

November 6, 2019



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 21, Session 9.

This series of bi-weekly phone calls examines effective Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) strategies from experienced grantees. PLC calls share ideas among successful grantees and prepare interested organizations for the next EPA Request for Proposals. Calls will be a mix of open discussion, workforce development news, resources, and presentations from current grantees.

Topics:

1. EPA and HMTRI news
2. PLC questions
3. Moving forward with EWDJT
4. An updated EWDJT time line
5. Webinars, presentation PowerPoints, and apps
6. Brownfield conferences, workshops, and meetings
7. Funding and leveraging opportunities
8. EWDJT grant awards
9. Check in with EPA Regional Coordinators
10. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

## **1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON AND HMTRI**

### **EPA Happenings:**

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, EPA announced approximately \$5.1 million in Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) grants to 26 communities. Check the full story in section eight of these notes. After finalizing work plans and administrative approvals, grantees should be able to begin work on their new grants in the early months of 2020. See section four for an approximate timeline. Currently, EPA focus is on Brownfields 2019. Check out section six of these notes for Brownfields 2019 opportunities and conference schedule.

### **HMTRI News:**

This year's All-Grantee meeting will be held the day before the 2019 National Brownfields Conference begins. All-Grantee meeting participants should expect a full day event, so please schedule a travel day on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Better yet, schedule flights to arrive early on the 9<sup>th</sup> allowing you to register for the National Conference on Monday. HMTRI will be covering hotel costs to attend the All-Grantee Meeting (two nights - Monday, and Tuesday) through a master contract we have set up with the Sheraton Grande Los Angeles. Although the hotel cutoff date has closed, a few rooms are still available. To avoid being charged for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> you must contact Heather Ballou at HMTRI.

**IMPORTANT- We need to get All-Grantee Meeting Participants signed up for the HMTRI hotel block. If you have not booked your hotel, contact Heather. [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu)**

### **Annual All-Grantee Meeting (tentative agenda)**

During the next week, we will be asking your input on issues of interests to be included on the general talking points listed below. We will also be recruiting mentors and facilitators to contribute their experiences during breakout session discussions. If you have materials to share, please bring them with you for the meeting and distribution at the HMTRI/EWDJT exhibition booth.

**Location - Los Angeles Convention Center- Tuesday Dec 10<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 a.m. CHECK-IN, BREAKFAST, AND NETWORKING**

Rotating introductions • Networking as participants arrive

**8:45 a.m. PARTICIPANT SEATING BY EPA REGION**

**9:00 a.m. WELCOME / OVERVIEW OF THE DAY**

Meeting goals and objectives • Introductions • Agenda • Housekeeping

**9:15 a.m. WELCOME / UPDATES FROM EPA HEADQUARTERS**

- *David Lloyd, Director, Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization, EPA HQ*
- *Rachel Congdon, EWDJT Program Lead, Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization, EPA HQ*

**9:30 a.m. EWDJT ISSUES OF CONCERN AND QUESTIONS**

10:15 a.m. -11:00 a.m. Breakout sessions

**Program administration and management**

Treatment of sub-grantees • Partnerships • Contractors • Use of grant funds • Funding Restrictions • Allowable and un-allowable costs • Administration issues to avoid • Reporting requirements

**Program outreach**

Community assessment strategies • Establishing local relationships • EJ considerations • Partnership development • Using advisory committees effectively • Employer participation • Coordinating with ARC grantees • Opportunity Zones • Developing community awareness • Participation in public events • Student recruitment and screening

11:15 a.m. -12:00 noon - Breakout sessions

**Leveraging resources and program sustainability**

Working with WIBS • Engaging community service organizations • Partnership development • Working with local government service organizations • In-kind leveraging • Corporate and private donations • Social enterprise and community development organizations

**Training, retention, and placement**

Aligning training with labor market assessments • Popular training certifications • Life skills training • Using technology effectively • Student retention and support • Gender neutrality • Employer relationships • Drug testing • Transportation

