# **WTP Awardee Meeting**

Rodbell, NIEHS and Virtual

**October 19, 2022** 



# Sharon D. Beard Director, Worker Training Program

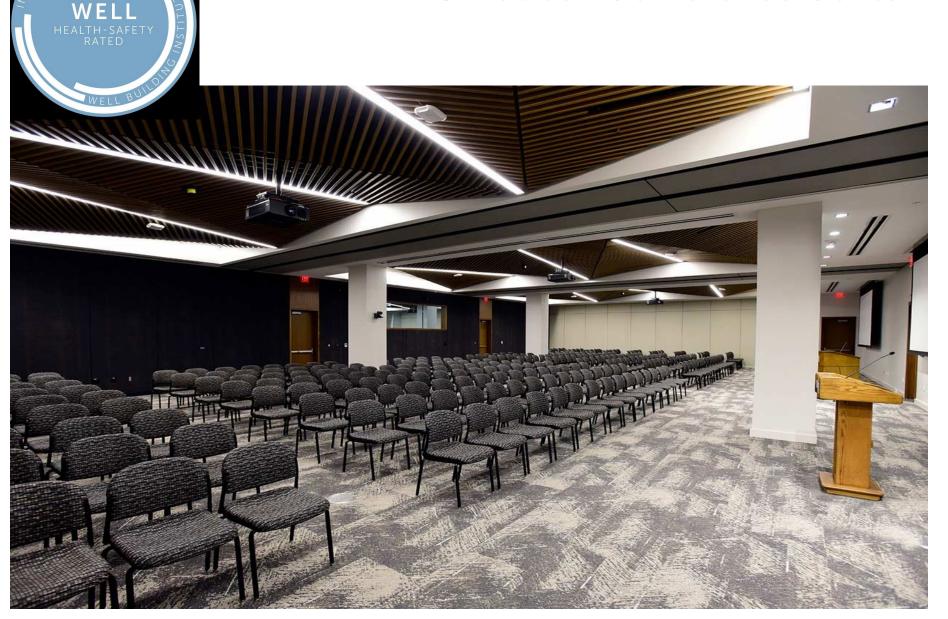


Email: <u>beard1@niehs.nih.gov</u>

Phone: 984-287-3237

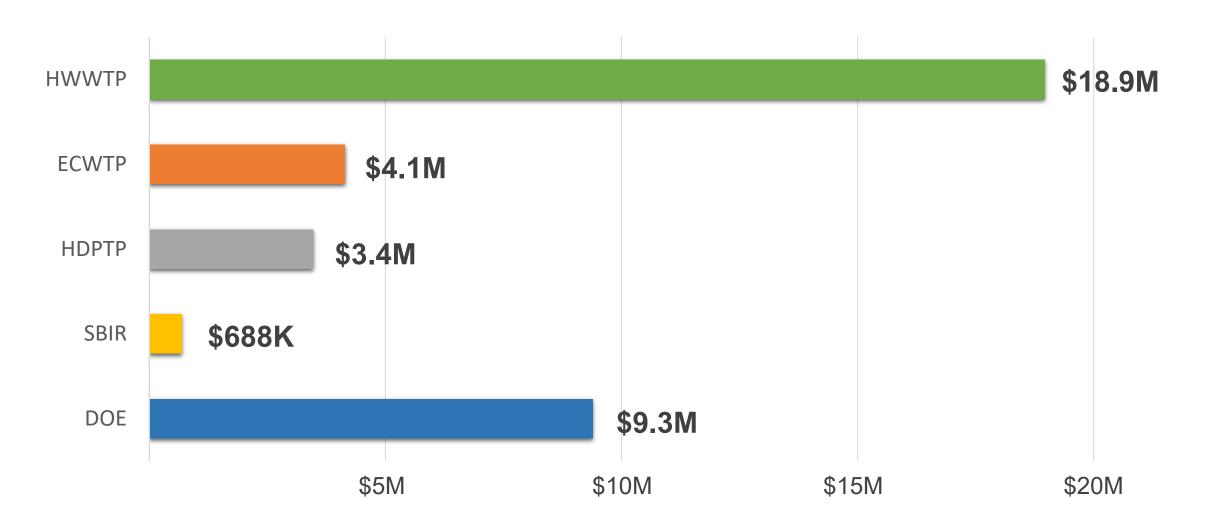






- New conference room and systems
- NIEHS earns
   WELL building
   rating amid
   pandemic
- NIH Enhanced COVID-19 testing and health & safety

