

September 30, 2020



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 23.

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. Latest from Washington
2. News from HMTRI
3. Questions from PLC participants
4. Grantee and partner news
5. Program evaluation and review – 2020 All-Grantee Meeting
6. Lessons learned – Delivering a ZOOM meeting with 9 plenaries and 21 breakouts
7. Reminders after the EWDJT application has been submitted
8. Webinars, online resources, websites, recordings, and PowerPoints
9. Conferences, workshops, and meetings
10. Funding and leveraging opportunities
11. Contact EPA Regional Coordinators
12. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

## **1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON**

### **New Dates for Brownfields 2021 Conference**

**Brownfields 2021 will now be held September 27-30, 2021**

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

The goal of the National Brownfields Training Conference is to provide a vibrant networking and learning environment for the Brownfields community. To deliver the valuable in person education and networking opportunities we all look forward to at every Brownfields Conference, we are working to ensure that the venue and travel arrangements will be as safe and healthy as possible for conference attendees. Given the uncertainties of the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and keeping these considerations in mind, Brownfields 2021 will be rescheduled from its current April dates.

We are committed to providing attendees with the safest and most engaging event possible, while also considering evolving restrictions on gatherings and travel. EPA and ICMA agree that the new September dates will allow for a more robust event in Oklahoma City, especially with regards to educational sessions and networking events.

For more information, go to <https://brownfields2021.org/>

## **2. HMTRI NEWS**

### **All Grantee-Meeting follow up – meeting links**

For those interested in the 2020 All-Grantee Meeting, chats and websites discussed in breakout sessions are posted on the following page <https://brownfields-toolbox.org/2020-grantee-downloads/>.

### **Planning for next year**

With Brownfields 2021 rescheduled from its current April dates to September 27-30, 2021, HMTRI is considering a Spring 2021 All-Grantee Meeting using a ZOOM format similar to this year's conference. The Spring virtual conference would allow for participation by FY21 awardees, current and former grantees, reduce travel costs and avoid potential public health concerns. Supplementing the Spring virtual conference, a face to face component would be held as a preconference event September 26<sup>th</sup> at Brownfields21 in Oklahoma City.

What are your thoughts? Respond to via email with your ideas.

### **3. QUESTIONS FROM PLC PARTICIPANTS**

Now that our EWDJT application has been submitted, can you give us an updated timeline when award announcements will be made?

*The exact date of award announcements is highly variable depending upon EPA's work schedule and processing time. Our current "best guess schedule" for application submission, award and program implementation is flexible but could look like this.*

- *Proposals submitted – September 22nd*
- *Threshold criteria (Pass Fail) notifications of application rejection – Second week of October*
- *Proposal evaluations – November – December, 2020*
- *Award announcements – February, 2021*
- *Finalization of work plans and award finalization – Early Spring, 2021*
- *Authorization to spend funds – April – May, 2021*
- *Program planning, partnership coordination and scheduling – Spring-Summer*
- *Community awareness, student recruitment and screening – Summer*
- *First year training cohorts begin – Summer, Fall, 2021*
- *ACRES and Quarterly reports – Due quarterly after award finalization*

### **Questions?**

Still have unanswered questions? Send them to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

### **4. GRANTEE AND PARTNER NEWS**

#### **Coalfield Development**

We here at Coalfield Development wanted to take a moment to say a big THANK YOU for joining us in celebrating 10 years of rebuilding the Appalachian economy from the ground up. We loved having the opportunity to look back and connect with the people who have been with us on this journey, and who have supported us in many ways. All we have accomplished has been because of people like yourself who strive for everyone to reach their full potential, power, and purpose. If you weren't able to join us for the celebration, or want to revisit your favorite moments, the full recorded event is here and also on our website at [coalfield-development.org](http://coalfield-development.org).

#### **ENERGY COORDINATING AGENCY**

2020 VIRTUAL COMMUNITY ENERGY CONFERENCE

**Date: October 16<sup>th</sup>.**

Join ECA to discuss how we can work together to meet the needs of the communities we serve within the ever-changing 'new normal' brought on by COVID-19. We will be joined by people and organizations sharing stories of resilience and adaptation, along with information about how we navigate the coming year.

