



National Institute of
Environmental Health Sciences
Worker Training Program

WTP Awardee Meeting

APRIL 20, 2021 // VIRTUAL



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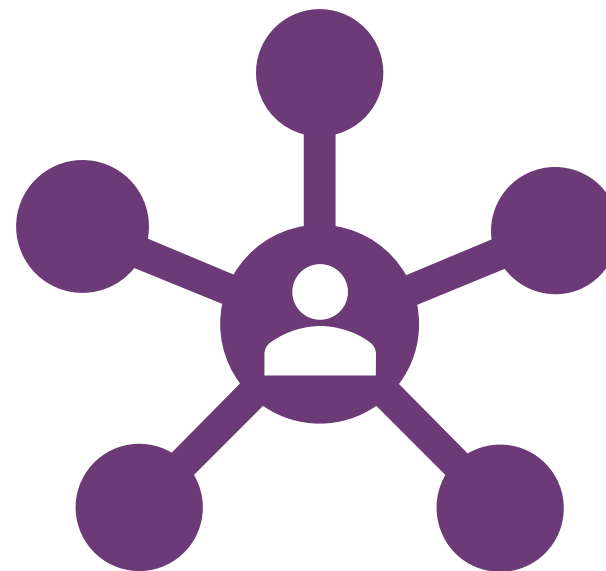
Deborah Weinstock

CLEARINGHOUSE UPDATE



Clearinghouse Update

- Operational Matrix
- Communication
- Webinars
- Program Material Updates
- Work MDB and the Clearinghouse Can Do





Operational Matrix

- New Activities for 2021
 - Increase diversity and inclusion in training programs
 - Train workers to advocate for protections from the highest level of the hierarchy of controls
 - Integrate materials that promote vaccine acceptance into training
 - Advocate for diversity and inclusion training for managers and supervisors
 - Encourage employers to implement protections at the highest level of the hierarchy of controls
 - Increase vaccine literacy for trainers
 - Increase caches of PPE within programs in preparation for in-person training
 - Focus on and address the challenge of job placement for ECWTP graduates during COVID
 - Integrate content on substance use prevention and mental health into training



Communication

- Primary ways we communicate new products and tools:
 - Newsbrief
 - Quarterly Awardee Updates
 - Listservs
 - Webinars
- Considering revamping the sections in the Newsbrief to better draw attention to resources for trainers
- Please provide us with your input for new headings, etc.
- Also open to webinar ideas for specific topics related to opioids and substance use and the workplace



Program Materials

- Numerous resources related to COVID-19:
<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/covid19worker/>
- DOE Annual report nearly complete
- State profiles (Northern New England complete and Oregon, in progress)
- Environmental Factor articles

COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Workers
Protect Yourself and Others

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

Top 5

1. To curb
2. To preve
3. To devel
4. To help
5. To avoid

COVID-
According
Diseases,
the spread
This is som
participat
estimated
vaccinator

Are the
Health can
will provid
Important

- The vac
- The ava
- shots in
- Some va
- vaccines
- only req
- Experts
- disease
- The vac

Photo courtesy of Blyth Morrell, Duke University Hospital

Worker Training Program: Northern New England
A National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Superfund-Related Activity

The NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP) annually funds training for more than 200 workers through a dozen health and safety courses in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. These grantee-led trainings 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 Entry and Rescue
- Domestic Preparedness Awareness
- Emergency Response
- General Industry Safety
- Infectious Control Risk Assessment
- Lead Abatement
- Process Safety Management

Training Highlights
Supporting Safer Worksites Through Labor Training
The United Steelworkers (USW) Tony Mazzocchi Center (TMC) provides health, safety, and environmental training to local union, worker center, and management members throughout Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont as part of USW District 4. The training is designed to help members who work in various industry sectors, such as paper manufacturing, to identify and eliminate workplace hazards. Recently, USW TMC worker-trainers facilitated "Near-Miss Prevention" training for multiple local unions. This course provides workers the opportunity to participate in hazard recognition during incident investigations.

Training for Modern Disasters: Opioids and COVID-19 in New Hampshire
In 2020, the New England Consortium-Civil Service Employees Association (NECC-CESEA) hosted a two-day online "Opioids and the Workplace Leadership Training" for city officials in Concord, New Hampshire, in collaboration with the NIEHS National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Healthy Training. This course supports leaders who have influence or authority to change organizational policy, procedures, and culture

Photo courtesy of TNEC

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 9600a).
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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Program Materials

- ECWTP
 - 25th Anniversary page
 - Two podcasts (produced under a separate contract)
<https://factor.niehs.nih.gov/2021/2/community-impact/careers/index.htm>
 - ECWTP Fact Sheet
https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/assets/docs/ecwtp_factsheet_2021.pdf
 - New Solutions article – in progress

NIEHS Environmental Career Worker Training Program

Program Goals
The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) provides training to increase opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged and underserved communities to obtain careers in environmental cleanup, construction, hazardous waste removal, and emergency response.

Disadvantaged communities include those that are traditionally burdened by economic distress (unemployed or underemployed), health disparities, or hazardous environmental conditions.

The NIEHS ECWTP funds nonprofit organizations, or grantees, to deliver both pre-employment and life skills training. The program's goals are to increase sustainable employment opportunities, promote economic development, address occupational health disparities, and advance environmental justice. Through these mission-oriented goals, the program has and continues to transform the lives of trainees, as well as their families and communities.

Program Overview
In September 1994, the U.S. House of Representatives Conference Report 103-311 authorized \$3 million to support the Minority Worker Training Program, which is known today as the ECWTP.

In 1995, the NIEHS Worker Training Program administered and launched the ECWTP. Since the beginning of the program, grantees have trained approximately 13,000 workers with an average 70% employment rate. Even during periods of high unemployment across the U.S. in 2018 and 2019, the program was able to accomplish 74% and 77% employment, respectively.

Return on Investment, 1995-2013
According to an [economic impact study](#), the ECWTP resulted in a \$100 million return on a \$3.5 million annual investment from the federal government. The estimated total return on investment (from 1995 to 2013) was \$1.79 billion. In addition, the ECWTP:

- Increased the probability of employment by 59% for graduates.
- Resulted in \$1.6 million in higher earnings for graduates (due to increased likelihood of employment, more hours worked, and higher wages).
- Reduced government expenditures by \$717 million total (due to higher earnings and employment rates, higher taxes and fewer social assistance costs).
- Resulted in \$22.1 million in crime cost savings related to victimization and incarceration (recidivism reduction effect).

Economic Impacts Overview of ECWTP 1995-2013

\$1.79 Billion Total value added	\$717 Million Reduced spending	\$2.28 Billion Additional local support to 2013
Percent Employed	Average Wages	
Before ECWTP: 20%	No ECWTP: \$14.50	ECWTP: \$18.66
After ECWTP: 79%		
59% Increased probability of employment for ECWTP graduates		



How Can the Clearinghouse Help?

- Troubleshoot 508 issues
- Assistance with DMS and curricula catalog
- Writing up success stories or vignettes
- Provide training on Opioids and the Workplace: Prevention and Response (basic training, TTT and leadership)
- Share information regarding interpretation services
- Provide program history for newer awardees



Work MDB Can Do

- 508ing Curricula
- Research or evaluation projects
- Outreach and engagement with environmental justice communities
- Facilitate orders of booklets (replenish stock)
- Meeting support
- Emergency planning

www.michaeldbaker.com