# WTP: FY22 Funding Across Program Areas



# WTP: Special Appropriations for Disasters and Emergencies

- Hurricane Katrina (2005): \$302K
- Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (2010): \$352K
- Superstorm Sandy (2012): \$180K
- Ebola Virus Disease (2014): \$10M
- COVID-19 (2020): \$10M



# WTP Program Metrics To Date (Cumulative)



270,000+ courses



5 million+ workers trained



50 million+ contact hours









# NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP): A National Resource for Worker Health and Safety Training on Climate Change Effects

- Climate changes affects worker health, such as
  - Extreme Weather
  - Temperature extremes
  - Biological hazards
- Grantees deliver safety training to support preparedness for disasters and other climate-related hazards and well as support health and safety during disaster cleanup efforts
- WTP integrates environmental justice to climate change response: Focuses work on most-impacted communities and workers
  - Environmental Career Worker Training Program is a pilot program in the Justice40 initiative from the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council



# NIH Climate Change and **Health Initiative**

At NIEHS, we are a part of the NIH Climate Change and Health Initiative, which is an urgent, cross-cutting NIH effort to reduce health threats from climate change across the lifespan the world, especially among those at highest risk.

### References:

NIH- <a href="https://www.nih.gov/sites/default/files/research-">https://www.nih.gov/sites/default/files/research-</a> training/initiatives/climate-change/nih-climate-change-onepager.pdf

HHS- https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/climate-healthoutlook-september-2022.pdf



### Climate and Health Outlook

**ISSUED SEPTEMBER 2022** 

The Climate and Health Outlook is an effort to inform health professionals and the public on how our health may be affected in the coming month(s) by climate events and provide resources to take proactive action. An associated webpage includes additional resources and information.



Northern Great Plains Drought is favored to persist or develop in Nebraska as well as parts of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Above normal wildland fire\* potential is projected for western Montana.



Northwest: One county in Idaho is projected to have more than 5 heat exceedance days in September 2022. Drought is favored to persist in parts of southern Idaho, southern and central



Oregon, and central Washington. Above normal wildland fire\* potential is projected for much of Idaho, southern and central Oregon, and central and southern Washington.



Southwest: Counties in California (10), Arizona (5), and Utah (2), are projected to have more than 5 heat exceedance days in September 2022. Drought is favored to persist in California, Nevada, and Utah as well as parts of Arizona Colorado, and New Mexico. However, drought removal is favored in southern and central Arizona and much of New Mexico. Above normal wildland fire\* potential is projected for northern California and north-western Nevada.



Southern Great Plains: Counties in Texas (2) are projected to have more than 5 heat exceedance days in September 2022. Drought is favored to persist in Kansas, much of Oklahoma and northern Texas. However, drought removal and improvement is favored in most of Texas and eastern Oklahoma. Above normal wildland fire\* potential is projected for much of Oklahoma.

Northeast: Drought is favored to persist in parts of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Drought is favored to develop in parts of Delaware. Above normal wildland fire\* potential is projected for Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, as well as eastern New York and the northern tips of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



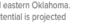


have an above-average hurricane season with 14 - 20 named storms with winds of 39 mph or higher, with 6 -10 of those possibly becoming hurricanes with winds of 74 mph or higher, and 3 - 5 possibly becoming major hurricanes with winds of 111 mph or higher. One county in Florida is projected to have more than 5 heat exceedance days in September 2022. Drought is favored to develop in parts of North Carolina and South Carolina. However, drought removal/improvement

Southeast: The Atlantic basin is forecasted to









### NIEHS-Developed Resources for Climate Change, Disaster Response, and Environmental Justice

- National Clearinghouse on Worker Health and
   Safety many <u>booklets and training tools</u> available to support training
- Several new or updated documents
  - Fact sheet on <u>Mitigating the Impact of Climate</u>
     <u>Change and Securing Environmental Justice through</u>
     <u>Safety and Health Training</u>
  - Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
  - Video that promotes disaster-specific tools and resources available through the Clearinghouse
  - Wildfire training tool to address the health and safety of workers, volunteers, and communities
  - Urban flooding and worker health <u>report</u> and <u>fact</u> sheet





# **Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program (HWWTP)**

Provides occupational safety and health training for workers engaged in activities related to hazardous waste removal, containment, or chemical emergency response.

