



# **NIEHS December 2004 Meeting**

## **Clearinghouse Support for The WETP Brownfields Effort Bruce Lippy and Larry Reed**

**National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and  
Health Training**

**1250 Connecticut Avenue**

**Washington, DC**

**202.331.7733**

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

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# Objectives

1. Review the recent Brownfields efforts that the Clearinghouse has supported
2. Explain the enhanced Clearinghouse capabilities for working with the EPA
3. Learn how the Clearinghouse can do more for the Brownfields awardees



# **Brownfields Focus Group Meeting in RTP, May 20, 2003**

Coordinated by the Clearinghouse



# Focus Group Identified Challenges and Obstacles

1. Demonstrating benefits of training to partners
2. Working with community-based organizations
3. Helping students with transportation, multiple licenses, and entry into trades
4. Getting buy-in from key leaders within our training organizations
5. Obtaining access to labor market information
6. Connecting politically



## **Focus Group Identified Challenges and Obstacles (2)**

- 7. Training older workers**
- 8. Determining the best strategy in right-to-work states**
- 9. Dealing with unemployment**
- 10. Teaching graduates to be self-sustaining**
- 11. Inspiring current students**
- 12. Avoiding “training in the dark”**



# Focus Group Recommended:

**DONE!**

Develop a session at Brownfields 2003 bringing together developers, CBOs, and employers

NIEHS WETP

**National Clearinghouse** for Worker Safety and Health Training

## From Justice to Safety to Diversity and Worker Training: NIEHS Participates in Six Sessions of Special Interest at the Brownfields 2003 Conference

From October 27-29, 2003, Portland, Oregon hosted Brownfields 2003: Growing a Greener America. Over 4,100 people from diverse backgrounds participated, making it the largest national brownfields conference to date.

During the conference, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), was proud to participate in six sessions related to the Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program (BMWTP). NIEHS also shared an information booth with the EPA OSWER and Labor Health and Safety Task Force, which provided awardees the opportunity to share success stories and lessons learned with their colleagues.

The NIEHS began the conference with their Brownfields Program meeting on Monday morning. The moderator of the meeting, Sharon



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# Clearinghouse supported the 2004 Brownfields Conference



## Brownfields 2004 Gateway to Revitalization September 20-22, 2004

During the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Brownfields Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) set the stage for six dynamic sessions on job training and worker safety and health at Brownfields sites. As a co-sponsor for the consecutive year, NIEHS reached out to brownfield stakeholders, practitioners, and employers during this premier forum to highlight its Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program (BMWTP) and related success stories.

In the month preceding the Conference, NIEHS invited the moderators who would be moderating the sessions at the Conference to submit a training success story related to their Brownfields sites supported by NIEHS. As a result, much enthusiasm was created during those weeks in which success stories, under the theme "Protecting our Workers – Involving our Communities," were posted in the Worker and Education Training Program (WETP) electronic newsbrief. See [the WETP newsbrief archives](#) for the weeks of August 20 – September 10, 2004 to view these postings.



Beverly Wright with NIEHS moderated the session, *Community Decision Making For Brownfields*. King Wells was available to their co-moderators, researchers and developers, and their right to be featured on the panel included academic and industry advisory board which address concerns particular

to the interaction of advisory board members in the areas targeted by the worker-training program, for assistance in recruitment, training, and job placement originating from those communities.



# Focus Group Recommended:

# DONE!

## Work with awardees to produce a brownfields brochure

*Training today's workers for a better tomorrow*



### THE NIEHS BROWNFIELDS MINORITY WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM

### WHY BROWNFIELDS?

Although you may be new to the idea of a 'Brownfields site,' it is likely that there is one or more in your community. It may be the abandoned gas station the blocks from your local supermarket. Or the idle acre of land located just a stone's throw from your child's schoolyard that used to be a thriving industrial plant. Case in point: Brownfields are a local issue that many communities struggle to address.

The US EPA defines 'Brownfields sites' as abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

Cleaning up a Brownfields site can be complex because it involves much more than just the cleanup of hazardous waste. The process represents the coming together of many factors – environmental, economic, community empowerment, and environmental justice among them. At the same time, it poses significant potential for the surrounding community – in terms of increased jobs, increased tax revenues, and new opportunities for real economic and social growth.

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Education and Training Program (WETP) Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program (BWMTP) is one vehicle working to realize that potential by connecting local Brownfields residents with valuable job training, and local community-based organizations and developers with a connection to a highly-trained network of individuals who understand the importance of a safe and healthy workplace, community, and environment. Since 1998, our program has funded job training for more than 1500 people living in the 300+ Brownfields communities throughout the United States with an overall job placement rate of 85%.