Throughout the morning, the panelists will be presenting on Housing Needs, a utility panel on COVID Response, Clean Energy Workforce Transformation, The New Normal of Energy Efficiency, and Concerns for Environmental Justice.

The conference will conclude with the presentation of Community Champion Awards. Nominations are OPEN! Please share with us the stories of individuals and organizations that inspire so that we might lift them up this October. We look forward to getting to know the incredible people whose work you highlight.

Location: Wherever you are!

Time: 8:00a - 12:30p

Format: Zoom

Registered attendees will receive a link along with guidance for accessing the webinar in early October.

[Registration](#)

### [NIEHS Worker Training Program receives special COVID funding](#)

New funding through the [NIEHS Worker Training Program](#) (WTP) provides critical support to essential workers so they can respond and work safely when faced with exposure to the novel coronavirus. The funding came through the [Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020](#). **WTP grantees can make a big difference in protecting essential workers in numerous local communities.** The Worker Training Program already had a swift disaster responder training system in place, which paves the way for a strong COVID-19 response. Moving from their initial focus on essential and returning workers to a longer term sustainable response will be an ongoing challenge as the pandemic threats evolve. With the supplemental funding, grantees will be focusing on inventing new approaches for the contexts of social distancing and online work.

### **NIEHS Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) celebrates 25 years of training**

The NIEHS Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) continues the celebration of the program's 25th anniversary. Check out the ECWTP 25th Anniversary webpage for new grantee and trainee spotlights, as well as grantee photos on the multimedia page.

[ECWTP](#)

## **5. PROGRAM EVALUATION AND REVIEW – 2020 ALL GRANTEE MEETING**

Unlike NIEHS worker training programs, the EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program does not require grantees to submit a formal evaluation of their training program. Many grantees, however, document individual course evaluations and overall cohort evaluations. Program evaluation can be used as an effective self improvement tool providing the following useful information.

- The effectiveness of training
- An objective evaluation provided by program participants
- Ideas for self improvement
- Identification of program weakness
- Assurance that program objectives are being fulfilled

In today's PLC we discussed this year's All-Grantee Meeting Evaluation Summary. The evaluation was performed by Steve Fenton using a format that has been shown useful in determining strengths and weaknesses of program delivery. The following is a summary of evaluations collected for the August 11 – 13, 2020 Virtual All-Grantee meeting. With a total of 100 participants attending, forty-two evaluations were submitted. This represents an acceptable sample for identifying strengths and weaknesses of the meeting.

The goals of the All-Grantee Meeting were presented and clear?

- Strongly Agree: 31
- Agree: 11

The presenters and facilitators presented the material in an effective and professional manner.

- Strongly Agree: 28
- Agree: 14

The meeting content was appropriate and well organized.

- Strongly Agree: 32
- Agree: 9
- N/A: 1

The time allotted for the training was sufficient for my learning.

- Strongly Agree: 27
- Agree: 14
- Disagree: 1

I had the opportunity to provide feedback.

- Strongly Agree: 30
- Agree: 12

The presentation technology used (Zoom) was effective.

- Strongly Agree: 27
- Agree: 14
- N/A: 1

I achieved my personal objectives by attending this meeting.

- Strongly Agree: 23
- Agree: 14
- N/A: 5

I achieved my personal objectives by attending this meeting.

- Strongly Agree: 23
- Agree: 14
- N/A: 5

I will use the content presented at the All-Grantee Meeting in my training program.

- Strongly Agree: 29
- Agree: 10
- N/A: 3

Overall rating of the 2020 Virtual All-Grantee Meeting:

- Excellent: 22
- Above Average: 16
- Average: 4

What did you like most about this meeting?