39 million	Worker contact hours since 1987
3.6 million	Workers trained overall
113,224	Workers trained in 2022
17	Current grantees
\$18.9 million	Funding dollars in FY22



Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program: niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training program areas/hwwt/index.cfm



# **Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program (HWWTP)**

Total Trained \* Budget Period: 08/01/2021 - 07/31/2022

7,111	Courses
876,095	Contact hours
113,224	Workers
17	Current grantees
\$18.9 million	Funding dollars in FY22



Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program:

niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training\_program\_areas/hwwt/index.cfm

## **HWWTP** Highlight: Training Sheet Metal Workers

### **CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training**

- Delivered hazardous waste training to members of the Sheet Metal Workers Local 58 in Syracuse
- Workers needed training as they prepared to install new tooling and replace existing duct where hydrofluoric acid has formed crystals on inner surfaces
- Cleanup work is being done as part of GlobalFoundries<sup>™</sup> plans to expand their manufacturing facilities in upstate NY
- The plans include remediation of existing facilities and construction of new ones to bring additional semiconductor manufacturing to the region



Photo courtesy of CPWR, July 2022 progress report

## Successful Health and Safety Training Partnerships

Community college students: Providing hazardous materials courses to more than 50,000 community college students annually in 33 states and two territories.

Grantee: Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST) based in South Portland, Maine

Automobile manufacturing workers: Delivering safety courses at car manufacturing plants in Ohio and other midwestern states for a variety of hazardous industrial environments situations.

Grantees: United Auto Workers and the Midwest Consortium (led by University of Minnesota)

Flint, Michigan residents: Providing training that can lead to membership in the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 370, removing and replacing lead water lines to Flint residents' homes, and working on Water Treatment Plant construction, under Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) job training.

Grantee: CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training

"I find that most students leave my trainings with a new or renewed understanding of the important role that safety plays in their daily jobs as well as extreme rescue situations."

CCCHST Trainer

"We had a spill of over 50 gallons of gasoline at our plant. We activated the Emergency Response Team and the hazmat response procedures we learned in training. We were able to contain the spill and clean it up safely with no environmental damage."

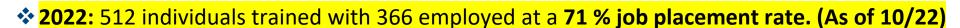
- Student from Ford Motor Company

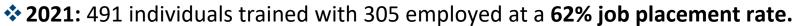
"The best part about all of this is that I was invited by my 8-year-old son to visit his classroom, where he presented me with an award. It says 'Thanks Dad, for making our water safe.' That's what means the most to me."

Flint, Michigan ECWTP participant

## WTP 27 Years of the Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) in 2022: Creating Job Opportunities & Changing Lives

- Success: Since beginning of program, approx. 14,023 workers have been trained with an average 70% employment rate.
- Locations: Over 30 communities trained with 200 different CBOs
- Current Programs: Six grantees working with 25 different CBO's





\*Note - The COVID-19 pandemic impacted training.

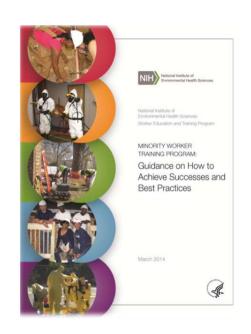
- Designated an HHS Justice40 Pilot by White House
- \* Takeaways: Changing Lives & Building Careers for a Lifetime
- **Training Best Practices:** Extensive life skills, mentoring, numerous training and certificates and career options for graduates



employment for ECWTP graduates





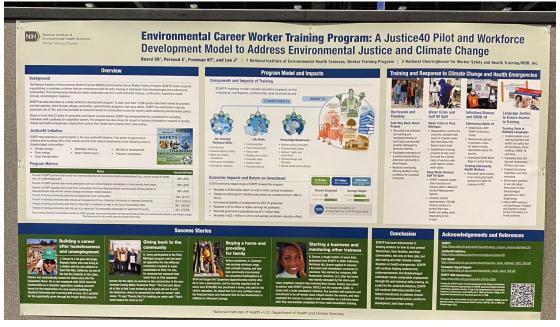


**Economic Impact Return of Investment**:\$100 million return on \$3.5 million investmenthttps://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/wtp\_ecwtp\_report\_508.pdf

