WTP Clearinghouse Update

Deborah Weinstock
Director, National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training

Meet Our Staff: National Clearinghouse

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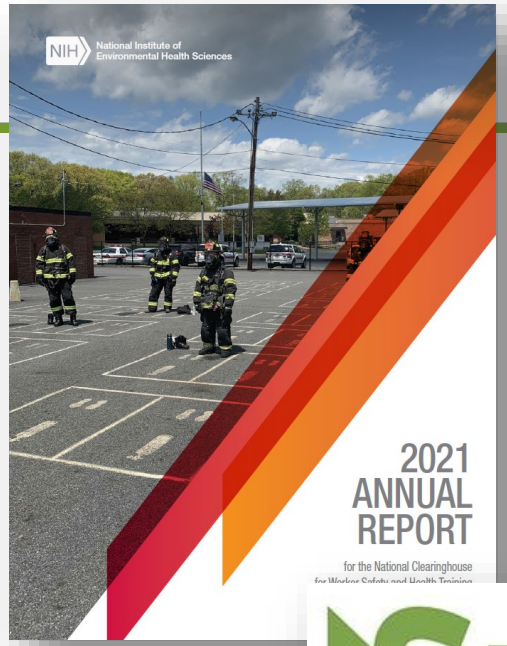
- Mali Velasco
- Dylan Williams

Overview of Last Year's Activities

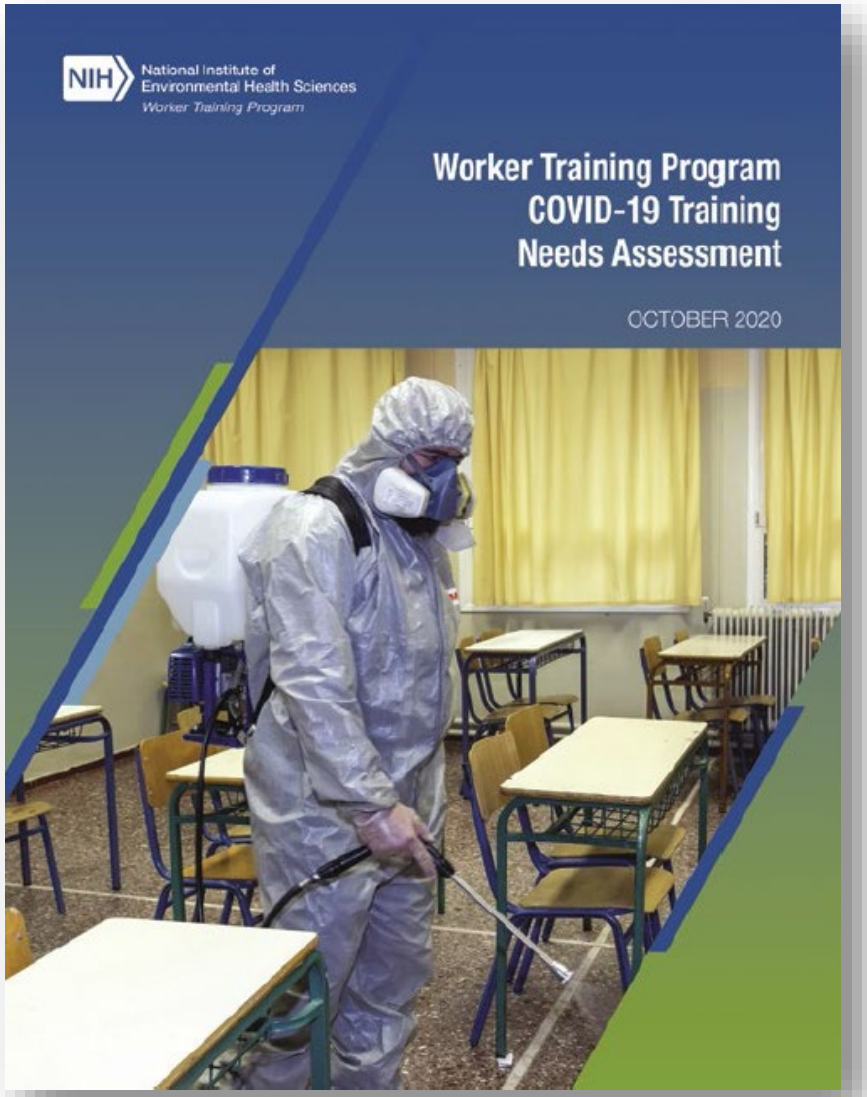
- **2021 annual report** details the work performed between Aug. 29, 2020 – Aug. 28, 2021
- Material Upload and Search Tool for Infectious Disease (**MUSTID**) publicly available
- **State profiles**: Oregon and New England
- **Opioids**
  - Initiatives to Prevent Opioid Misuse and Promote Recovery Friendly Workplace Programs
  - **New Solutions Special Issue**: Opioids and the Workplace: Risk Factors and Solutions. Thanks to Jonathan Rosen and his co-editors! Hard copies of the journal will be made available.