12:15 p.m. **Travel by bus to the Los Angeles Convention Center**

12:30 p.m. **WORKING LUNCHEON AND JOINT MEETING WITH NIEHS GRANTEES**

NIEHS Health and Safety Training Programs

1:40 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. -Breakout sessions

**Keeping it real**

Understanding the Issues • Rights and Tools for Workers around Wage and Hour Theft

### **Disaster and emergency response and training**

General conversation/relevant training

### **Emerging Environmental and Construction Training Issues**

Emerging climate issues • Apprenticeship • Work study and internships

2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. -Breakout sessions

#### **OSHA Updates**

New fit test protocol • Silica protection and training • Finding and recruiting qualified trainers

#### **Wildfire Cleanup Response Training and Resiliency vs. Recovery**

Disasters and recovery • Resiliency Planning

#### **Student Record Keeping/Retention and Post Graduate Tracking**

Records management and managing multiple partners and funding sources • Working with employers • Student tracking strategies

3:35 p.m. **Questions and Wrap-up**

3:45 p.m. **Return by bus to the Los Angeles Convention Center**

4:00 p.m. **Regional Open Houses**

6:00 p.m. **Environmental Justice Caucus**

## **2. PLC QUESTIONS**

Do you know the start and end dates for the grant? I've received notification from the EPA, but nothing official with the dates.

*Everyone should have received their recommendation for funding by now. When grantees get their grant package (in the next week or so) there will be three dates*

- *Date of the announcement– October 24, 2019*
- *Date of award*
- *Project period*
- *Budget period*

*The project period and budget period are usually the same and scheduled about 2+ months after the award date. This cycle, because of holiday schedules, awards are not likely to be finalized before the end of January. Work plans, terms and conditions, final negotiations and spending accounts need to be completed before authorization to spend funds can be made.*

*We would suggest contacting the Regional Coordinator if you need to spend funds before final authorization to spend funds is given. (For example, to attend the All-Grantee Meeting). EPA can grant permission to spend funds up to 90 days before a final authorization to spend funds is authorized.*

### **Questions?**

Still have unanswered questions during the evaluation phase of your EWDJT proposal? Respond to this email with inquiries or send them to:

[hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu)

### **3. MOVING FORWARD WITH EWDJT**

October 24<sup>th</sup>, twenty six EWDJT proposals were recommended for funding over the next three years as part of the FY20 grant cycle. For those seven FY16 grantees that have closed out their grants and the six FY17 grantees closing out their grants, today we would like to explore strategies that can extend the life of your EWDJT program. EPA funding represents only a portion of the effort and resources required to operate a successful workforce development program. It is possible to substitute EPA funding with supplemental assistance from other sources. During this week's PLC, we discussed ideas that can extend the life of community environmental workforce development and at the same time lay the groundwork for future EWDJT competitions.

With limited federal funding available, the failure to receive federal assistance is not necessarily a reflection on the effectiveness or quality of a program but a reflection on the limited resources available to the EWDJT. We strongly suggest those not considered for funding this cycle continue their efforts in extending or establishing a new EWDJT program in their community. While still uncertain, there is a possibility that funds may be available for an FY21 competition. If this comes to pass, requests for new proposals could be issued next summer. Additionally, if previous year awardees are restricted from submitting proposals, an excellent opportunity exists for expanded unfunded FY20 proposals to be funded in FY21. As an EWDJT community, the task at hand is assisting new grantees with the challenges and issues faced by new programs. Additionally, as a group, the EWDJT community can assist each other by exchanging best practices and sharing critical issues necessary for program success. Finally, with networking and peer-to-peer idea exchange, we can help unfunded grantees extend the programs they have worked so hard to establish. For those applicants who were not funded this cycle, here are some ideas on where to start:

- Unfunded proposals should request a debriefing from Regional Coordinators within 14 days of receiving their notice (see section 9 for Regional Coordinator contact information).
- Organizations submitting for the first time should seek guidance, participate in technical assistance events and use their submissions as a base upon which to build and expanded proposal.
- Unfunded organizations and organizations interested in establishing an EWDJT program are invited to participate in all EWDJT activities including workshops, grantee meetings, the Professional Learning Community (PLC), [brownfields-toolbox.org](http://brownfields-toolbox.org) resources and webinars.
- A reminder to past and unfunded grantees. Once a grante, always a grantee alumni. Please continue your participation in EWDJT activities.