### **ECWTP & Brownfields 2022**

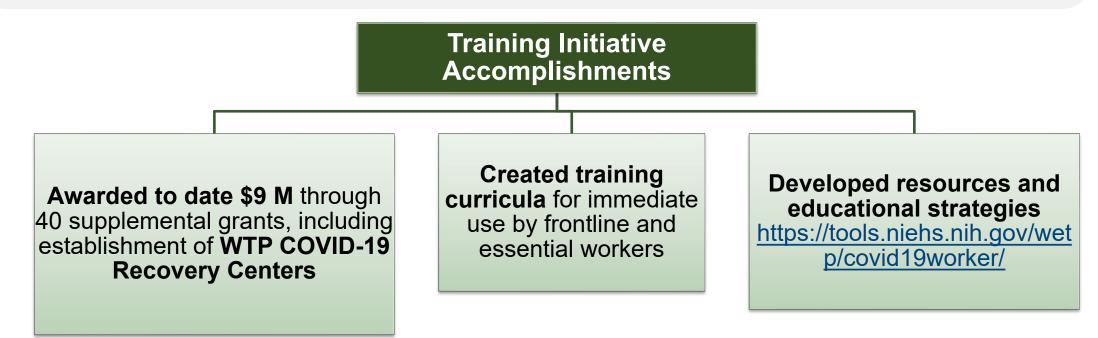
- Sharon Beard and ECWTP grantees attended National Brownfields Conference in Oklahoma City
- People's Choice Award (poster): "ECWTP: A Justice40 Pilot and Workforce Development Model to Address EJ and Climate Change"
- ECWTP/Justice40 Stakeholder Engagement meeting
  - Discussed Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
  - Raised awareness of ECWTP efforts and successes
  - Grantees shared benefit of Justice40, plans to leverage additional funding and expand efforts to other EJ communities
  - Attendees shared perspectives on climate change, workforce development, and mental health





# NIH/NIEHS WTP COVID-19 Safety Training Initiative

- Received \$10 million from the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020
- Implemented a national health safety training response focused on responders and workers who face potential exposure to COVID-19 with more than 90,000 workers trained (October 2021)
- Active participant in COVID-19 Executive Orders 13996, 13999 (Sustainable Public Health Workforce; Protecting Worker Safety and Health)



# **Demia Wright**

Public Health Educator
Worker Training Program
Division of Extramural Research & Training
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences



# **How is Worker Training Program Funded?**

- Both WTP and the Superfund Research Program (SRP) receive funding through the House and Senate Appropriations' Subcommittees on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.
- The two NIEHS programs were established under the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA).

## The Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittees

### **Senate Membership**

- Jeff Merkley, Chair (D-OR)
- Lisa Murkowski, Ranking Member (R-AK)
- Patrick Leahy (D-VT)
- Jon Tester (D-MT)
- Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
- Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
- Jack Reed (D-RI)
- Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
- Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
- Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)
- Marco Rubio (R-FL)
- Roy Blunt (R-MO)
- Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
- Bill Hagerty (R-TN)

### **House Membership**

- Chellie Pingree, Chair (D-ME-01)
- David Joyce, Ranking Member (R-OH-14)
- Derek Kilmer (D-WA-06)
- Susie Lee (D-NV-03)
- Matt Cartwright (D-PA-08)
- Betty McCollum (D-MN-04)
- Josh Harder (D-CA-10)
- Marcy Kaptur (D-OH-09)
- Chris Stewart (R-UT-02)
- Mike Simpson (R-ID-02)
- Mark Amodei (R-NV-02)

 $\frac{https://appropriations.house.gov/subcommittees/interior-environment-and-related-agencies-117th-congress}{}$ 

# What is a Congressional Justification?

- As part of the budget process, NIEHS annually submits a Congressional Justification (CJ) to be included in the President's budget.
  - Overall, NIEHS submits to the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.
- The CJ provides the Senate and House Appropriations' Committees detailed estimates and justifications for research and research support activities (infrastructure, administrative, etc.) that NIH would anticipate funding at the President's Budget Request level.
- CJ consists of a Director's Overview, fact sheet, budget and other administrative pages, and a justification (program description and program portrait)
- All NIEHS CJs can be found at https://www.niehs.nih.gov/about/congress/justification/index.cfm

# What's in a Congressional Justification?

### Before FY2022 CJ

Budget Mechanism Table

Summary of Changes.

Major Changes in Budget Request

Budget Authority by Activity

Authorizing Legislation .

Appropriations History ......

Justification of Budget Request .....

Budget Authority by Object Class ...

Salaries and Expenses..