- Grantee presenters NIEHS presentation and chat contributions.
- Zoom was handled so well! Heather's energy!
- Hearing real-life stories from other grantees.
- I especially loved the videos they shared that included participant stories.
- I liked the enthusiasm of HMTRI,
- I liked the stories and videos after hours from other grantees
- I liked the fact that HMTRI was able to create a well-organized conference despite the fact that we could not meet in person.
- It was very dynamic and there was a lot of information sharing in the presentations, chat, etc. I also liked the best practices/success story videos at the end of the day.
- Very, very Informative.
- The host and presenters
- The host kept the pace moving, the tech help was on point, and after the first day the pace was steady
- Always good to connect with other grantees for best practices.
- How the technology was used effectively.
- All breakout sessions were very informative.
- Hearing concrete/current ways in which programs are addressing COVID-19
- Interactions and informative
- In a short period of time, the team pulled together a very worthwhile conference
- The ability to sign up for relevant training breakout rooms.
- I am working on a team for this grant, and we were all able to attend/participate in different breakout rooms. This gave us the opportunity to "divide and conquer"
- The Zoom meeting and coordination of allowing for the breakout sessions and the breaks in between.
- The discussion between attendees, almost without exception, enhanced the content of the presentations. Felt like a competent family.
- The enthusiasm!
- The range of topics presented
- The participants were positive and helpful.
- The chance to capture ideas from other attendees.
- Interaction between grantees
- That the organizers were able to be nimble and shift to a virtual meeting to keep attendees safe.
- The videos which showed how effective the programs are.

- Hearing about what others are doing for their platform
- How efficient it was run by HMTRI considering it was the first virtual meeting. Positive energy from start to finish!
- Even though we weren't able to meet in person, it was still really beneficial to hear from other grantees and share ideas and strategies across programs and state lines.
- This touch base with the EWDJT national community was much needed during COVID-19.
- As a new grantee I was happy to hear all of the different topics.
- There was adequate time built in for breaks to catch up on emails, etc.
- Content and ideas shared were inspirational and informative, as usual.
- Heather
- EVERYTHING: the virtual classroom, the virtual tour from Eric Shanks, student testimonials...AMAZING!!!
- The wealth of collective experience.
- The variety of sessions offered. Would have liked to attend more.
- Breakout presentation - especially on Graduation, placement & tracking along with student perspectives...very powerful!
- The topics were spot on; however, I enjoyed the after meetings as much as the meeting itself.
- the content
- Being able to safely receive information, see presenters' faces and attendees as asked questions, multitasking with chat and sharing of contacts and links that way. Videos and walks through centers and training were priceless; a picture truly paints a thousand words. Powerful transformations priceless and useful to encourage and inspire others. It was very interactive. Once again, the most giving community that I know.

List any topics you would like to see presented at future meetings?

- More on virtual training and certifications and COVID-19 training adaptations - that continues to be problematic
- Information regarding quarterly reports possibly? Also, I was sad that we didn't get to do the presentation on social media. I think that would have been super helpful.
- I want to hear from WIB personnel on how to work with them. Hearing stories about EWDJT grantees working with WIB's is old news and hasn't added any new information in a few years. Maybe a panel of several WIB directors (or whatever they are called) would be informative.
- Have some fixed Questions for Discussion, rather than total Open Discussions.
- I'm VERY new to EPA/Brownfield/EWDJT... Everything was great- I'm sure I'll have more questions as we move along with our project.
- Storm water management
- Look at the basics of thresholds, and examples of information that satisfied threshold requirements.
- Preparing or considerations for preparing a risk management plan for training.
- Alternatives to long distance learning
- Dealing with roadblocks such as daycare, drug testing, transportation.
- How to attract private funding / donations.
- More information on training methods or technology
- All the topics presented were excellent to me.
- Maintaining employer relations.

- More tips and tricks and lessons learned
- More ideas for delivering in-person training safely in a COVID-19 world. Hoping to continue this dialog.
- Environmental justice
- Trends in training technology.
- More discussion along the lines of COVID-19 Program Responses, lessons learned and best practices (which doing already and maybe new topics for that will emerge). I think current topics work since mirror what need to perform for grant and to apply successfully for grant.

What would be your preference for next year's meeting, face-to-face in Alexandria, VA (if it is safe to do so) or virtual?

- Virtual 9
- Face-to-Face 21
- Both at the Same Time: 1,
- Either 2
- Happy Hour 1

Would you be interested in participating in a single session Zoom meeting on special topics this fall?