#### **EWDJT extension strategies and development of new EWDJT efforts**

Preparation for an EWDJT proposal is time consuming and effort intensive. Past grantees looking for funding have been developing their programs for years and have extensive prior experience. New programs need at least six months to a year establishing networks, partnerships and leveraged resources. Rather than shutting down an existing environmental workforce training program not funded in FY20, grantee alumni should move forward with EWDJT in their community. Here are suggestions for programs finding themselves with an operational program or program plan but without sufficient federal assistance to continue or begin training:

- Seek local labor and community development grants to replace lost EPA funding.
- Consider reducing program offerings during while operating with reduced funding.
- Offer contract training to business and industry.
- Approach employers for funding assistance to continue providing a certified workforce.
- Provide refresher training for a fee to past participants.

- Consider merging with a current partner or established community organization.
- Seek new partners interested in supporting environmental workforce training.
- Approach governmental organizations for funding to institutionalize EWDJT.
- Reorganize non-credit EWDJT into credit programs at community colleges or universities.
- For applicants who have not yet started an EWDJT program, work to keep the idea of establishing community based training alive in the community. Seek local demonstration and planning grants.
- Inform partners, supporters, and stakeholders your intentions to submit an expanded proposal for consideration during the next funding cycle.
- Reexamine and strengthen your partnerships, community outreach and target community relationships.
- Keep the stakeholder team together- Inform partners that awards were extremely competitive based on limited funding and detailed responses to specific evaluation criteria. With additional work, the next submission for funds has a likelihood of being successful. Many EWDJT programs have “missed” a cycle only to come back strong with a new program and more comprehensive proposal.
- Begin NOW. Local funds may be available to establish a network of community organizations, partners, employers and leveraged resources to properly develop or expand a local EWDJT program.

#### **4. AN UPDATED EWDJT TIMELINE FOR FY20 GRANTEES**

The timeline for each grant depends on the official award date and authorization to spend funds. A hypothetical schedule might look like the time line presented below. The FY20 EWDJT grant cycle extends from the official start date for three years. The first two years should focus on program development and delivery with a final year for additional training, placement, tracking and program sustainability.

##### **Late October-November**

- Proposals recommended for funding – October 24<sup>th</sup>
- Notification letters and grant packages sent to successful candidates
- Unsuccessful candidates notified – within 14 days unsuccessful programs should request a debriefing with Regional Coordinators.

##### **November- January 2020**

- Post announcement meetings with Advisory Board, partners, instructors and community stakeholders
- Final work plans and budgets reviewed
- Terms and Conditions reviewed/negotiated
- All-Grantee Meeting - December 10<sup>th</sup>
- National Brownfields Conference – December 11-13<sup>th</sup>
- Grant package completed by applicant

##### **January-February 2020**

- Final work plans accepted
- Terms and Conditions accepted
- Funding authorized
- Official notice that funds are available for spending
- Program planning and preparation for the first cohort under the new grant
- Relationships and coordination with leveraged partners finalized

- Instructors, training materials and course schedules completed

#### **February-March 2020**

- Community awareness, program development, and marketing continues
- Leveraged services for program participants confirmed
- Recruitment, screening and student assessment for initial training cohorts

#### **April – July 2020**

- Community awareness, recruitment, and student assessment continues
- Training begins
- First cohort graduation and placement in “full swing”
- Quarterly and ACRES reporting due every quarter
- Training continues, curriculum review based on student feedback and assessments

#### **July 2020 – November 2021**

- Placement, Community awareness, recruitment, and student assessment continues
- Training continues, revisions to curriculum if necessary
- Annual All-Grantee Meetings with idea exchange, leveraging, and placement opportunities
- Anticipation and preparation for the next EWDJT funding cycle
- Search for additional support and backstop funding for program sustainability

#### **November 2021 – December 2022**

- Last year of the grant, training “windup” - placement, tracking
- Continued search for federal and local funding for program expansion

### **5. WEBINARS AND PRESENTATION POWERPOINTS**

#### **[Real Estate \(RE\) Development Academy for Communities](#)**

#### **EPA's Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization**

**November 8, 2019**

**1-3pm ET**

Plan to join EPA's RE-Development Academy for Communities, a three-part FREE webinar series where you will learn the process for redeveloping a contaminated site through the eyes of a property developer.