Summary NIH Tables

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations

Superfund-Related Activities

FY 2021 Budget	Page No.
Organization Chart	2
Appropriation Language	3
Amounts Available for Obligation	4

#### NIH/NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP)

WTP provides the Nation with a workforce trained in the safe handling of hazardous materials and waste. This includes thousands of workers employed at Superfund sites across the United States. This vital training is conducted in all regions of the country and for all relevant target populations through a network of non-profit organizations, including labor-based health and safety organizations and academic institutions. These organizations are committed to protecting workers and their communities by creating and delivering high-quality, peer-reviewed safety and health curricula. WTP has built a national workforce ready to handle hazardous materials, address environmental concerns, and clean up hazardous waste and debris after disasters strike.

<sup>4</sup> NIH Grant No. R43ES029401. Remediation of Perfluorinated Chemicals in Water Using Novel High-Affinity Polymer Adsorbents. Barin, Gokhan. CycloPure, Inc. Awarded March 22, 2018. NIH RePORTER Link.

Superfund-17

#### WTP: Response and Preparedness for Natural Disasters

WTP funds training for workers who may face a hazardous work environment. This includes training in disaster response, preparedness, and resilience involving natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, and wildfires. For example, in Northern California, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Worker Training Program provided six 40-hour HAZWOPER courses to residents who were involved in wildfire cleanup activities. There were 69 students in the classes for a total of 2,760 contact hours. Many of these students were able to secure temporary jobs as a result of the training they received from these classes. As another example, the University of Minnesota, under the Midwest Consortium/University of Cincinnati, conducted mold training in Minnesota in response to spring flooding, which provided important instruction to help workers remediate flood damage properly and safely.

WTP: Health and Safety in the Industrial Sector

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WTP: Health and Safety in the Industrial Sector

### FY2022 CJ and later





SRP: The SRP is exploring how environmental contaminants affect the immune system and relationships between pollutants and susceptibility to COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. New research projects incorporate novel materials science and bioremediation to clean up emerging contaminants and newly funded training programs will develop curricula on health and safety management practices of emerging technologies. Grantees will expand research on how exposure burdens combine to create health disparities and best ways to communicate environmental health risks to the public. Future initiatives include advancing data sharing and data science and using machine learning and artificial intelligence tools to improve health

WTP: The WTP is committed to creating a national workforce that can protect themselves, co-workers, and communities from environmental hazards and that have the skills needed for jobs that engage in environmental cleanup, infrastructure building, and green jobs. The program's grantees implement training activities through

#### WTP: Quickly pivoted to address COVID-19 and promote health equity

The 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. During COVID-19, ECWTP grantees were able to continue to offer courses and employment for

individuals due to strong COVID-19 infection control protocols and innovative methods during training. Adapting during the pandemic to continue to reduce health inequities has been a theme for the ECWTP grantees. They have found success through training courses being delivered with a combination of classroom and online methods. ECWTP grantees quickly modified in-person courses to a virtual learning environment at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. To account for health and safety concerns, grantees also made other adjustments for training space and recruitment. "The method of delivery is important for the populations that we serve," noted one trainer. "We must have interesting and interactive online content to engage our participants We are not just training to train, but we want to be effective and train with purpose. That is how we will continue to make an impact." Since 1995, the ECWTP has trained approximately 13,000 workers with an average 70 percent employment rate.



MATERIALS COURSE IN BREVARD COUNTY.

WTP, in coordination with the Interagency Federal Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ), sponsored Environmental Justice, Natural Disasters, & COVID-19 Virtual Town Halls. The purpose of the meetings was to gain a better understanding of how natural disasters and COVID-19 impact minority, low-income, overburdened, and underserved communities, and how

NIEHS (SF)-20







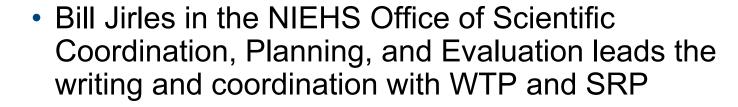




n vitamin E and healthy tty acids can reduce cell damage

### **Process for the CJ**







 All drafts go up through review and clearances at the branch, division, institute, and NIH OD levels

### **General Timeline for the CJ**

July

 Develop an outline for the CJ and fact sheet, with heavy reliance on pulling stories and photos from interim progress reports

August

- Back and forth on outline editing
- Bill develops draft Fact Sheet; WTP and SRP edit as needed

September

• Bill develops draft full CJ; WTP and SRP edit as needed

October

- Finalize drafts
- Work on photos

November onward

 Address any final edits and questions as it goes through clearances and formatting Reviews and Clearances throughout

