



DEEPWATER HORIZON LESSONS LEARNED WORKSHOP:  
IMPROVING SAFETY & HEALTH TRAINING FOR DISASTER  
CLEANUP WORKERS

# **Lessons Learned from Community Partnerships**

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Mary I. Williams, Program Manager for Community Outreach  
Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice



# OVERVIEW

Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DU/DSCEJ) in New Orleans, LA has been conducting environmental health and safety training for over sixteen years (16) through funding from the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). The DSCEJ has partnership training sites in Atlanta, GA, Savannah, GA, Detroit, MI, and Hattiesburg, MS.

The Center was able to respond quickly to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster by sending certified workers to help with clean up efforts.

# CLEAN UP WORKERS DEPLOYED



DSCEJ deployed 68 cleanup workers into the Gulf states affected by the BP Oil Spill

- New Orleans, LA – 28 deployed
- Hattiesburg, MS – 21 deployed
- Atlanta, GA – 7 deployed
- Baton Rouge, LA - 12 deployed

# DSCEJ DEEPWATER HORIZON RESPONSE TRAINING STATISTICS

**21 trained in New Orleans MWTP  
(NIEHS)**

**23 trained in Technology Based  
Learning (DOL)**

**71 trained in 40 hour Hazwoper  
for BP Oil Disaster**

**Total Training = 115**

# DSCEJ COMMUNITY RESPONSE

The DSCEJ has worked in partnership with government and non-government officials (NGOs) to address community concerns.

Listening Sessions

Webinars

Focus Groups



# HUMAN HEALTH IMPACT



Self reported health problems of workers included headaches, eye irritation, and difficulty breathing. Some residents also indicated an increase in domestic violence.



Adequate funding and resources were not in place to address physical and mental illness among Gulf coast residents and responders.



President Obama's National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill has recommended that medical services protocol similar to the Public Health and Medical Services Annex of the National Response Framework be incorporated to ensure emergency medical care, timely dissemination of public health information, and medical monitoring and surveillance.



# GULF LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP STUDY (GULF STUDY)

The DSCEJ is working in partnership with the NIEHS' Gulf Study to monitor potential health effects of workers and volunteers responding to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon Oil disaster.



# ECONOMIC IMPACT

Ongoing concerns of workers in the fishing industry:

Reasonable Conditions for Settlement with BP

Fair and Consistent Compensation

Remove the requirement of a \$250,00 total claim payment to be eligible for an appeal.



# CONTACT Us

**Dillard University**

**Deep South Center for Environmental Justice**

**2601 Gentilly Blvd.**

**New Orleans, LA 70122**

**504-816-4005 office**

**[www.dscej.org](http://www.dscej.org)**

**Dr. Beverly Wright, Executive Director**