*Providing training and employment for people of color in Brownfields communities*



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# What services can we provide?

## Promotion of your success stories

- Weekly e-Newsbrief
- White papers
- Journal articles

[On The Web This Week](#)

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### **Brownfields 2004 Gateway to Revitalization: Sharing Job Training Success Stories**

For the next few weeks, the Clearinghouse is proud to post job training success stories related to Brownfields activities supported by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Please take the time to read this touching success story provided by Xavier University Deep South Center of Environmental Justice in New Orleans, LA.

[Deep South Center of Environmental Justice Success Story](#)

[Brownfields 2004 Registration](#)



# What services can we provide?

## Graphic design

NIEHS  
WORKER EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM

### Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program Accomplishments Report

PERIOD COVERED:  
September 1, 2002 — August 31, 2003

Submitted by the



Worker Education and Training Branch  
Division of Extramural Research and Training  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2233  
<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/wetp>

### Protecting our Workers — Involving our Communities

6 SESSIONS  
SPECIAL  
INTEREST

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program (BMWTP) is proud to be participating in six sessions at Brownfields 2004. Since 1998, the NIEHS, through interagency agreement with the EPA, has awarded nearly \$3 million annually for training people of color to work safely and successfully in restoring Brownfield sites. The program has trained approximately 2,000 people with an excellent job placement rate of 66 percent. We encourage you to learn about the organizations we fund and the lives they've changed. Please join us in the following sessions.

SEPTEMBER 20  
THROUGH  
SEPTEMBER 22  
AMERICA'S  
CENTER  
701 CONVENTION  
PLAZA  
ST. LOUIS, MO  
63101

#### CONNECTING THE •••• (DOTS): Job Training for Community Residents

Monday, Sept. 20, 10:45 am - 12:15 pm (Level 1, Room D)

A panel of local elected or city officials discusses ways in which cities can connect job training to local jobs for community residents. One specific community will share how it created a city ordinance to promote local hiring in the cleanup of brownfields and its success in implementing and enforcing the ordinance. Other panelists will share their experiences and value of working with the Brownfield Minority Worker Training programs.

MODERATOR: Kizella Vaughn, The Center to Protect Workers' Rights  
SPONSOR: Noemi Emeric, City of Los Angeles  
SPONSOR: Bonnie Phillips, City of Cincinnati, Division of Risk Management  
SPONSOR: Carlos Martinez, City of East Palo Alto



NIEHS

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National Institute of Environmental  
Health Sciences, NIH, DHHS



# What services can we provide?

## Research and web services



**National Clearinghouse**  
for Worker Safety & Health Training

*The primary source for hazardous waste  
worker training curriculum and information.*

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## Resources

### **Brownfields - Federal Resources**

[U.S. EPA Brownfields Home Page](#): Provides links to general brownfield information, initiatives and pilots, tools and contacts, regional brownfield pages, etc.

[President's Council on Sustainable Development](#): An excerpt from "Sustainable America: A New Consensus" by the Presidents Council on Sustainable Development. Chapter 4 - Strengthening Communities.

[Brownfields Job Development and Training](#): EPA, local organizations and community colleges have established partnerships to develop long term plans for workforce development in brownfields through worker training, environmental education and recruitment of minorities.

[Index of Brownfields Publications](#): Documents from EPA

[Guidance on Settlements with Prospective Purchasers of Contaminated Property](#): From EPA.

[Links to EPA Region Brownfields Pages](#)

[Brownfields Success Stories](#)

[Brownfields-related Laws and Regulations](#)

## Weekly e-Newsbrief

December 3, 2004

[The National Clearinghouse Newsbrief](#) is a free weekly electronic newsletter focusing on the world of worker health and safety.

This Week's Headlines:

- ▶ Lack of Funding Slows Cleanup of Hundreds of Superfund Sites: Federal Toxic Waste Program's Budget is Stagnant
- ▶ Project Focuses on Disaster Planning for People with Disabilities
- ▶ Hospital Preparedness Standard Approved — Developed by ASTM International Committee on Homeland Security
- ▶ More



# **What services can we provide?**

## **Senior advisors**

- **Donald Elisburg**
- **John Moran**
- **Larry Reed**



# Questions?

**Be sure to visit:  
[www.wetp.org](http://www.wetp.org)**