# **Appropriations' Subcommittees Briefing**

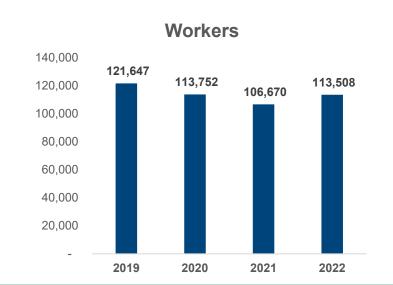
- Subsequent to the release of the President's budget, NIEHS is usually invited to brief the Interior and Environment Appropriations Subcommittees.
- This briefing includes updates to Congress on the status of WTP and SRP and highlights recent accomplishments.
  - Presented by NIEHS Director
  - Audience is usually staffers from the "four corners" (currently AK, ME, OH, OR)
  - Very brief
  - Around February (but can vary)
  - Helps justify what is reported and requested in the CJ
  - Covers key topics of interest to the administration and the states represented e.g., climate change, disasters, J40, American Indians and Alaska Natives

## **HWWTP Metrics – COVID Recovery**

-8%

\*\*2022 Data cleaning not final\*\*







Percent lower for 2022 than 2019

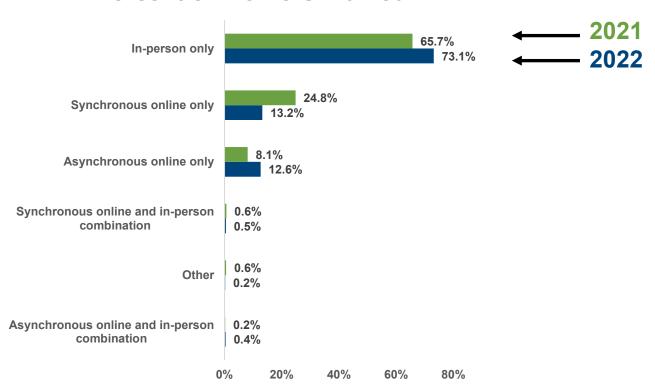
**-7%** 

-23%

# HWWT Metrics - Training Delivery Method In-person training increased in 2022

\*\*2022 Data cleaning not final\*\*

### **Percent of Workers Trained**

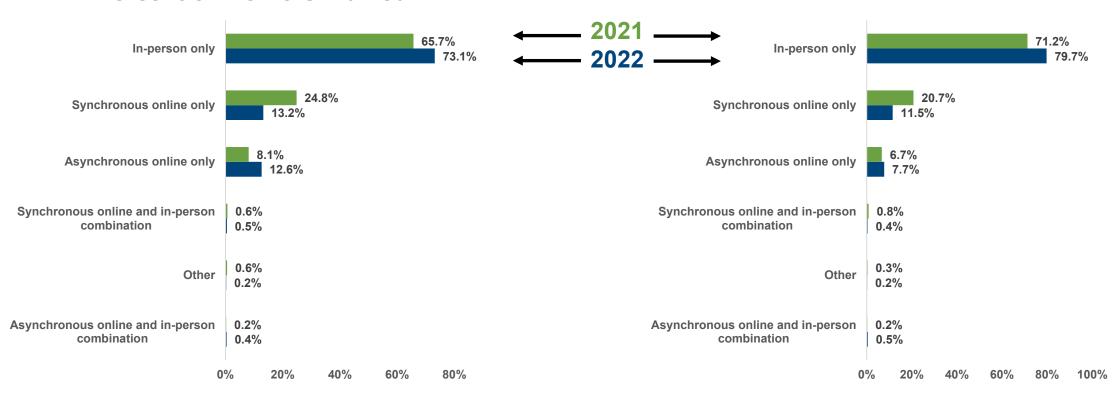


# HWWT Metrics - Training Delivery Method In-person training increased in 2022 – workers and courses

\*\*2022 Data cleaning not final\*\*

### **Percent of Workers Trained**

### **Percent of Courses Delivered**





# **NIEHS/U.S. DOE Nuclear Worker Training Program**

Delivers training for workers engaged in environmental restoration, waste treatment, and emergency response activities at sites in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear weapons complex.

