

Brownfields 2020 Job Training Fact Sheet

The Fortune Society Inc., New York, NY

Grant Recipient Information

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EPA Information

Region: EPA Region 2 Brownfields Team
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Publication Information

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Overview of the EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002, as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment and Local Development Act of 2018, was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfield sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through five competitive grant programs: Multipurpose Grants, Assessment Grants, Revolving Loan Fund Grants, Cleanup Grants, and Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant funds are provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to recruit and train unemployed and underemployed residents from solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities and place them in environmental jobs. To date, EPA has funded 305 job training grants totaling over \$63 million through the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. As of October 2019, more than 18,300 individuals have completed training, and of those, almost 13,700 have obtained employment in the environmental field, an average starting wage of over \$14 an hour. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 75% since the program was created in 1998.

Job Training Grant

\$200,000.00

EPA has selected The Fortune Society Inc. for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. The Fortune Society Inc. plans to train 60 students and place at least 42 graduates in environmental jobs. The core training program includes 239 hours of instruction in 40-hour HAZWOPER, environmental health and safety, urban agriculture and composting, innovative

treatment technology, underground storage tank awareness, stormwater management and green infrastructure, solid waste management, assessment and cleanup, EPA lead renovation, repair, and repainting, OSHA construction industry health and safety program, OSHA confined space, asbestos handler, federal, global hazard communication, and scaffold user. Participants who complete the training will earn one state and three federal certifications. The Fortune Society Inc. is targeting ex-offenders living in New York City who are unemployed, underemployed, or veterans. Key partners include Queens Economic Development Corporation, Newtown Creek Alliance, Rockaway Waterfront Alliance, Smiling Hogshead Ranch, Pathways to Apprenticeship (P2A), Blue Air Environmental Solutions, New York City Brownfield Partnership, ANDO International, Robin Hood Foundation, Queens Economic Development Corporation, Long Island City Partnership, The New York City Mayor's Office of Environmental Remediation, and New York City Workforce Development Board.

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant application; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of the information. The cooperative agreement is negotiated after the selection announcement. Therefore, the funding amount and activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.