Overview of Last Year's Activities

COVID-19 and Disasters

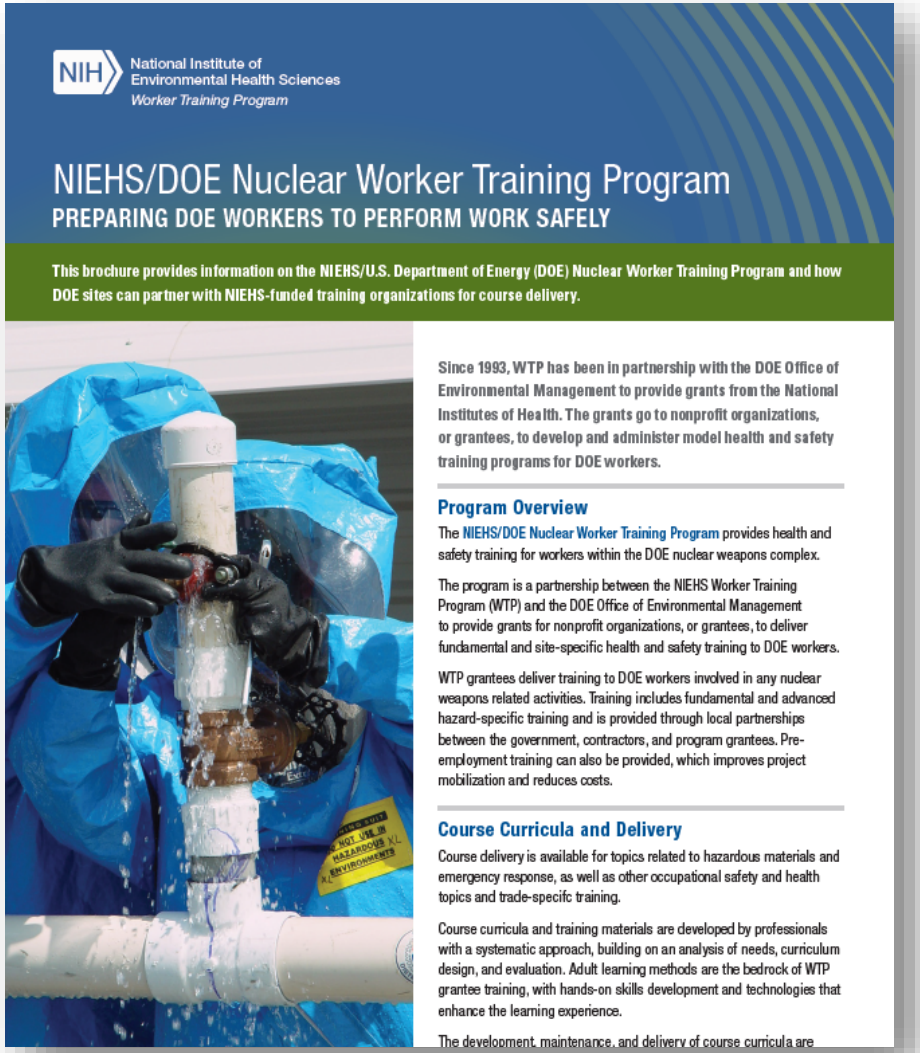
- Webinars on various topics, including managing inequities, addressing the role of the vaccine, using portable air cleaners, etc.
- Numerous fact sheets and technical briefs
- WTP COVID-19 Training Needs Assessment and report
- Virtual town halls on natural disasters and COVID-19



Overview of Last Year's Activities

NIEHS/DOE Nuclear Worker Training

- Continued collaboration with DOE Office of Environmental Management and the Energy Facility Contractors Group (EFCOG)
- Compiled **2019-2020 DOE annual report**
- Updated DOE fact sheet
- Created **partnership brochure** and **partnership process document for DOE contractors**



National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Worker Training Program

NIEHS/DOE Nuclear Worker Training Program
PREPARING DOE WORKERS TO PERFORM WORK SAFELY

This brochure provides information on the NIEHS/U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Nuclear Worker Training Program and how DOE sites can partner with NIEHS-funded training organizations for course delivery.