9 million	Worker contact hours since 1994
694,564	Workers trained overall
23,095	Workers trained in 2021
7	Current grantees
\$9.3 million	Funding dollars in FY22



NIEHS/DOE Nuclear Worker Training Program: niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training program areas/doe/index.cfm





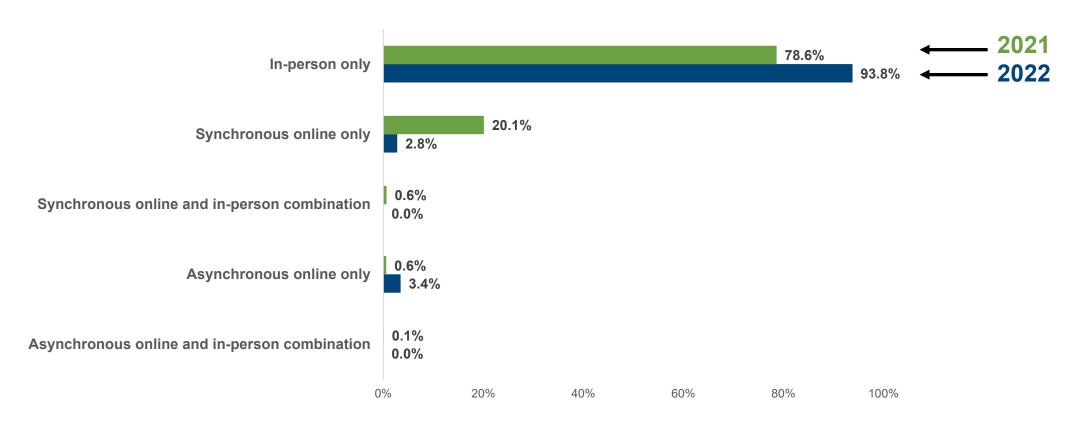
2023 will mark

30 years of
the
NIEHS/DOE
Program



# In-person training has been the predominant training method during 2021 and 2022 for the NIEHS/DOE Program

\*\*2022 Data cleaning not final\*\*



## **Examples of Grantee Highlights**

- Ongoing work to increase training support for Los Alamos National Lab
  - IBT Ongoing HAZWOPER and increase in craft training (overhead crane, load securement)
  - ICWUC Extensive efforts to bring new trainers up-to-speed to support ongoing confined space and fall safety training after a retirement
  - CPWR Ongoing refresher courses
  - PETE partners with Santa Fe Community College for RCRA, HazCom, Beryllium, and other courses



# Communications, Evaluation, and Reporting

- NC State Profile
- COVID Appropriations 2-pager
- Evaluation work with Dr. Eric Persaud
- Progress report template



https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/assets/docs/wtp\_state\_profile\_north\_carolina\_508.pdf

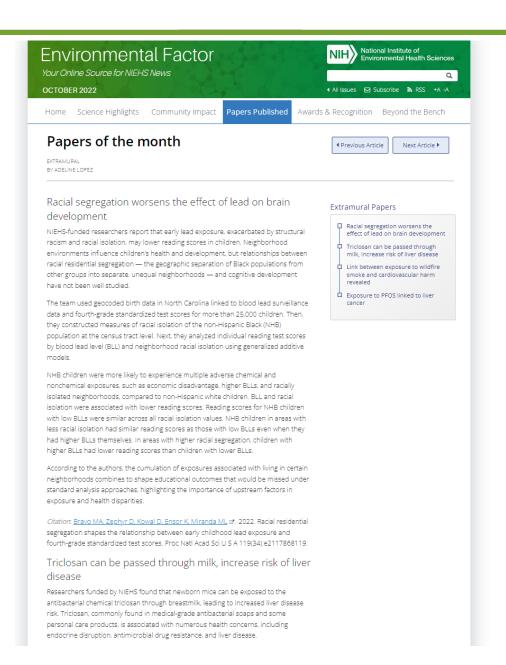
workers and contractors

airport workers) Funds from the emergency appropriations were allocated for supplemental training grants and program contract suppo This document does not reflect additional training and resources completed through WTP Superfund-related funding.

OCTOBER 2022

# Extramural Papers of the Month in the NIEHS Environmental Factor

- We are asked to nominate papers for published in the current month or the month prior
  - ➤ Tell us about your publications right away!
- Remember the <u>NIH Public Access</u>
   <u>Policy</u> and <u>federal funding</u>
   <u>acknowledgement requirements</u>