**Audience:** Community members (including local, regional and tribal government representatives, economic development and environmental protection departments, community nonprofits, brownfield redevelopment agencies and land banks, & other local stakeholders), technical assistance providers, state and tribal staff, others.

**Purpose:** Increase your understanding of the real estate redevelopment process through the eyes of a developer! Learn about:

- Factors that motivate or discourage development of contaminated properties
- How & when developers make decisions
- Special issues to consider (compatibility of site cleanup & reuse, contaminant type & location, institutional or engineering controls, etc.)
- Pre & post redevelopment activities, determining cost & return on investment

**To Register:**

**[November 8 Webinar: Pulling Back the Curtain: How Developers Make Money!](#)**

#### **NIEHS Wildfire Resources and Disaster Preparedness Application**

The NIEHS WTP and its awardees have provided resources and training in support of wildfire response operations in the United States. These resources are aimed at protecting the health and safety of those responding to wildfires. The NIEHS/CPWR Disaster Preparedness mobile app, which includes information

on wildfires, allows workers exposed to hazards on disaster sites to access a full suite of awareness-level training resources.

[NIEHS Wildfire Response Training Tool and Resources](#)  
[NIEHS/CPWR Disaster Preparedness App](#)

### [NIEHS Presentations available](#)

#### **Workplace Stress and Addiction Workshop**

The presentations are available from the Exploring Workplace Training Interventions Addressing Workplace Stress and Addiction Workshop and the NIEHS WTP Awardee Meeting, which took place on May 14-16 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. WTP Awardee United Steelworkers Tony Mazzocchi Center for Health, Safety and Environmental Education hosted the workshop. The meeting brought awardees together to provide program updates, exchange information regarding training, and discover new areas of interest to awardees.

### [Urban Redevelopment: Building Stronger Communities](#)

**November 7, 2019**

**Brooklyn, NY**

CCLR is back in Brooklyn convening regional players tackling the reuse of abandoned and distressed properties for stronger communities. This conference will spotlight community voices, non-traditional financing options, brownfield redevelopment along waterways, and report outs from City and State agencies. The current information and contacts you'll gain will position you ahead of the curve in a rapidly evolving regulatory and program landscape.

## **6. BROWNFIELD CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND MEETINGS**

### [National Conference on Worker Safety and Health](#)

**December 3-5, 2019**

**Baltimore, MD**

The National Conference on Worker Safety and Health (#COSHCON19) brings together a diverse, inclusive and bilingual group of participants of workers, occupational health and safety experts, unions, activists and academics united around common goals. The conference aims to empower workers, make workplaces safer and reduce the toll of on-the-job injuries, illnesses and fatalities. The conference will take place December 3-5, 2019 in Baltimore, MD.

### [Check out the National Brownfields Conference Schedule](#)

**December 11-13, 2019**

**Los Angeles, CA**

Featuring +100 educational sessions offered in a variety of formats, this year's Brownfields will give you the tools to hone your expertise and prep yourself with the most cutting-edge tools in the brownfields industry. Choose from our 9 session formats, and 8 conference tracks to customize your very own Brownfields experience.

### [National Brownfields Leadership Breakfast](#)

**December 11, 2019 7:00AM - 8:45AM**

**Room 502B, LA Convention Center**

CCLR is excited to announce that this year's National Brownfields Leadership Breakfast will feature brownfield developers NorthPoint Development and Real Estate Recovery Capital. Their insights can make the difference for your next project.

Have a complex brownfield in need of investment? Make up a marketing sheet and bring that brownfield to breakfast! Our speakers are always in the market for leads on promising sites. Questions? email [jean.hamerman@cclr.org](mailto:jean.hamerman@cclr.org).