Since 1993, WTP has been in partnership with the DOE Office of Environmental Management to provide grants from the National Institutes of Health. The grants go to nonprofit organizations, or grantees, to develop and administer model health and safety training programs for DOE workers.

Program Overview

The NIEHS/DOE Nuclear Worker Training Program provides health and safety training for workers within the DOE nuclear weapons complex.

The program is a partnership between the NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP) and the DOE Office of Environmental Management to provide grants for nonprofit organizations, or grantees, to deliver fundamental and site-specific health and safety training to DOE workers.

WTP grantees deliver training to DOE workers involved in any nuclear weapons related activities. Training includes fundamental and advanced hazard-specific training and is provided through local partnerships between the government, contractors, and program grantees. Pre-employment training can also be provided, which improves project mobilization and reduces costs.

Course Curricula and Delivery

Course delivery is available for topics related to hazardous materials and emergency response, as well as other occupational safety and health topics and trade-specifc training.

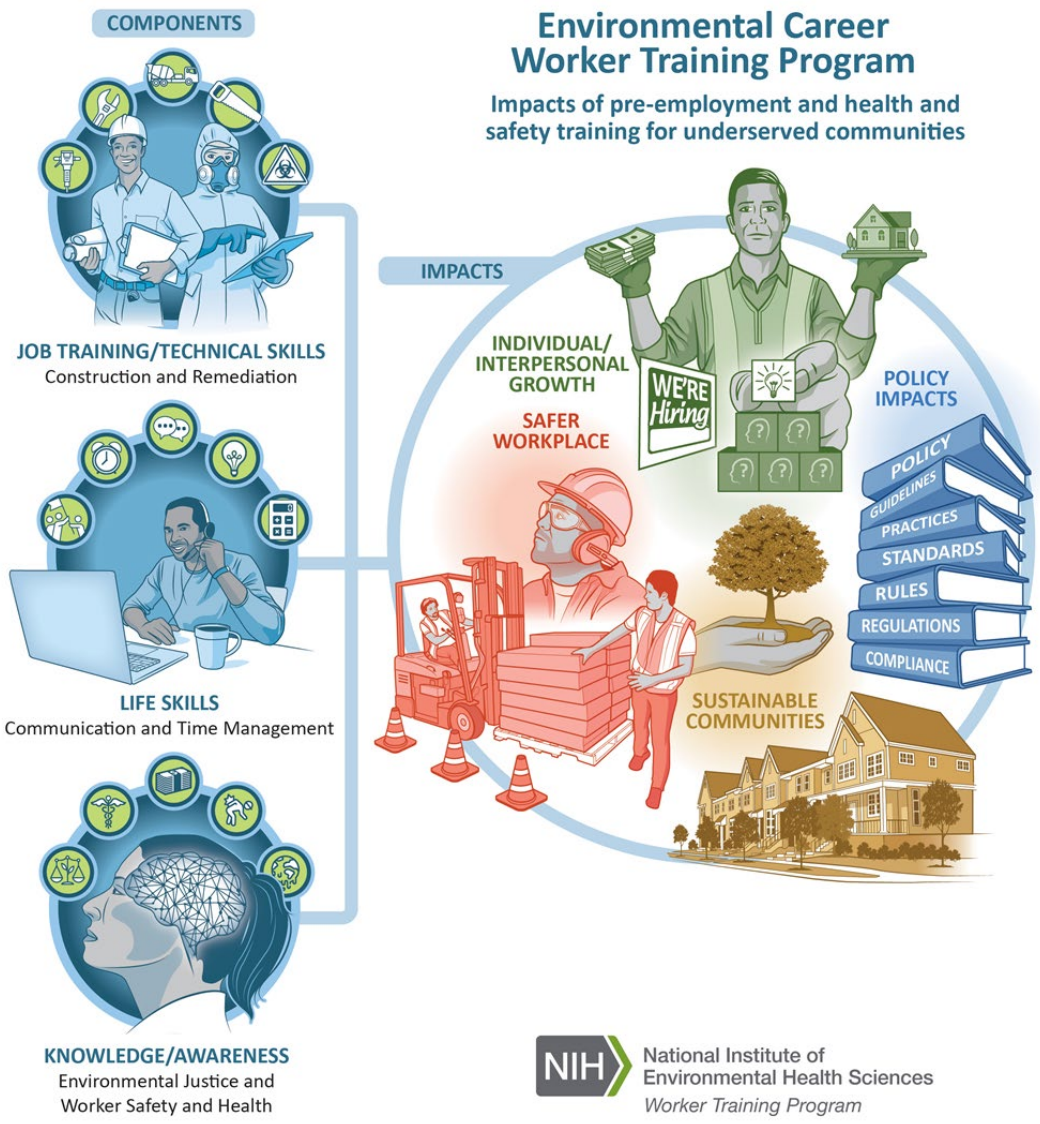
Course curricula and training materials are developed by professionals with a systematic approach, building on an analysis of needs, curriculum design, and evaluation. Adult learning methods are the bedrock of WTP grantee training, with hands-on skills development and technologies that enhance the learning experience.