# **Kathy Ahlmark**

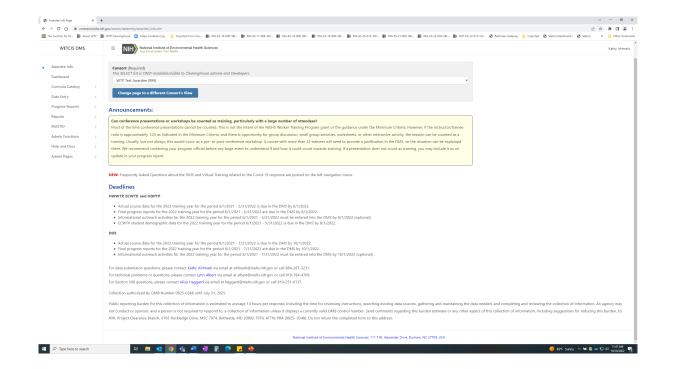
Program Analyst
Worker Training Program
Division of Extramural Research & Training
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

# Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Requirement

Data Management System (DMS)

OMB # 0925-0348

Expiration Date: 07/31/2025



# **DMS Justifications for High or Low Student Class Size**



### **Good Justifications**

- The XXXXXX requests approval for this course. It was provided to workers at XXXXX. This course requires close monitoring, so the class size is limited. The instructor continued the course because the students needed the course for employment and the next available course was yet to be determined.
- Two participants deferred their registrations to 2021 as they did not want to join an in-person training at this point due to the pandemic. Class held in accordance with XXXXXX COVID-19 guidelines for small in-person training.
- Large class size had four instructors for 100 participants to cover the Zoom platform (instructor, chat, breakout rooms) for this awareness course.
- [PO Name] preapproved this larger emergency response course, coming from a request from XXXXX organization. 3 instructors were present for larger number of students.



### **Poor Justifications**

- Four students attended
- Multiple instructors
- Needed for work



# **SBIR E-Learning for HAZMAT Program**

Develops E-learning health and safety training products in a variety of formats to assist both students and instructors in the training and education process.

82	Grants supported since 1997
4	Current grantees
\$688,067	Funding dollars in FY22

- Design innovative technologies
- Enhance worker training in disasters and emergencies
- Receive patents and awards
- Commercialize products for broader use



SBIR E-Learning for HAZMAT Program: niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training program areas/att/index.cfm

### **Active 2022 SBIR Awards**



Sohail Baig - MEDCOGNITION, INC. Enabling Realistic HAZMAT Training Simulations with the PerSim® Augmented Reality Patient Simulator: Phase II



Jeffery McLaughlin - RADIANT CREATIVE GROUP, LLC Agile development of innovative, interactive hazard recognition and mitigation tools/learning e-platforms for workers involved in disaster rescue and recovery.



Austin Crumpton - CHARLES RIVER ANALYTICS, INC. Immersive Modular Preparedness Intelligent Tutoring (IMPRINT)



Christopher Held - METAMEDIA TRAINING INTERNATIONAL, INC. EC1 is a mobile 360-degree point-of-view learning and gamification tool integrating a VR scenario, APIE response procedures and assessment to test and improve firefighter decision-making and response.

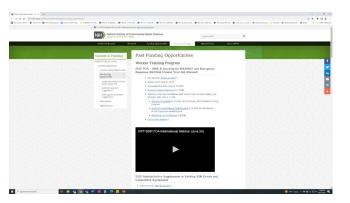
# SBIR E-Learning for HAZMAT Program Main Page

https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training\_program\_areas/att/index.cfm



# **SBIR FOA Information Page**

https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/funding/past\_funding\_opps/index.cfm



# Jim Remington

Program Analyst
Worker Training Program
Division of Extramural Research & Training
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences



# **HAZMAT** Disaster Preparedness Training Program

Supports the development and delivery of training for hazardous material and debris cleanup commonly needed after natural and man-made disasters.

2 million	Worker contact hours since 2006
222,927	Workers trained overall
28,283	Workers trained in 2021
13	Current grantees
\$3.4 million	Funding dollars in FY22



HAZMAT Disaster Preparedness Training Program: <a href="mailto:niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training\_program\_areas/hdpt/index.cfm">niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/training\_program\_areas/hdpt/index.cfm</a>

### **HDPTP**

- Courses, workers, contact hours level
  - Program issues?
    - Preparedness Training?
    - Worker focused (professional, employer vs CERT, volunteer, day laborer)?
    - In person vs virtual?
    - Populations missed?

### **Disasters**

- Reprogramming
- Unobligated balance
- Local partnerships/relationships

### **New Hazards**

- (infectious diseases, waterborne, vector borne)
- Tech related
- \_ ??

### Resilience

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### I.T. Functions of WETB

- Updating Webpages
- Working with Clearinghouse on DMS updates and maintenance
- Manage several Teams Site
- Manage and maintain shared drives and digital resources
- IT processes of Disaster IDIQ

