



## Brownfield Job Training Grants:

How You can Benefit by  
Helping Others Prepare for  
an Environmental Career

RPC Brownfield Forum  
March 27, 2012



### Agenda for Today's Brownfield Forum

- Overview of EPA's Brownfield Job Training Program/ Environmental Workforce and Job Training Grants Program – *Amber Perry, EPA Region 6*
- A Consultant's View – *Claire Renault, Leaaf Environmental*
- Limitless Vistas' Training Program – *Matilda A. Tennessee, Executive Director Sherry Callaway, P.G. Darryl Lutcher, Participant Patrick Barnes, Founder*




### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program


**Timeline:**

1991: Environmental Justice Grant to Cuyahoga County Community College

1996: EPA signs an MOU with the Dept. of Labor focusing on job training & employment opportunities related to the Brownfields Program for local youths & adults; NEJAC publishes Environmental Justice, Urban Revitalization and Brownfields: The Search for Authentic Signs of Hope, highlighting recommendations to EPA raised through public dialogues on how to develop the Brownfields Program

1998: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences establishes a Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program with Brownfields Showcase Communities EPA awards the first 11 Brownfield Job Training Pilots

2001: Brownfield Job Training graduates participate in post-attack cleanup at the World Trade Center site




### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program

**Timeline:**

2002: President Bush signs the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act into Law

2005: The Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI) develops the Brownfields Toolbox to provide Brownfields communities with knowledge and tools necessary to maximize job development, education, and employment opportunities  
EPA provides funds through an Interagency Agreement to NIEHS for supplemental Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program awards to provide environmental job training to local residents affected by Hurricanes Katrina & Rita along the Gulf Coast  
EPA awards Job Training Grants to the Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality & Southern University to recruit and train residents of hurricane-affected areas



### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program


**Timeline:**

2009: President Obama signs the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) with \$6.8 million designated for Brownfields Job Training

2010: Graduates of Brownfields Job Training Program respond to BP oil spill

2011: Title of program changes to the Environmental Workforce and Job Training Grants Program to reflect expansion beyond just Brownfields to include other types of hazardous and solid waste cleanup sites. Increased emphasis on training in green remediation and renewable energy technologies

2012: As of January 2012, approximately 10,275 individuals had completed training and 7,155 were placed in full-time employment in the environmental field, with an average starting hourly wage of \$14.12



### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program

- Provides Environmental Remediation Training (certifications can include 40hr HAZWOPER, OSHA, confined space entry, lead, mold, asbestos, etc)
- Targets Underemployed/ Unemployed
- Partner with Local Educational Institution



*The City of Shreveport's Job Training Class on site at the Petroleum Tower site*

**Success!**

- National minimum wage: \$7.25/hr
- National JT program grad wages: \$12 - \$19/hr (avg)



### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Grants

- Provides up to \$300,000
- Approximately 13 Selected Nationally
- Non-profits Eligible
- National Competition
- 2 Year Performance Period




### Green Job Examples

- Environmental Technician
- Air Quality Technician
- Emergency Response Technician
- Energy Conservation Specialist
- GIS Technician
- Forklift Operator
- Health & Safety Technician/Trainer
- Biotechnology Technician/Analyst
- Sampling/Calibration/Analysis Technician
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
- Hazardous Materials Transporter
- Treatment/Storage/Disposal Facility Technician
- Construction/plumber/electrician

**Green Jobs focus on Energy Diversity and Efficiency**, such as sustainable energy sources like wind and solar, ethanol production, green building, hazardous waste removal, recycling and consumer goods, construction, manufacturing, technology, operations.




### Other Specialized Training

- Industrial and/or Oil Spill Response
- Heavy Machine Operations
- Green Building Design
- Phytoremediation
- Preparing Formerly Contaminated Sites for the Installation of Renewable Energies (solar, wind, geothermal)
- Ecological Restoration, Landscaping, and Indigenous Species Revegetation
- Debris Recycling
- Freon Extraction and White Goods Recycling
- Energy Auditing on Remediated Sites




### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program

**Louisiana Grantees:**

- City of Shreveport – 2001
- Southern University – 2006 & 2008
- Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Louisiana – 2008
- Limitless Vistas – 2010
- Arc of Greater New Orleans – 2011




### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program

**Federal Incentives:**



- Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC):** [www.doleta.gov/business/Incentives/opntax/](http://www.doleta.gov/business/Incentives/opntax/)
- Federal Bonding Program:** [www.bonds4jobs.com/index.html](http://www.bonds4jobs.com/index.html)
- Empowerment Zone Employment Credit and Renewal Community Employment Credit:** [www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/economicdevelopment/programs/rc/index.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/economicdevelopment/programs/rc/index.cfm)




### EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program

**State Incentives:**

- Louisiana Economic Development Incentives & Programs page:** [www.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com/incentives--programs.aspx](http://www.louisianaeconomicdevelopment.com/incentives--programs.aspx)
- Enterprise Zone:** \$2,500 tax credit for each certified net new job created; and either a 4% sales/use tax rebate on capital expenditures or income and franchise tax credits up to 1.5% of investment.
- Quality Jobs:** Up to 6% rebate on annual payroll expenses for up to 10 years; and either a 4% sales/use tax rebate on capital expenditures or an investment tax credit equal to 1.5% of qualifying expenses.

**EPA's Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program**

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