The Leadership Breakfast will also include awards to recognize our colleagues for excellence in public service, thought leadership, and redevelopment, as well as a federal policy update.

Following on 2017, we will present awards in these categories:

Lifetime Achievement: Excellence in Thought Leadership

Lifetime Achievement: Excellence in Redevelopment

Lifetime Achievement: Excellence in Local Public Service

Come celebrate and congratulate our awardees. *Stay tuned for the big reveal of who they are.*

Join our generous sponsors and start Brownfields2019 off right. Tickets for this much anticipated event are limited, grab yours today!

### **CCLR Brownfields Networking Happy Hour and Sing-Along**

***December 11, 2019 6:00PM - 9:00PM***

#### ***Mikeller DTLA***

Join CCLR's Brownfields Networking Happy Hour and Sing-Along at the National Brownfields Conference! Space is limited, and tickets will go fast -- grab one for you and a friend, because thanks to our generous sponsors, this is the best Happy Hour deal you'll find in LA!

Open bar featuring craft beer and wine

Hors d'oeuvres

Networking

The best brownfields tunes you'll ever hear

Come for the networking, stay for the music, and make your enthusiasm for brownfield redevelopment heard!

### **Register for Mobile Workshops!**

Brownfields 2019 offers several exciting opportunities to view local redevelopment sites in Los Angeles through the featured mobile workshops.

### **8th Annual Public-Private Partnership Conference & Expo**

**March 2nd - 4th, 2020**

#### **Dallas, Texas**

Next March, the 8th annual Public-Private Partnership Conference & Expo returns to Dallas with over 1,350 senior representatives from governments, higher education institutions, local economic development organizations, and leading firms in the global construction, development, and financial markets. The P3 Conference attracts professionals from all corners of industry, and invites project owners to forge new partnerships with experienced P3 partners while learning from public sector experience.

Join us for the year's biggest P3 event as we explore the future of public infrastructure and advancements in the P3 model. Over 150 presenters will discuss active and upcoming projects, sharing key insights for leveraging private sector resources for public infrastructure. Those attending participate in interactive workshops, and conversations specifically tailored to the needs of public agencies evaluating P3s. The P3 Conference is designed for all levels in the market including those beginning to

explore P3s and seeking to better understand where alternative and accelerated project delivery methods can be applicable.

### [National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program](#)

**April 22-25, 2020**

**Hilton Washington DC National Mall**

**District of Columbia**

Leaders from various sectors will engage in 3 plus days of free exchange of new ideas and new approaches to building healthy communities. These general and interactive training sessions will feature voices of experience, research, discussions, and thought-provoking dialogue. The program format will feature needs and challenges of communities, governments, municipalities, tribes, faith-based organizations, and others with interests in environmental justice and health disparities and how addressing them together can build health communities. This joint conference will highlight programs and collaborations that work, as well as initiatives that will not prove successful. Program speakers will feature representatives from Federal and state agencies, local governments, tribes, community groups, business and industry, public interest groups, academia, and other entities. This interactive forum will give conference participants the opportunity to network with a variety of interests from diverse quarters. All conference participants will realize informative and productive resources that can support their individual program goals and objectives. Conference participants will also see examples of approaches that produce positive results through innovation and collaboration. All in all, the conference will prove beneficial and informative to participants.

## **7. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES**

### [Guide to Finding Federal Assistance and Resources for Environmental Justice Efforts](#)

This EPA guide offers general guidance and tips on searching for funding opportunities, as well as information on tools, trainings and other relevant resources that are available to help address community needs. The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) includes several federal agencies and White House offices that increase local community capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions to environmental justice issues.

### [Eileen Fisher -SUPPORTING WOMEN IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE](#)

“We believe that a future with inclusive, equitable and sustainable systems for all people depends on deepening the connection between women’s rights and environmental justice. After extensive research, we have designed a grant program to address the fact that, globally, women and girls are the most vulnerable to climate change and hold the firsthand experience to solve it. Linking these two issues not only feels like a natural next step for our company, it is essential to accelerate progress towards improving the status and rights of women and the health of our planet.

