



National Institute of  
Environmental Health Sciences  
*Worker Training Program*

# Welcome and Introductions



## **SUPPLEMENT KICKOFF MEETING:** Promoting Health, Safety, and Recovery Training Following Declared Disasters in 2022

SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2023 // San Juan, PR

**Sharon D. Beard, Director, Worker Training Program**

# A National Resource in Climate Change-Related Events, Environmental Justice (EJ), and Health Emergencies

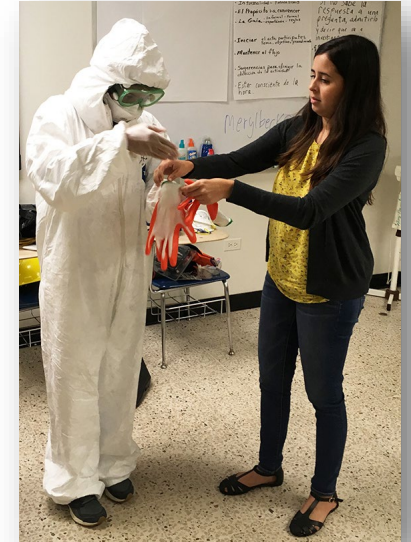
**Wildfires and Mudslides:** Training workers on firefighting and other wildfire consequences

**Flooding and Hurricanes:** Disaster safety training delivered to major US hurricanes

**Disaster Relief Act of 2019:** Congressional funds obligated for grants and *EJ, Natural Disasters, & COVID-19 Virtual Town Halls*

**Infectious Diseases:** Responded to infectious disease events including Ebola and COVID-19

**Fact Sheet - Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change and Securing Environmental Justice Through Safety and Health Training**  
[https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/public/hasl\\_get\\_blob.cfm?ID=13221](https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/public/hasl_get_blob.cfm?ID=13221)



## WTP: History of 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**
- Disaster Relief Act, 2019: **\$1M**
- COVID-19 (2020): **\$10M**
- Consolidated Appropriations Act (2023): **\$2.5M**





## **Consolidation Appropriation Act, 2023**

### **NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES**

**For an additional amount for “National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences”, \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses in carrying out activities set forth in section 311(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9660(a)) and section 126(g) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 3 5121 et seq.) in 2022.**

## Purpose, Aims, and Goals

- The purpose of this supplement is to provide support to address the health and safety training needs of worker populations to include communities, volunteers, day laborers, and other vulnerable worker populations following major disasters in 2022 declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 3 5121 et seq.)
- Support partnerships between WTP grantees, worker populations, local community organizations, and other federal partners with the goal of reducing morbidity and mortality related to responding to and recovering from activities associated with disaster.
- Training aims to augment prevention preparedness efforts in a wide variety of high-risk settings, and to ensure responders are aware of site-specific hazards and mitigation techniques prior to and during response activities.

## Purpose, Aims, and Goals

- NIEHS WTP believes that pre-incident training is critical for workers who may find themselves responding to a disaster. Skilled and other support personnel (such as construction, utility, and transportation workers) along with federal, state, and local government workers and others may find themselves working on a disaster site, be it during the response, cleanup or recovery stage..
- Minimum Criteria must be followed. Please educate your partners and collaborators about this requirement.
- Training plans must remain the same unless changes have been approved by NIEHS Program Official.
- Look at our existing resources and tools via our National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training.



- Atlantic Center for Occupational Health and Safety Training (Atlantic COHST)
- HBCUC/Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc. (DSCEJ)
- International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)
- International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)
- Midwest Consortium for Hazardous Waste Worker Training
- National Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (National PETE)
- Sustainable Workplace Alliance (SWA)
- The New England Consortium-Civil Service Employees Association (TNEC-CSEA)
- Western Region Universities Consortium (WRUC)