



National Institute of  
Environmental Health Sciences  
*Worker Training Program*

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NIEHS WTP ENVIRONMENTAL CAREER WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM



## Environmental Career Worker Training Program:

- Train unemployed or underemployed individuals by delivering holistic and comprehensive training to disadvantaged and underserved communities;
- Program addresses the risk of occupational health disparities;
- Provides job readiness training such as remediation education and life skills;
- Prepare and place them for employment in the fields of environmental restoration, construction, and hazardous materials/waste industries; and
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the training program and its impact.

# ECWTP Awardees

- **Center for Construction Research and Training**
  - New Orleans, LA; St. Paul, MN; and East Palo Alto, CA.
- **OAI**
  - Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Kansas City KS/MO.
- **University of California, Los Angeles**
  - Los Angeles, CA; Seattle, WA; and Portland, OR
- **Rutgers School of Public Health-NJ/NY Consortium**
  - Newark, NJ and New York City, NY
- **Dillard University**
  - New Orleans, LA; Pensacola, FL; Houston, TX; and Detroit, MI.
- **United Steelworkers**
  - New York City, NJ

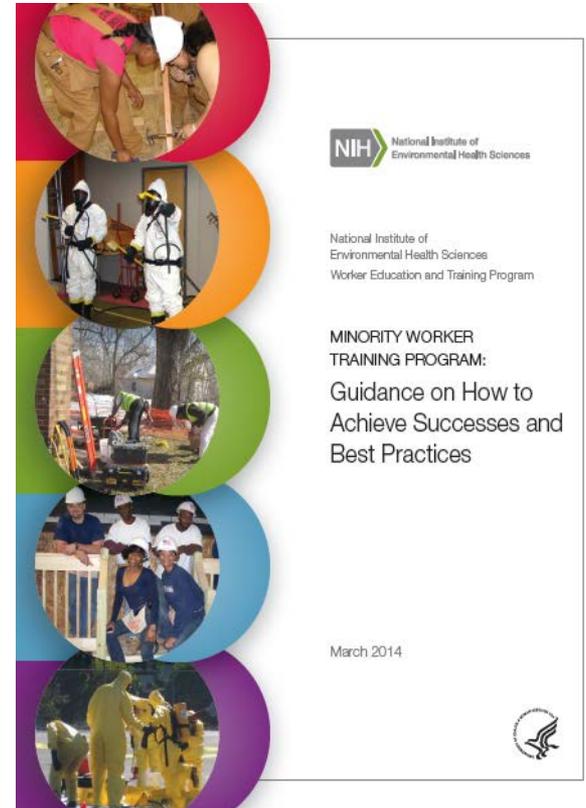


17 Communities



## ECWTP: Success and Best Practices Report

- Trained over 10,000 people in more than 30 communities across 20 states with nearly 70% employment.
- Increase sustainable employment opportunities, address health disparities, & advance environmental justice.
- Transformed the lives of trainees, families, and communities.
- Provides significant contributions to environmental justice by providing training and increasing job opportunities.
- The ECWTP - a model intervention in classic public health.



# Evaluation of the Economic Impact of the NIEHS Worker Training Program- Environmental Career Worker Training Program

**DRAFT: DO NOT CITE OR DISTRIBUTE**

**August 2015**

**Sharon D. Beard, MS -Industrial Hygienist, NIEHS WTP**

The analysis was completed in collaboration with Bryan Engelhardt, Robert Baumann, College of the Holy Cross; Kathy Kiel, College of the Holy Cross; Deborah Weinstock, Larry Reed, Justin Crane, MDB, Inc.

OAI trainees receive general classroom instruction.



## Purposes of WTP Benefits Study

- To respond to NIEHS Strategic Goal 10, in particular part (b)

*Evaluate the economic impact of policies, practices, and behaviors that reduce exposure to environmental toxicants, through prevention of disease and disabilities, and invest in research programs to test how prevention improves public health and minimizes economic burden.*

- To evaluate, quantify, and document the wide range of benefits of WTP ECWTP
- To develop methodology for WTP Benefits
- Share the results with stakeholders

## Benefits defined

- Seven monetary benefits between 1995 and 2013
- Value added benefits

Effect on earnings (present value)	\$1,593 million (1.6 B)
Safety and related cost savings	\$153 million
Hiring cost savings	\$16.8 million
Crime cost savings	\$22.1 million
Effects on taxes and transfers	\$717 million
Environment-related benefits	Indeterminate
Matching funds and community involvement (2013 only)	\$2.3 million

**DRAFT: DO NOT CITE OR DISTRIBUTE**

- Employment Effect:
  - Statistical analysis of graduates versus non-graduates finds an increase employment rate of 59% for graduates
- Hours Effect:
  - Graduates increased by 2.8 hours worked per week
- Wage Effect:
  - Graduates found an increase in compensation of \$4.77 per hour

# DRAFT: DO NOT CITE OR DISTRIBUTE

ECWTP - Economic Impacts  
1995-2013

**\$1.79 Billion**  
Total value added

**\$717 Million**  
Reduced spending

**\$2.28 Million**  
Additional local  
support in 2013

Top Jobs after ECWTP

- ❖ Asbestos
- ❖ Environmental



Avg. Increased Wages

**59%** Increased probability of employment for ECWTP graduates

## Benefits

**Earnings**  
\$1,593M

**Taxes**  
\$717M

**Community  
Input**  
\$2.28M

**Safety Savings**  
\$153M

**Crime Savings**  
\$22.1M

**Hiring  
Savings** \$16.8M



National Institute of  
Environmental Health Sciences  
*Worker Training Program*

## **Sharon D. Beard, MS**

Industrial Hygienist  
NIEHS, Worker Training Program  
Research Triangle Park  
(919) 541-1863  
[beard1@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:beard1@niehs.nih.gov)