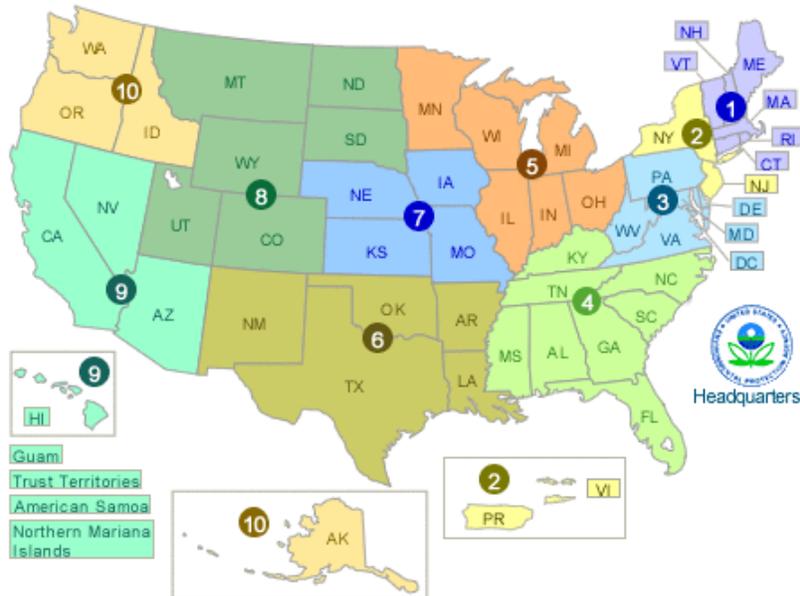
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicants-selected-fy20-environmental-workforce-development-and-job-training-grants>

9. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS

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Map of EPA Regions

Credit: epa.gov



10. FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

This was our last PLC call for this cycle. We will begin a new cycle in January.

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the brownfields-toolbox.org.

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.

