

July 13, 2011

Notes from Brownfields Learning Community (PLC)

Topics: EPA grant awards announced July 12th
What to do if you did not receive an award
Federal assistance programs
Sustaining a program

NOTES FROM SESSION 45

How do you sustain your environmental workforce job development and training program?
Feel free to return comments, questions and contributions. We will share them with the PLC.

Special Note:

PLC members interested in participating in a “hands on” environmental job development and training workshop are invited to our annual grantee meeting. Participants include regional job development representatives, headquarters staff, and current and alumni grantees. Sessions are plenary and “break out” small group discussions on topics selected by participants. There is no charge for this workshop and hotel is provided for two nights. Participants must provide their own transportation.

Status of this year’s Environmental Job Development and Training grant review

Announcement of this year’s grant awards were made by Lisa Jackson, EPA Administrator on July 12th. Here is a roster of this cycle’s awardees.

Grant Recipient Name	EPA Region	State/Territory	Job Training Funding
Arc of Greater New Orleans	6	LA	\$300,000.00
Civic Works, Baltimore	3	MD	\$300,000.00
Florida State College at Jacksonville	4	FL	\$299,996.00
Memphis Bioworks Foundation	4	TN	\$292,772.00
Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board	1	MA	\$299,998.00
Metropolitan Energy Center	7	MO	\$300,000.00
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	2	NJ	\$300,000.00
OAI, Inc., Chicago	5	IL	\$300,000.00
Pathways-VA, Inc.	3	VA	\$300,000.00
Richmond, City of (California)	9	CA	\$300,000.00
Saint Paul Port Authority	5	MN	\$300,000.00
Santa Fe Community College	6	NM	\$300,000.00
Sitting Bull College	8	ND	\$300,000.00
South Tucson, City of	9	AZ	\$300,000.00
Tacoma, City of	10	WA	\$300,000.00
Texarkana, City of (Texas)	6	TX	\$300,000.00
The Center for Working Families, Inc.	4	GA	\$300,000.00
The Enterprise Center, Inc.	4	TN	\$300,000.00
The Fortune Society	2	NY	\$300,000.00
The Workplace Inc., Bridgeport, Connecticut	1	CT	\$299,075.00
Zender Environmental Health and Research Group	10	AK	\$300,000.00

Web address for the new EPA Job Training Grantees (at this address you can see fact sheets for each of the new grantees) is

http://cfpub.epa.gov/bf_factsheets/index.cfm?grant_type_id=1003&grant_announcement_year=2011.

IMPORTANT NOTE

If you are not on this list and applied for a grant this cycle, do not give up if you are still interested in starting an environmental job development program. Environmental workforce job development and training grants have been awarded every year since 1998. Chances are excellent that the next requests for proposals will occur later this year. We should know the approximate schedule at the August All-Grantee meeting.

Good News: While the number of submitted grant proposals was high this year (over 100) the number of grants awarded doubled to 21 totaling \$6.2 million (almost double previous funding levels).

Suggestions if you did not receive an award this cycle:

- Contact your regional EPA job development representative
- Communicate your desire to reapply during the next cycle
- Ask to review your proposal and discuss issues which detracted from your submission
- If possible, discuss or review successful programs in your region
- Stay tuned to our Professional Learning Community – We plan to discuss and review strategies and activities associated with sustainable environmental job development programs in future sessions.
- If you have been participating in the PLC – try to attend the Annual Environmental Job Development All-Grantee Meeting on August 22-23 in Alexandria, VA. There you can network with successful grantees and EPA staff while discussing strategies for developing sustainable programs.

You may also wish to proceed with your program development without current assistance from EPA. As discussed in previous sessions of the PLC, there are many alternative sources of assistance that can be used to develop and sustain an environmental job development program.

As discussed, assistance for Environmental Jobs Training programs comes from a variety of sources including:

- Federal agencies
- State & local agencies
- Public and private foundations, trusts and benefactors
- Private sector benefactors
- Community groups, community colleges, nonprofits and individual contributions
- Litigation and court settlements

Startup and development funds may be best provided by local funding sources. As program development progresses, federal assistance can be an excellent supplement to a program already in motion.

Additional resources for program sustainability:

TO THOSE INTERESTED Learning Call Tuesday, 7/19 - Strategies to Maintain Workforce Training Programs post-ARRA – this session is conducted by Green for All

The Recovery Act put an unprecedented amount of funding into training displaced and disenfranchised workers for jobs in energy efficiency and other green sectors. As the funding period for Pathways Out of Poverty and other ARRA programs comes to a close, non-profit organizations that geared up to develop new curriculum and train a workforce for jobs in a new economic sector are developing strategies to continue their training programs. The next ECN call will explore how these programs planned for their sustainability from the outset and the strategies they are implementing for their on-going sustainability.

Speakers On this call:

- Elizabeth Reynoso – Goodwill Goes Green Program Specialist, Goodwill Industries International

- Marylee Putnam – Program Manager, Green Construction Training, Goodwill of North Georgia, Inc.
- Jodi Pincus – Executive Director, Rising Sun Energy Center

Strategies to Maintain Workforce Training Programs post-ARRA:

Tuesday, July 19

12 pm Pacific / 3 pm Eastern

Please note that the call is scheduled for 1.5 hours

To Register go to the following Web address:

http://org2.democracyinaction.org/o/5379/p/salsa/web/common/public/content?content_item_KEY=8919

<http://greenforall.org/>.

A more detailed discussion of program sustainability related to green jobs and environmental job training can be found at www.brownfields-toolbox.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Next PLC Session: Wednesday, July 27, 2011
 2:00pm EDT

Topic: Environmental Workforce Job Development and Training Curriculum
 Funded or Unfunded: Where to Go From Here, Aftermath of EPA Grant Awards
 Plans for PLC Members Who Are Attend the Workshop in Alexandria in August

Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com.

Visit our *Brownfields Toolbox* Web site at <http://www.brownfields-toolbox.org> for more information on Brownfields Job Training programs