- Yes: 34
- No: 3
- Blank: 5

To those responding to our evaluation, thank you. Comments will be used as discussion topics in future PLCs and in planning the next All-Grantee Meeting

## **6. LESSONS LEARNED – DELIVERING A ZOOM MEETING WITH 9 PLENARIES AND 21 BREAKOUTS**

As part of today's discussion on program evaluation, Steve Fenton summarized the decision making process HMTRI engaged to construct a format for creating a virtual meeting similar to our face-to-face All-Grantee Meeting.

Preliminary Decisions:

- Identify what you are trying to accomplish?
- Which meeting application will best suit your objectives (ZOOM, MEET, Adobe etc.)
- Will it be a meeting or a Webinar? ZOOM offers a meeting or webinar option.
- How many folks are you anticipating attending and participating? Are willing to set limits?
- Pay attention to your agenda. Will there be breakout rooms? If so, be aware of competing topics.
- Will you allow "open mics" or use the Raised Hands feature?
- Will you record the meeting?
- Be aware of your "Time Zones" and emphasize breaks
- Make sure you have time for breaks if it is a long meeting. We gave 20-minute breaks and the participants appreciated it.
- How are you going to handle Power Points and Video's? Again, having a backup plan is essential. Recommend no PowerPoints with embedded videos.
- How will you handle registration – will you do it, or will Zoom?

### **Suggestions:**

- Have a quality Tech person to assist and troubleshoot in the meeting
- Plan for redundancy – give example of the three of us and our locations and the potential for a hurricane or “derecho.” Also, plan for other “what ifs” like a presenter is knocked off, what is the backup plan?
- Offer an hour long “Zoom Basics” to potential attendees where you can explain all the basics of the meeting and how things work.
- It’s also not a bad idea to have a preliminary meeting of facilitators and presenters where you can go over how the meeting will run and what to do in the event the “what if” scenarios actually happen.
- Decide if you are going to have participants complete an evaluation, and if so, it can be popped up on the screen as a poll or a survey link.
- Take advantage of the medium and make the virtual meeting be a positive experience.
- Use all the features of technology – like the ability to use chats, raising hands etc.
- Don’t be afraid to “Adapt” – example of popular breakout sessions and our ability to change and make it a plenary session.
- Copy chats for future reference
- Send out Agenda ahead of time.

### **7. REMINDERS AFTER THE EWDJT APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED**

Today we repeated our follow up suggestions to those who submitted an FY21 grant proposal.

- Organize and/or reorganize data files used to develop the submitted proposal. Questions may arise months from now with award announcements over five months away and work plan finalization even later.
- Keep those included and referenced in the RFP informed. They may be contacted by proposal reviewers for additional information.
- Inform partners and stakeholders of the schedule moving forward. In the event a proposal is not funded, build upon established partnerships and contacts for an expanded proposal.
- With about a third of applications selected for funding, it is important not to be discouraged if this year’s proposal is not accepted. Many applicants consider their first submission as a learning experience. Unfunded proposals are provided an opportunity for a critical review identifying deficiencies in the grant. With additional guidance from EPA, HMTRI and successful grantees, proposals can be revised and expanded for the next competition less than a year away.
- We suggest distributing the proposal to key supporters and partners. Their involvement may attract additional leveraged support.
- Continue seeking letters of support from leveraged partners, potential employers, advisory committee members and community supporters. It is important that they stay committed to the program.
- During preparation for this RFP, supplemental sources of “start up” funding may have been identified to begin planning an environmental workforce program before receiving EWDJT assistance. Consider seeking supplemental funding from governmental agencies, community colleges and existing nonprofit organizations interested in expanding their offerings to include environmental training.
- The EWDJT program is an annual competition with another requests for proposals less than a year away. It takes a good part of the year to assemble, coordinate and institute a working partnership team. Consider this a marathon rather than a “one off” grant opportunity.

## 8. WEBINARS, ONLINE RESOURCES, WEBSITES, RECORDINGS, AND POWERPOINTS

### NIEHS Webinars

#### [NIEHS WTP Essential and Returning Worker Online Training Course](#)

##### **Now Available**

As workplaces reopen, workers and employers are safeguarding against COVID-19. Vivid Learning Systems designed an online version of the NIEHS WTP Essential and Returning Worker Training course, which is now available from Vivid Learning Systems. This training includes an Introduction and modules on Assessing Exposure Risk to SARS CoV-2, Workplace Exposure Prevention, Cleaning and Disinfections, and Resilience. Access to this course is free of charge.