Beginning in 2019, we will award \$200,000 annually in amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000.

Applicants must align with one or more of these key points:

1. Increasing women’s participation in decision-making. Nonprofits and applicable programs are not required to have an explicit environmental focus, but they must be able to demonstrate how their program creates positive environmental outcomes.
2. Training women and girls in climate change adaptation, mitigation and advocacy. Nonprofits and applicable programs must provide women and girls with knowledge, tools and access to contribute to climate change resiliency and/or advocate for improved climate change policies.

3. Engaging women in the sustainable economy. Nonprofits and applicable programs must create opportunities for women to pursue livelihoods that elevate them as leaders in environmental solutions while improving their well-being and that of the planet.

### **Eligibility**

Organizations must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

- Be an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization\*
- Provide direct services
- Address one or more of the above key points
- Program's mission focuses primarily on individuals who identify as female
- Executive leadership reflects the demographics of the program's beneficiaries
- Program has been generated by and/or co-designed with the communities it serves
- Able to provide financial statements for one full year of operations
- Able to complete an application and participate in an interview in English

\*While organizations must be IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofits, there is no geographic restriction on the programs for which they are applying.

### **[EPA FY 2020 Brownfields Cleanup, Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund grants Grant Competition](#)** **Application submission deadline December 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

We encourage current and prospective EWDJT grantees to coordinate with assessment and cleanup grantees as they work with the same communities and stakeholders as workforce development grantees. Guidelines for the new round of Brownfields Cleanup, Assessment and Revolving Loan Fund grants is posted on EPA's website. Applicants that were selected for an FY19 Multipurpose Grant may not apply for an FY20. EPA will provide one outreach webinar to discuss the FY 2020 Assessment, RLF, and Cleanup Grant guidelines on October 24, 2019 at 2pm (ET). Join the webinar through EPA Web Conferencing and/or via conference call (dial-in number: 1-866-299-3188/ access code: 202-566-1817). Assessment or Cleanup Grant. The RLF Grant guidelines have been restructured to align with Assessment/Cleanup Grant guideline format. The FY20 Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines are now available:

[Assessment Guidelines](#)

[Cleanup Guidelines](#)

[Revolving Loan Fund Guidelines](#)

### **Technical assistance resources for workforce development**

The best place to search for sustaining partners and benefactors includes local government offices, nonprofit and community organizations, corporate and family foundations. Many local government programs are supported by Federal or State block grants to be administered locally. Here are a few national organizations to "check out" that support local efforts providing life skills training, remedial education and student services.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), <https://www.hhs.gov/>

DHHS Office of Child Care (OCC), <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/parents>

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf>

DOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA), <https://www.doleta.gov/>

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), <https://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>

Institute for Urban and Minority Education, <http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/>

About MyMoney, <https://www.mymoney.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Financial Literacy and Education Commission, <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/financial-education/Pages/activities.aspx>

U.S. Federal Reserve, <https://www.federalreserve.gov/>

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

The *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* has announced a [funding opportunity to build environmental literacy of K-12 students and the public](#) so they are knowledgeable of the ways in which their community can become more resilient to extreme weather and/or other environmental hazards, and become involved in achieving that resilience. NOAA has identified \$.5 million for investment, projecting a total of 8 awards.

For both priorities of this funding opportunity, eligible applicants are limited to institutions of higher education; K-12 public and independent schools and school systems; other nonprofits, including community-based organizations and informal education institutions, such as museums, zoos, and aquariums; state and local government agencies; and Indian tribal governments in the United States. For-profit organizations, foreign institutions, and individuals are not eligible to apply; however, for-profit organizations, foreign institutions, and individuals may participate as project partners. Likewise, federal agencies are not eligible to receive federal assistance under this announcement, but may be project partners

Projects should build the collective environmental literacy necessary for communities to become more resilient to the extreme weather and other environmental hazards they face in the short- and long-term. Building sufficient environmental literacy in a community means that these communities are composed of individuals who are supported by formal and informal education that develop their knowledge, skills, and confidence to: (1) reason about the ways that human and natural systems interact globally and where they live, including the acknowledgement of disproportionately distributed vulnerabilities; (2) participate in scientific and/or civic processes; and (3) consider scientific uncertainty, cultural knowledge, and diverse community values in decision making.

