Over the past few years, training was provided by the following NIEHS WTP Awardes:

- **Alabama Fire College Workplace Safety Training**
- **Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training/The Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE)**
- **International Chemical Workers Union Council Center for Worker Health and Safety Education** (through consortia member American Federation of Teachers)
- **International Union of Operating Engineers**
- **Western Region Universities Consortium** (through consortia member University of Washington)

A variety of types of courses are offered in Alaska are critical for health and safety of workers and worksites, including:

- Basic Superfund Site Worker and Site Worker Refresher
- CPR/First Aid
- Emergency Response Incident Command
- Fire Watch
- Hazardous Waste Operations
- Industrial Emergency Responder
- Oil Spill Response

WTP training in Alaska demonstrates how the NIEHS WTP reaches into remote areas and fills critical hazardous material and emergency response training gaps that would otherwise go unaddressed.

For more information on the Worker Training Program, visit [https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/index.cfm](https://www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/index.cfm)
RACEJT Program in Alaska

Candice Saunders, came to the RACEJT program unemployed. She wanted to make herself more marketable. As a single mother, she wanted to complete the training so that she could better her employment prospects within her own rural Alaska community. Population 107, Allakaket has very few employment opportunities. After completing the training, Candice worked seasonally as a fire fighter inside and outside her community.

In 2016, the community’s Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) Coordinator left the position. They had built up the Program to the point that it was beginning to protect the community’s environmental health. Without Candice, Allakaket would have suffered the fate of most of Alaska’s small villages when a skilled person leaves. It would have been left without anyone capable of, or willing to, take on the Program’s demanding work. This would leave Allakaket without an Environmental Program to protect community environmental health until a new hire was eventually found, who would likely still need appropriate training.

But because of her intensive RACEJT training in solid waste management, job training, and MS Word and Excel skills, Candice was able to continue the IGAP workplan with little ramp-up time. As the IGAP coordinator, she is using her detailed knowledge of environmental health challenges and solutions to create successful recycling programs, sustainable landfill operations and wastewater practices.

RACEJT is made possible by a U.S. EPA Workforce Development and Training grant, a State of Alaska State Training and Employment Program grant, and partnership with the University of Washington NIEHS Worker Training Program, University of Fairbanks, and State of Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

Training Highlights in Alaska

AWARDEE: Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training/PETE

TRAINING: Provided courses through Prince William Sound College in Valdez, including courses on Oil Spill and Emergency Response. The college provided HAZWOPER training on fishing vessels for fleets in six Alaska ports. Many of the contracted trainers are safety professionals with the Alyeska Pipeline, and another trainer comes from the Cordova Fire Department.

AWARDEE: Western Region Universities Consortium/ University of California Los Angeles

TRAINING: Provided courses through consortia member University of Washington (UW). UW worked with three different local organizations:

- **With Zender Environmental’s Rural Alaska Community Environmental Job Training Program (RACEJT) Program** – which trains and provides employment assistance for unemployed residents in remote non-hub Native Villages impacted by environmental health issues. Since 2014, UW has provided key courses for the training program, such as 40-hour HAZWOPER, general construction safety, confined space, and First Aid/CPR. In 2016, RACEJT had 88% of their graduates find work in their villages as a direct result of the training received in the program.

  LOCAL REACH: Residents from Goodnews Bay, Togiak, Manokotak, Chaitthbaluk, Grayling, Akhiok, and others.

- **Through partner Kawerak, UW provides onsite training that wouldn’t otherwise be available because of the remoteness of Bering Strait Region native villages in need of safety and health training.**

  LOCAL REACH: Predominant communities are Inupiaq, St. Lawrence Island Yupik, and Central Yup’ik.

- **With Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC), UW provided safety and health training for Native Village residents competing for jobs on projects on their own land that historically has been completed by workers transported by plane from other regions of Alaska and the US.**

  LOCAL REACH: Students are a majority Yup’ik (Bristol Bay side), Dena’ina Athabascan Indians, and Aleut/Alutiiq.