#### [Vivid Learning System LMS](#)

#### [Facilitating Reentry of Justice-Involved Individuals into the workforce](#)

This report is an addendum and update to the 2011 report, *Best Practices Guide for Green Re-Entry Strategies*, researched and written by UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability (IoES). Since 2011, governmental, academic, and nonprofit entities have expanded efforts to close the "revolving door" of recidivism via green reentry programs and initiatives. This addendum seeks to capture some of the key developments including: - Updates on policy developments and economic changes - Barriers and opportunities for employment for reentry populations - Best management practices for reentry within the framework of green infrastructure and provide a set of recommendations. - Experiences of formerly incarcerated individuals and case studies from organizations.

#### **COVID-19 resources**

Johns Hopkins University launched an influential [COVID-19 resource center](#). With continually updated data and separate global and U.S. maps, their [dashboard helps millions of worldwide users](#) track the novel coronavirus outbreak.

This online tool provides critical COVID-19 case and disease-spread information to the NIEHS [COVID-19 Pandemic Vulnerability Index](#) (PVI). [Alison Motsinger-Reif, Ph.D.](#), head of the institute's Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch, and her collaborators from North Carolina State University and Texas A&M University [developed the index](#).

For every U.S. county, the PVI produces a scorecard that identifies how much an area is threatened by the coronavirus. A special pie chart displays 12 different health and environmental factors, such as infection and testing rates, population density, hospital beds, and others.

Now, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is incorporating the PVI into its [COVID-19 Data Tracker](#). The tracker shows the latest information on laboratory testing, transmission, school closures, and more.

#### [AIHA COVID19 Resources](#)

AIHA has joined efforts with CDC and NIOSH (National Institute on Occupational Safety and Health) to help educate the public about returning to work safely by hosting a series of free webinars by business sector.

Back to work resources from the AIHA link below offers specific, easy-to-follow, science-based recommendations for limiting the transmission of the coronavirus while operating a wide variety of businesses, including restaurants, retail outlets, and hair and nail salons. Guidelines were developed for smaller organizations that don't have readily available occupational health and safety resources. AIHA

encourages employers, employees, and customers to carefully read and implement as many of the recommendations contained in the guidance document as applicable.

## **9. CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS**

### **[6th Annual GBA Brownfield Seminar](#)**

**Zoom webinar**

**Oct. 6 & 7, 2020**

**9 a.m. to 1 p.m**

The health and safety of our members and partners has always been a top priority for our organization. After tremendous review and discussion, we have made the decision to pivot our 2020 Brownfield Seminar to a virtual format as a result of the increasing impact COVID is having in our state and beyond. Please plan to join our Zoom webinar on Oct. 6 & 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

While we will miss seeing you all in person and networking with you at the event, please know that we will present the same high-value content that was originally slated for earlier this year. In fact, we are excited to share a number of benefits to this format:

Extended reach - please consider inviting your contacts from all corners of the state (and beyond!) to join us. An online format will allow us to extend our reach and include those who may not typically be able to join in person due to travel restraints.

### **[ENERGY COORDINATING AGENCY](#)**

#### **2020 VIRTUAL COMMUNITY ENERGY CONFERENCE**

**October 16th, 2020**

**8:00a - 12:30p**

**Format: Zoom**

Join ECA to discuss how we can work together to meet the needs of the communities we serve within the ever-changing 'new normal' brought on by COVID-19. We will be joined by people and organizations sharing stories of resilience and adaptation, along with information about how we navigate the coming year.

Throughout the morning, the panelists will be presenting on Housing Needs, a utility panel on COVID Response, Clean Energy Workforce Transformation, The New Normal of Energy Efficiency, and Concerns for Environmental Justice.

### **[The 6th Annual GBA Brownfield Seminar](#)**

**Full-day conference at Georgia Power**

**Monday, Oct. 19, 2020**

Join us Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 for the sixth annual Brownfield Seminar. We are planning to present the same great event we had planned before coronavirus (COVID-19) rearranged all of our lives and schedules, in its originally planned format, as a full-day conference at Georgia Power. Those who submitted abstracts - thank you, we will be in touch with you directly regarding your submission.