The development, maintenance, and delivery of course curricula are

Overview of Last Year's Activities

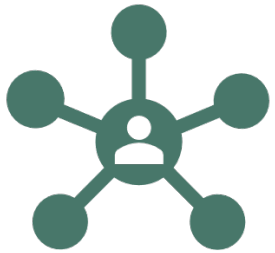
ECWTP

- Developed new ECWTP fact sheet
- Created **new infographic** to show how the program advances EJ
- Drafted article, **"Government Program Celebrates 25 Years of Commitment to Environmental Justice Movement"** (in progress; will be submitted to New Solutions)



Plans for the Coming Year

- **Opioids**
  - New curricula on workplace opioids prevention training program amidst the COVID-19 pandemic opioids crises
  - Webinars/ workshops
  - Partnerships and resource sharing; reaching out to other federal agencies, as well as states with an interest in these issues



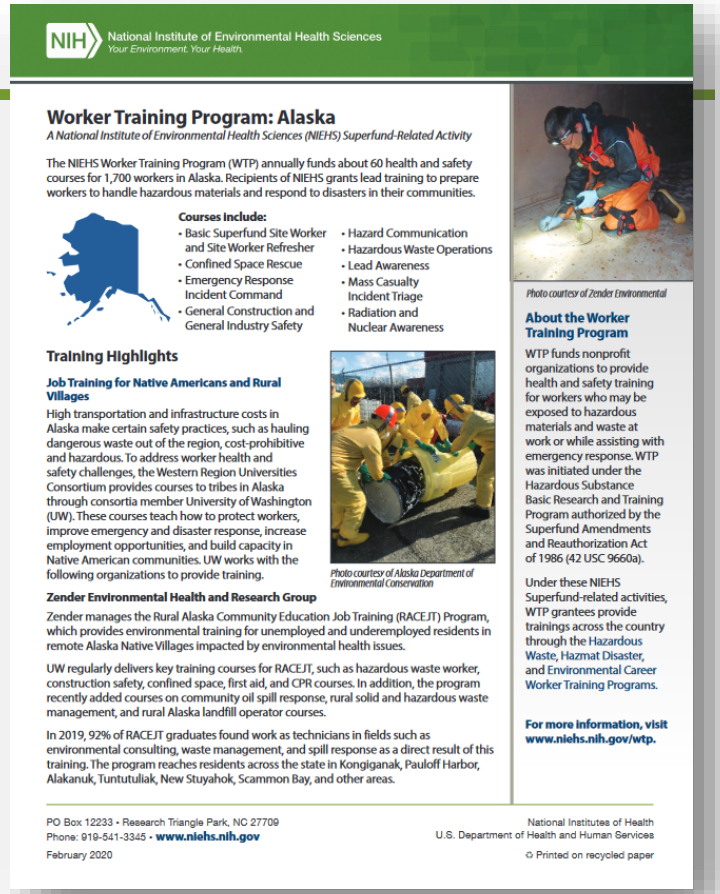
- **IT projects**
  - We will be hosting 3 separate webinars for **training on aspects of the Data Management System** (entering courses, entering progress reports, and entering curricula). **These will be recorded and housed in the DMS for future reference.**
  - Looking to **revise the organization/ headings of the Newsbrief**. Will be convening a focus group for input on this.