Projects should demonstrate how they will engage community members to build these capabilities, particularly through active learning, during the award period. Projects should leverage and incorporate relevant state and local hazard mitigation and/or adaptation plans and collaborate with individuals and institutions that are involved in efforts to develop or implement those plans.

Projects may focus on a single location or multiple locations and a single type of environmental hazard or a range of hazards that impact a community or communities. Projects will be based on the established scientific evidence about current and future extreme weather and other environmental hazards facing communities and should consider relevant socioeconomic and ecological factors in the targeted location(s). Particular attention should be paid to populations within communities that have greater exposure and have fewer resources to deal with the impacts of extreme weather and/or environmental hazards that are the focus of the project. Projects must relate to NOAA's mission in at least one of the following areas: ocean, coastal, Great Lakes, weather, and climate sciences and stewardship. They must also utilize NOAA's scientific data, data access tools, data visualizations, and/or other physical and intellectual assets available on these topics. In order to facilitate the use of NOAA's assets, projects are strongly encouraged to partner with relevant NOAA entities (offices, programs, etc.)

Priority 1 awards will support new projects located in Southern and Western Regions of the United States. The Southern Region includes the following states and territories: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Tennessee, Texas, and the United

States Virgin Islands. The Western Region includes the following states and territories: Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

Priority 2 awards will support the evolution of projects funded under the 2015-2016 funding opportunities from this program (NOAA-SEC-OED-2015-2004408 and NOAA-SEC-OED-2016-2004737). The full list of awards that support or supported eligible projects can be found here: <https://go.usa.gov/xVGzr>. Projects for this priority must be implemented within the United States and its territories.

For Priority 1, projects must be between 2 and 5 years in duration and the total federal amount requested from NOAA for each project must be no less than \$250,000 and no more than \$500,000 for all years of the project, including direct and indirect costs.

For Priority 2, projects must be between 2 and 5 years in duration and the total federal amount requested from NOAA for each project must be no less than \$100,000 and no more than \$500,000 for all years of the project, including direct and indirect costs.

It is anticipated that awards funded under this announcement and selected this fiscal year will be made by September 30, 2020 and that the projects funded under this announcement in fiscal year 2020 will have a start date no earlier than October 1, 2020.

### [Tennessee will use millions of dollars in grant money to help at-risk rural communities.](#) / (MGN)

#### **By WVLT News**

Posted: Wed 4:48 PM, Oct 30, 2019

NASHVILLE, Tenn (WVLT)-- The state of Tennessee will use millions of dollars in grant money to help 38 distressed and at-risk rural communities across Tennessee.

The funds were approved by the Tennessee Workforce Development Board. The Rural Initiative Funding Opportunity Announcement (RIFOA) has made \$3 million in funding available to local workforce development boards to support workforce expansion efforts in the targeted counties.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development accepted grant applications from different counties to determine how much funding each recipient would receive.

The state's 15 distressed counties will split \$2.1 million of the \$3 million in grant money. The remaining amount will be divided among 23 counties that the state said were at-risk.

"In alignment with the Governor Lee's priorities for Tennessee, we are excited to be able to make these funds available," TDLWD Commissioner, Jeff McCord, said. "These grant dollars will foster the opportunity to develop and maintain a qualified workforce in the places where it is needed most."

Each county will receive funding for specific programs that local leaders felt would help address workforce development in the area. "The members of the Tennessee Workforce Development Board want to do everything we can to give the residents in our rural communities the skills that will allow them to help themselves to better job opportunities," board chairman Tim Berry said.

Officials said programs funded by the grants will create greater opportunities for residents in these counties to take part in skills training in high-demand growth sectors.