**[Registration](#)** is open and sponsorships are still available! If you're already registered, don't worry - we have transferred your registration to the new event date on Oct. 19, 2020.

## [The 2020 Florida Brownfields Conference](#)

**October 29-November 6**

### **Virtual**

Keeping Our Community Safe While Staying Connected. Despite the challenges of our current climate, brownfield cleanup and redevelopment, environmental justice, community engagement and revitalization, and equitable development are as timely and important as ever. We are committed to bringing you a provocative, engaging virtual brownfields conference in 2020. For 2020, we are also working with our partners with U.S. EPA Region IV to include the Region IV New Brownfield Grantee Workshop and broader Southeast Regional themes in the virtual 2020 conference.

During the 2020 virtual conference, we plan (i) to hold the U.S. EPA Region IV New Brownfield Grantee Workshop virtually in coordination with U.S. EPA as part of the conference and (ii) to serve as a platform for provocative sessions that showcase both Florida and Region IV Brownfields issues, initiatives, and efforts, in order for participants throughout Region IV to come together, participate, collaborate, and to share. Virtual Conference Format -The 2020 Brownfields Conference will be an all virtual event.

Registrants will be emailed an access code to join the events a few days before the conference.

We will be offering creative events for participants to come together, network, collaborate, and share.

### **Registration Costs**

PRIVATE SECTOR - \$125.00

PUBLIC or NON-PROFIT SECTOR - \$100.00

STUDENT - \$ 50.00

EPA NEW GRANTEES WORKSHOP - NO CHARGE (Not Including Other Conference Sessions)

Registration includes virtual access to all sessions, workshops, videos, and events hosted by FBA for the 2020 Florida Brownfields Conference. Participants will be required to login from their own network for access.

## [National Brownfields Conference](#)

**April 27-30, 2021**

### **Oklahoma City, OK**

The National Brownfields Training Conference is the largest event in the nation focused on environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment. Held every two years, the National Brownfields Conference attracts over 2,000 stakeholders in brownfields redevelopment and cleanup to share knowledge about sustainable reuse and celebrate the EPA brownfields program's success.

Whether you're a newcomer or a seasoned professional, Brownfields 2021 offers something for you!

## [The 26th Florida Remediation Conference & Exhibition \(FRC 2020\)](#)

**November 17-19, 2021**

### **Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate**

### **Champions Gate (Orlando), Florida**

The Florida Remediation Conference (FRC) is one of the premier soil, air and water remediation conferences of the year. Though FRC started out as a Florida-centric event 25 years ago, it has developed a solid reputation for fostering the remediation and redevelopment industries across the Southeast. FRC attracts over 600 attendees comprised of a mix of industry representatives, developers, consultants and contractors, and over 100 exhibitors and sponsors from across the country. The Florida Remediation Conference & Exhibition is requesting individuals

that have an interest in presenting an oral or poster presentation at the 26th annual event which will now take place on November 17-19, 2021.

View this link to learn more:

<https://floridaremediationconference.org>

## **10. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **FY 2021 Supporting Equitable Development and Environmental Justice in Brownfields Communities Grant Guidelines**

**Submission deadline - October, 21, 2020**

Request for Applications

#### **DEADLINE EXTENSION**

**The submission deadline for the FY 2021 Supporting Equitable Development and Environmental Justice in Brownfields Communities solicitation has been extended to October 21, 2020.** This solicitation is requesting applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to provide direct technical assistance to communities nationwide on the integration of environmental justice and equitable development when developing solutions to brownfields cleanup and revitalization challenges. EPA anticipates awarding one grant for an estimated \$600,000. The award is anticipated to be funded incrementally on an annual basis over three years, at approximately \$200,000 per year.

Visit the [FY 2021 Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance solicitation page](#) for more information, including a recording of the applicant outreach webinar from August, 3, 2020. Submit your application at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

See additional details on the [FY 2021 Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance solicitation page](#) and apply at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### **EPA Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants**

The Request for Applications for FY21 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants is now posted on [grants.gov](http://grants.gov).

Applications are due October 28, 2020.

EPA anticipates to have a virtual information session for applicants on September 14th.

