

Building Community Strength Through Partnerships

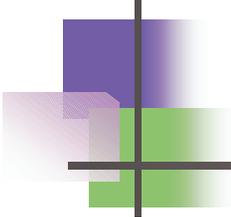
Environmental J.O.B.S.
In Massachusetts

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University of Massachusetts Lowell



Environmental Justice on Brownfield Sites (**Environmental J.O.B.S.**)

- Brownfield Minority Worker Training Program
- Initiated in Lowell, MA in 1998
- EPA Brownfield Showcase Community
- Goal: University-Community-Labor-Government Partnerships



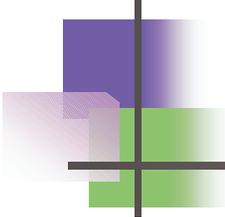
Program Offers Two Career Tracks

Construction/ Remediation

- Hazardous waste clean-up; asbestos and lead remediation
- General construction skills
- Laborers apprenticeship

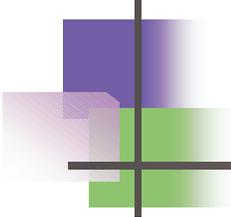
Environmental Technician

- Monitoring or sampling at hazardous waste, lead, or asbestos-contaminated sites



Program Partnerships

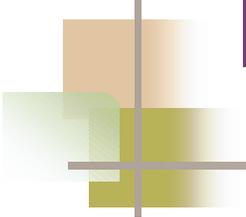
- Coalition for a Better Acre (CBA)
- Laborers-AGC
- Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association
- Lowell Adult Education
- City of Lowell
- EPA