#### **8. EWDJT GRANT AWARDS**

Congratulations to the 26 programs recommended to receive EPA funding, especially five new communities including one last funded in 2008. Awards have been made to the following organizations

- Alaska Forum Inc. (Anchorage, Alaska)
- Auberle (McKeesport, Pennsylvania)

- City of New Bedford (New Bedford, Massachusetts)
- City of Pittsburg (Pittsburg, California)
- City of Richmond (Richmond, California)
- City of Rochester (Rochester, New York)
- City of Springfield (Springfield, Missouri)
- Civic Works Inc. (Baltimore, Maryland)
- Colorado Department of Local Affairs (Denver, Colorado)
- Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa Inc. (Tampa, Florida)
- Cypress Mandela Training Center Inc. (Oakland, California)
- Earth Conservancy (Ashley, Pennsylvania)
- El Centro (Kansas City, Kansas)
- Full Employment Council (Kansas City, Missouri)
- Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps. (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)
- Hunters Point Family (San Francisco, California)
- Lorain County Board of Commissioners (Elyria, Ohio)
- Lost Angeles Conservations Corps (Los Angeles, California)
- OAI Inc. (Chicago, Illinois)
- PathStone Corporation (Rochester, New York)
- Southern University at Shreveport (Shreveport, Louisiana)
- St. Louis Community College (Bridgeton, Missouri)
- The Fortune Society Inc. (Long Island City, New York)
- Training to Work an Industry Niche (Charlotte, North Carolina.)
- Workforce Inc. dba RecycleForce (Indianapolis, Indiana)
- Zender Environmental Health and Research Group (Anchorage, Alaska)

Here is the formal announcement from EPA.

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicants-selected-fy20-environmental-workforce-development-and-job-training-grants>

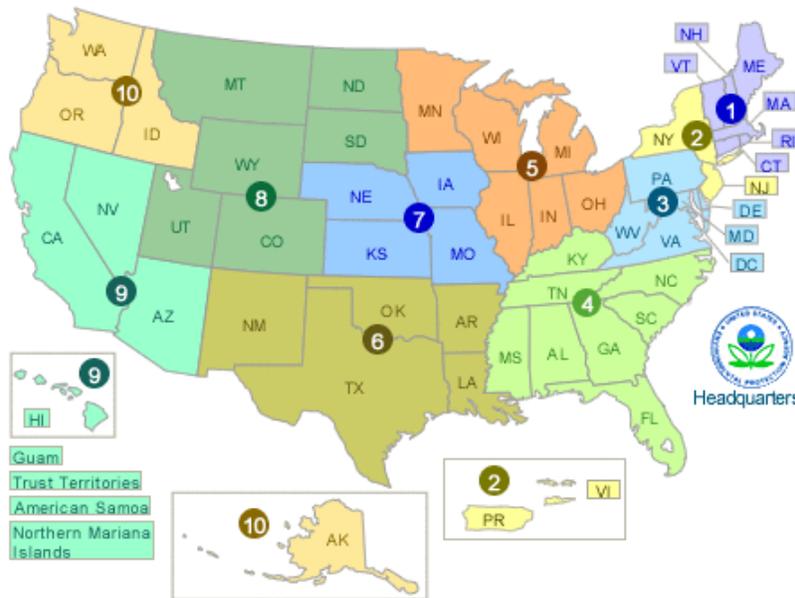
## 9. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS

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<b>EPA Region 9</b> Noemi Emeric-Ford		Phone: (213) 244-1821 E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov
<b>EPA Region 10</b> Deborah Burgess	AK, ID, OR, WA	Phone: (206) 553-2580 E-mail: burgess.deborah@epa.gov

Map of EPA Regions

Credit: [epa.gov](http://epa.gov)



### 10. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

Mark your calendar for future Cycle 21 PLC calls.

- November 20

Join our 30-minute discussion with EPA EWDJT grantees, alumni and new interested stakeholders. PLCs give grantees a chance to highlight their programs and an opportunity for others to learn from their experience. For questions or to be placed on the PLC register, send your contact information to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](#) website for more information on Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs. All [PLC session notes and recordings](#) are also located on the website. For those interested in providing content or suggestions, please contact Heather Ballou at [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

**NOTE:** The PLC brings together ideas and opinions of individuals interested in environmental workforce development and job training. Ideas and opinions are not those of EPA or its policy and should not be taken as official guidance.

