

SEIU Snapshot:

<i>HWWT TRAINING:</i>
Principal Investigator:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• William Keith Borwegen
Evaluator(s):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Perspective
Grant Number:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• U45ES06178
Goal(s) of Evaluation:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess participant progress and performance and reaction to class• Determine when and where corrective action needs to take place• Gauge levels of involvement in classes, use of materials, and knowledge gained by trainees• Assess worker-trainer skill and knowledge and areas to be strengthen• Determine how participants and trainers apply knowledge and skill• Assess target audience training needs
Evaluation tools:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participant course evaluation form is used.• Trainer debrief form is used.• Worker-trainers and staff observe small and large group discussions and hands-on exercises. Corrective action taken when inadequacies are noted.• The project has established a ten person Board of Advisors to formally evaluate training activities and quality, this board plans to meet in September.• The evaluation process and regular refresher classes, where they occur, offer the best opportunity to view the impact of the training program and the actual experience of trainees in hazardous materials emergency response.• Surveys, focus groups, other tools developed with our evaluation consultant, New Perspectives.
Population Served:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Target population is employed in a wide range of jobs in acute-care hospitals, road maintenance, and waste water treatment• Primary target audiences stated to be health care workers and public-sector workers• Trainees range from registered nurses to hospital housekeepers and others• More than 50% of trainees found to be minority workers and female
Types of Courses/ Training Curricula Offered:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness-level emergency response classes, emergency response classes for specific hazards (such as pandemic flu), operations-level emergency response courses for hospital First Receivers and confined space entry
Trainers:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training conducted by an existing team of specially-trained SEIU-provided rank-and-file worker-trainers, using the Small Group Activity Method approach• Trainer Tune-ups held annually for worker-trainers
Proof of effectiveness/value?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• According to the 2012 report, most respondents described their previous SEIU HazMat training class as either “extremely useful” or “moderately useful.”

- Managers report that they find the training effective at helping their employers better recognize and understand hazards on their jobs and help in identifying solutions to those problems.

Most beneficial aspects/well received methods:

- A stated strength of the program is its ability to bring together workers from all the different levels of a workplace hierarchy for training and sharing experiences.
- Often health and safety issues are uncovered during the classes and possible solutions are identified.
- A YouTube Video Library for Trainers utilizing historic occupational and environmental health and safety films continues to be supported and is available for use by Project trainers and this resource is available for use by all WETP Awardees.
- A Spanish language version of the core activities for some courses is available and SEIU employs a number of fully bi-lingual worker-trainers who can deliver training in either English or Spanish.
- SEIU addresses literacy issues by training worker-trainers to identify participants with literacy problems, having worker-trainers end every activity with an oral summary of the most important parts, and making hands-on activities a part of training.