Plans for the Coming Year

- **Climate Change**
  - Urban Flooding and Worker Health and Safety
  - Updating the climate change vulnerability assessment
  - Finalize the update of the Wildfire training tool and develop additional resources.
- **Infectious Disease**
  - Continue developing COVID-19 technical briefs and hosting webinars

Plans for the Coming Year

- Planning to hold an advisory board meeting during the Spring of 2022
- Other Products
  - Several state profiles (Washington, Kentucky, updating Alaska and California)
  - E-Factor stories
  - Success Stories
- Trying to emphasize dissemination and communication of the materials we're developing.
  - **We'd like your help in this effort!** We're also delighted to promote the materials you all our developing and share your success stories.



National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Your Environment. Your Health.

Worker Training Program: Alaska

A National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Superfund-Related Activity

The NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP) annually funds about 60 health and safety courses for 1,700 workers in Alaska. Recipients of NIEHS grants lead training to prepare workers to handle hazardous materials and respond to disasters in their communities.

Courses Include:

- Basic Superfund Site Worker and Site Worker Refresher
- Confined Space Rescue
- Emergency Response Incident Command
- General Construction and General Industry Safety
- Hazard Communication
- Hazardous Waste Operations
- Lead Awareness
- Mass Casualty Incident Triage
- Radiation and Nuclear Awareness

Photo courtesy of Zender Environmental

Training Highlights

Job Training for Native Americans and Rural Villages

High transportation and infrastructure costs in Alaska make certain safety practices, such as hauling dangerous waste out of the region, cost-prohibitive and hazardous. To address worker health and safety challenges, the Western Region Universities Consortium provides courses to tribes in Alaska through consortia member University of Washington (UW). These courses teach how to protect workers, improve emergency and disaster response, increase employment opportunities, and build capacity in Native American communities. UW works with the following organizations to provide training.

Photo courtesy of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Zender Environmental Health and Research Group

Zender manages the Rural Alaska Community Education Job Training (RACEJT) Program, which provides environmental training for unemployed and underemployed residents in remote Alaska Native Villages impacted by environmental health issues.

UW regularly delivers key training courses for RACEJT, such as hazardous waste worker, construction safety, confined space, first aid, and CPR courses. In addition, the program recently added courses on community oil spill response, rural solid and hazardous waste management, and rural Alaska landfill operator courses.

In 2019, 92% of RACEJT graduates found work as technicians in fields such as environmental consulting, waste management, and spill response as a direct result of this training. The program reaches residents across the state in Kongiganak, Pauloff Harbor, Alakanuk, Tuntutuliak, New Stuyahok, Scammon Bay, and other areas.

About the Worker Training Program

WTP funds nonprofit organizations to provide health and safety training for workers who may be exposed to hazardous materials and waste at work or while assisting with emergency response. WTP was initiated under the Hazardous Substance Basic Research and Training Program authorized by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (42 USC 9660a).

Under these NIEHS Superfund-related activities, WTP grantees provide trainings across the country through the Hazardous Waste, Hazmat Disaster, and Environmental Career Worker Training Programs.

For more information, visit www.niehs.nih.gov/wtp.

