

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



U.S. EPA Brownfields Job Training Program

North Star Center for Human Development

Hartford, CT



NORTH STAR
Center for Human Development Inc.

Overview: North Star Center for Human Development is a nonprofit organization that was founded in Manchester, Connecticut in 1995. North Star serves the City of Hartford and the State of Connecticut by providing employment training, job opportunities, and affordable housing to residents who are suffering from unemployment,

Core Curriculum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSHA- 40 hour HAZWOPER • OSHA- 10 hour Construction Safety Training • Toxicology & Human Physiology • Sampling Techniques (water and soil) • Weatherization • Mold Inspector, Mold Remediation- Supervisor • Solar & Alternative Energy • Asbestos Supervisor Initial • Personal Protective Equipment& Blood-Borne Pathogens • Lead RRP Initial (Renovation, Repair & Painting) • Lead Inspector Initial • Lead Supervisor Initial
Program Partners
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Malcolm Pirnie, Brown & Caldwell, Manafort Brothers, Earth Environmental, LLC., Blue Hills Civic Association, Practical Energy Solutions, Envirguard, Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice, Shabazz Services Enterprises, LLC, Diversified Office Support, LLC, Capital Workforce Partners and Goodwin College

underemployment, experienced long-term imprisonment and/or who are in need of environmental technician retraining. The organization also works to protect human health by eliminating the risk of exposure to contaminants, such as lead and asbestos, through the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of brownfields in the community.

North Star was a recipient of a 2009 U.S. EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The \$500,000 of funding enabled North Star to offer two to three job training cycles per year for a three year period. Each cycle was eight weeks in length and had an average graduation class of 20-25 participants. Applicants that were enrolled in the program have been from the disadvantaged Hartford communities of Blue Hills, Clay Arsenal, Northeast, and Upper Albany. Graduates that complete the job training program have 320 hours of Environmental Technician training, 14 certificates and 2 licenses from State of Connecticut.

Outcomes: North Star trainees partake in environmental remediation projects throughout the State of Connecticut. The most notable project completed by North Star graduates is the cleanup and redevelopment of a very well known building, a landmark eyesore in the heart of downtown Hartford, referred to as the “Butt Ugly” building. Due to the abundance of lead, asbestos, and the presence of a leaking underground oil tank, this building has plagued the City as a major economic and environmental issue for several years. North Star graduates that were involved in the “Butt Ugly” project earned \$41.00 per hour.

Other examples of job training graduates that have successfully completed the program and transitioned into a career in the environmental field include:

- Debris Removal & Clean up- brownfield site: \$15.00 per hour
- Demolition/Asbestos Supervisor- Bank of America building and local homes: \$25.00 per hour
- Lead Remediation (RRP) – Dimeo Construction: \$14.25 per hour
- Environmental Technicians – hazardous waste cleanup and oil spill clean-up: \$12.00 per hour
- Mold Inspector- local churches/homes: \$15.00 per hour
- Lead Inspector- housing development: \$17.00 per hour
- General Labor- worksite cleanup: \$9.25 per hour
- General Labor/ fence installer- City of Hartford property: \$25.00-\$41.00 per hour
- Asbestos Supervisor & PCB Removal- Chatfield Elementary School, CT: \$25.00 per hour



Photo provided by North Star.