FY 2021 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Application Resources

- [FY 2021 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Assessment Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Cleanup Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Summary of Brownfields Grant Guideline Changes](#)

### **Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program (P42).**

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is continuing the Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program, referred to as Superfund Research Program (SRP) Centers. SRP Center grants will support problem-based, solution-oriented research Centers that consist of multiple, integrated projects representing both the biomedical and environmental science disciplines. The Center cores are tasked with administrative (which includes research translation), data management and analysis, community engagement, research experience and training coordination, and research support functions. SRP is holding a webinar to provide information about the new funding opportunity on October 1. The application deadline is February 15, 2021. For more information and to register for the webinar, see

<https://clu-in.org/live>.

For more information and application instructions for the grants, see

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-20-014.html>.

### **OSHA Awards \$11M In Worker Safety And Health Training Grants**

The Susan Harwood federal safety and health training grants will help train workers and employers at 90 nonprofit organizations to recognize serious workplace hazards.

September 18, 2020

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)) has awarded approximately \$11.2 million in Susan Harwood federal safety and health training grants to [90 nonprofit organizations](#) nationwide. The grants will provide education and training programs to help workers and employers recognize serious workplace hazards, including the coronavirus, implement injury prevention measures, and understand their rights and responsibilities under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

Under President Trump's Qualified Opportunity Zones Executive Order, OSHA awarded 80 grants to conduct occupational safety and health training in urban and economically distressed areas. The 2020 Harwood grant awards also funded 12 targeted-topic training grants, and four training and education materials development grants on topics related to the coronavirus pandemic.

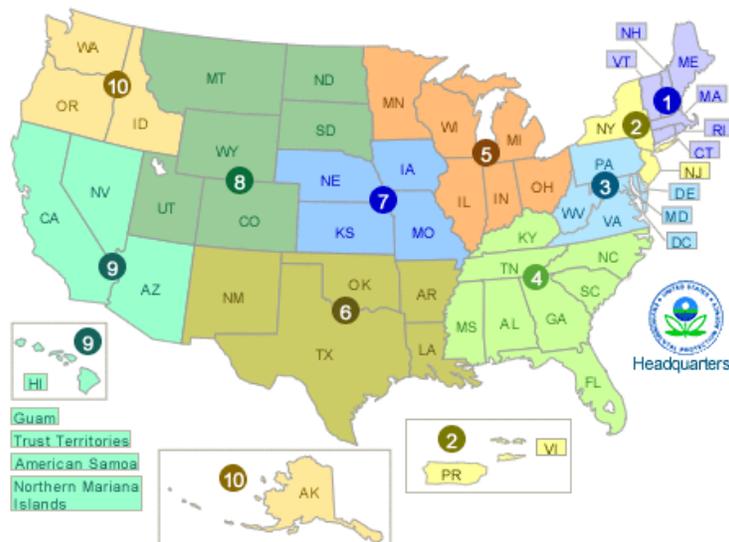
The Susan Harwood Training Grants Program provides funds to nonprofit organizations, including community and faith-based groups, employer associations, labor unions, joint labor-management associations, colleges and universities. Target trainees include small-business employers and underserved vulnerable workers in high-hazard industries. The fiscal year 2020 award categories are Targeted Topic Training, Training and Educational Materials Development, and Capacity Building.

The program honors the late Susan Harwood, former director of OSHA's Office of Risk Assessment, who died in 1996. During her 17-year OSHA career, she helped develop federal standards to protect workers exposed to bloodborne pathogens, cotton dust, benzene, formaldehyde, asbestos, and lead in construction.

### **11. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS**

Regional Coordinators are the first place to go regarding questions about EWDJT grants, extensions, budgets or work plans. For those thinking of submitting an application for FY21 funding, check in to express your intentions. Many Regions maintain a Listserv for past, current and potential grantees. It is important to be on their contact list for conference calls and newsletters.

<b>EPA Region 1</b> Myra Schwartz	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1696 E-mail: schwartz.myra@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 2</b> Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov
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Map of EPA Regions

Credit: [epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

## 12. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

### Upcoming PLC calls

- October 14

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the [brownfields-toolbox.org](http://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](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](http://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](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.