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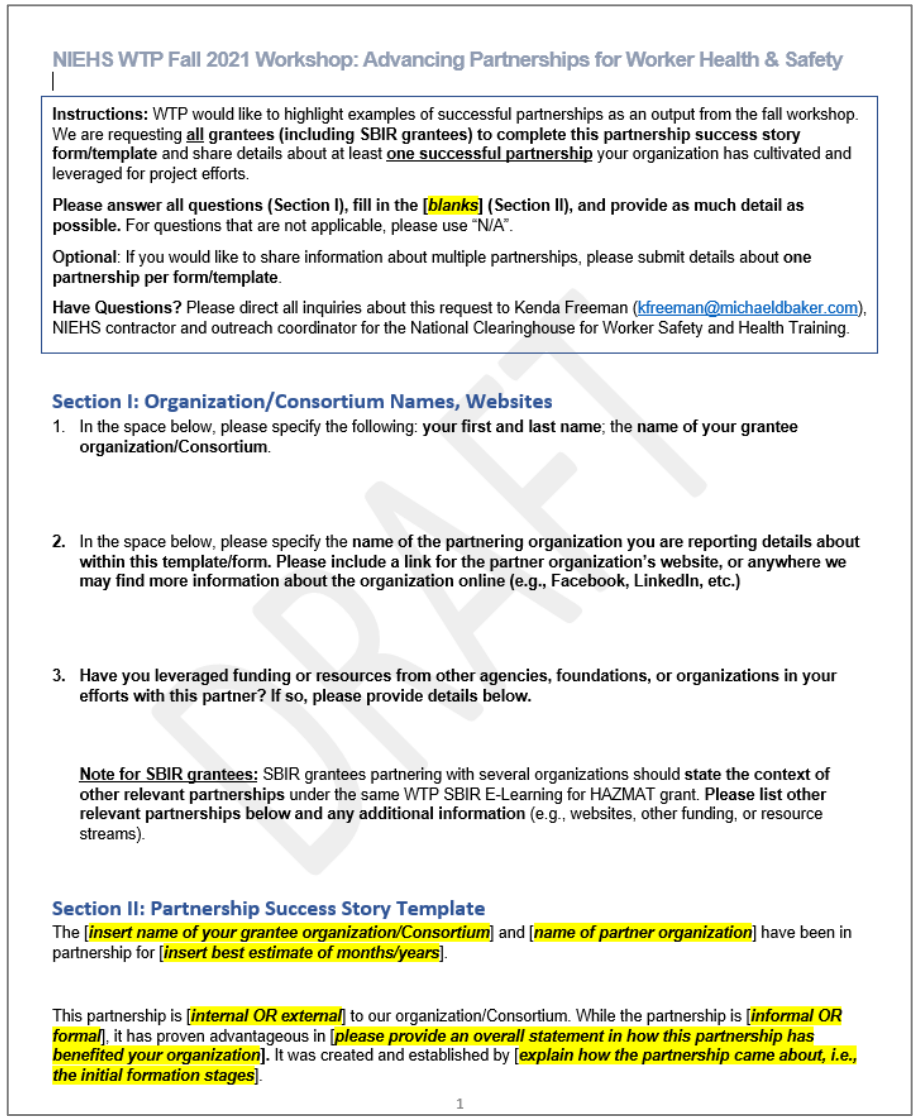
Phone: 919-541-3345 • **www.niehs.nih.gov**
February 2020

National Institutes of Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Printed on recycled paper

Reminder: Partnership Success Stories

- Thank you to all grantees that submitted partnership success stories!
- If you have not already done so, please be sure to submit your success stories using the template the Clearinghouse provided via email.
- **Extended deadline**: Tuesday, Oct. 26
- For any questions related to this request, please contact Kenda Freeman (kfreeman@michaeldbaker.com).



NIEHS WTP Fall 2021 Workshop: Advancing Partnerships for Worker Health & Safety

Instructions: WTP would like to highlight examples of successful partnerships as an output from the fall workshop. We are requesting **all grantees (including SBIR grantees) to complete this partnership success story form/template** and share details about at least **one successful partnership** your organization has cultivated and leveraged for project efforts.

Please answer all questions (Section I), fill in the [*blanks*] (Section II), and provide as much detail as possible. For questions that are not applicable, please use "N/A".

Optional: If you would like to share information about multiple partnerships, please submit details about **one partnership per form/template**.

Have Questions? Please direct all inquiries about this request to Kenda Freeman (kfreeman@michaeldbaker.com), NIEHS contractor and outreach coordinator for the National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training.

Section I: Organization/Consortium Names, Websites

1. In the space below, please specify the following: **your first and last name**; the **name of your grantee organization/Consortium**.
2. In the space below, please specify the **name of the partnering organization you are reporting details about within this template/form. Please include a link for the partner organization's website, or anywhere we may find more information about the organization online (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.)**
3. **Have you leveraged funding or resources from other agencies, foundations, or organizations in your efforts with this partner? If so, please provide details below.**

Note for SBIR grantees: SBIR grantees partnering with several organizations should **state the context of other relevant partnerships** under the same WTP SBIR E-Learning for HAZMAT grant. **Please list other relevant partnerships below and any additional information** (e.g., websites, other funding, or resource streams).

Section II: Partnership Success Story Template

The [*insert name of your grantee organization/Consortium*] and [*name of partner organization*] have been in partnership for [*insert best estimate of months/years*].

This partnership is [*internal OR external*] to our organization/Consortium. While the partnership is [*informal OR formal*], it has proven advantageous in [*please provide an overall statement in how this partnership has benefited your organization*]. It was created and established by [*explain how the partnership came about, i.e., the initial formation stages*].

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