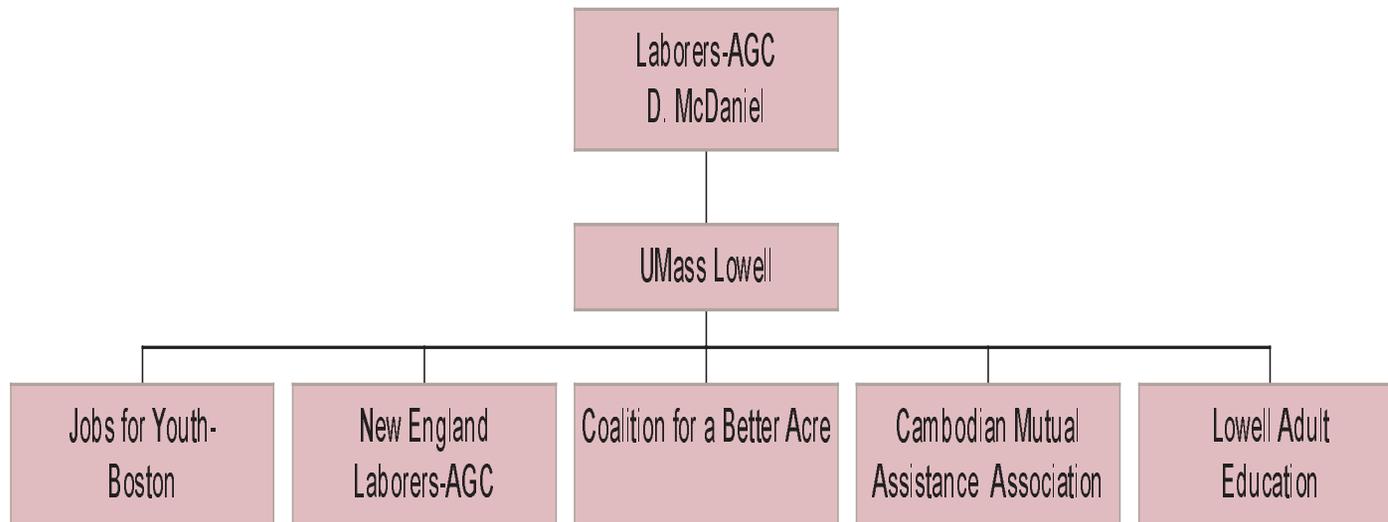
Program Partnerships

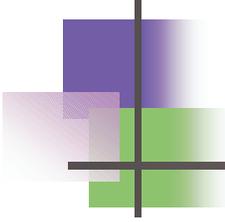
Expanded to Boston in 2000

- Partnered with Jobs for Youth-Boston
 - Environmental Technician Program



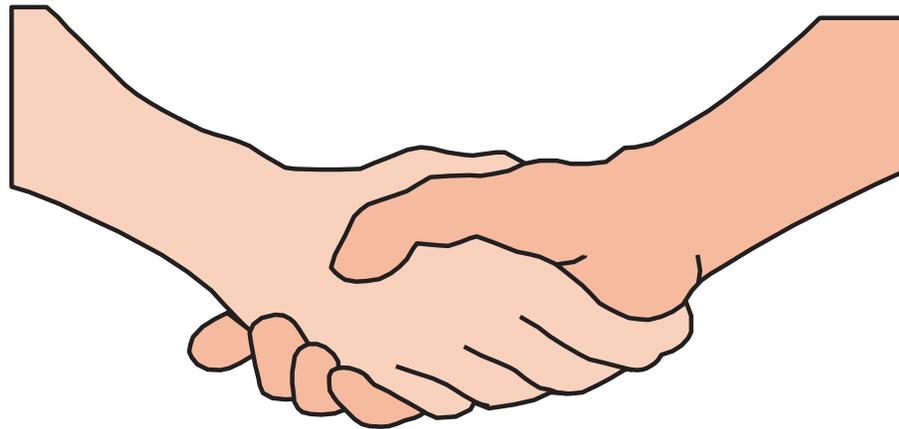
Environmental J.O.B.S.

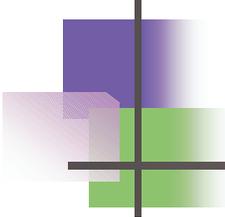




Community Partnerships

- Equality
- Organization-Building
- Trust





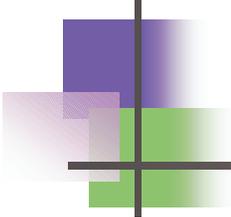
Government Partnerships

- City of Lowell
 - Div. Of Planning and Development
 - Brownfields
 - Lead Program
 - Acre Revitalization
- City of Boston
 - Boston Redevelopment Authority



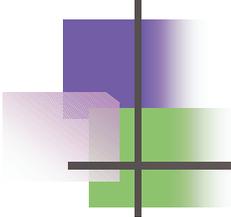
Government Partnerships (2)

- EPA
 - Brownfield Showcase Coordinator
 - Region 1– Advisory Board
 - Internships
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 - Minority Economic & Community Development
 - Dept. of Environmental Protection



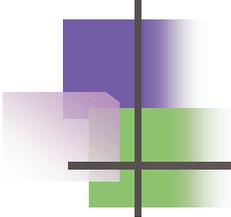
Community Partnerships

- Frequent joint strategy/planning meetings
- Clear division of labor
- Funding for new positions/equipment
- Frank discussions of funding concerns



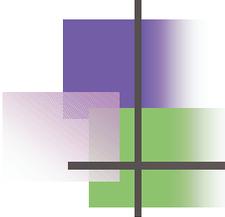
Labor Partnerships

- MA Laborers Training Center
 - Joint strategy meetings
 - Hands-on Assessment
 - Additional week of hands-on training
 - Modified curriculum
 - Set up internships
 - Assisted with graduate placement



Labor Partnerships (2)

- Apprenticeship Coordinator
 - Guaranteed Acceptance for graduates
 - Pre-placement into locals
- Lowell Laborers Local
 - Assisted with recruitment
 - Graduate Placement



Developments -- CBA

- Added new job development programs
- Worked with University on Brownfields development issues
- Able to apply for additional funding
- Expanded community environmental education programs
- Involved program graduates in community programs
- Union Contractors for new offices



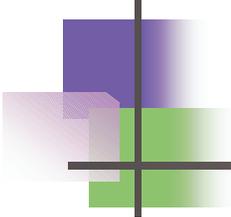
Developments -- City of Lowell

- Contract language – Acre Revitalization environmental work
- HUD Lead training environmental justice component
- Field trips
- Advice



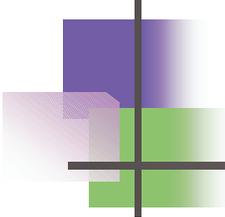
Additional Funding -- Leveraging NIEHS/EPA Funds

- CBA Funding
 - State MECD grant
 - Foundation grants
 - Additional University projects
 - City of Lowell HUD Lead grant
 - Community Awareness Education
- University Funding
 - City of Lowell Lead Training Grant
 - Hazardous waste training for Boston
Redevelopment Authority EPA Brownfield grant



Program Enhancement

- Expanded training
- Dedicated instructor for GED/Basic skills
- Tutoring
- Bus transportation
- Lead and asbestos licensing fees
- Tools/ Final gifts



The entire community benefits from partnerships

- Community groups are more involved in environmental issues
- Community groups are able to expand their services
- Local government is more aware of community needs and concerns
- The University is better able to contribute to the betterment of the community
- Program graduates are more active in their community