

Occupational Health and Safety



MDB promotes a safe environment for all workers through research, analysis, and information dissemination. For two decades, MDB has supported clients in the fields of public and environmental health, and occupational health and safety (OHS), exceling in development of educational materials, shaping training policy, and providing technical expertise.



MDB staff have developed educational materials, assisted in the guidance of training policies, and provided technical expertise for worker safety and health programs and initiatives. We have a wealth of experience in providing OHSrelated services, including technical assistance, performance metrics development, economic and policy analysis, strategic communication, and stakeholder outreach and engagement.

Highlights of MDB's efforts to protect workers and improve understanding of OHS needs include the following:

Disseminating technical information related to the development of health and safety training.





Developing curricula and educational materials for safety and health training programs.

Developing, analyzing, and compiling research products to enhance ongoing initiatives, support new training initiatives, and the continuation of program efficiency.

Representative case studies of MDB's OHS mission support include:

THE NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Training Program (WTP) funds the National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training (the Clearinghouse), a national resource for hazardous waste worker curricula, technical reports, and weekly news on hazardous materials, waste operations, and emergency response. MDB has managed the Clearinghouse since 2000, producing and cataloging training curricula, authoring and curating reports, guidance documents, and research articles, as well as sharing safety and health training tools and weekly news summaries.

OUR CLIENTS

MDB has engaged in safety and health-related projects for various federal and nongovernmental clients including:

- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- CPWR The Center for Construction Research and Training
- · International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) National Training Fund
- United Steelworkers Tony Mazzochi Center

CLEARINGHOUSE ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS

• Training Tools and Booklets:

MDB developed awareness-level courses and training materials that provide health and safety guidelines for workers involved in disaster or emergency response following hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, and infectious disease outbreaks. Many of these tools have been adapted into pocket-sized booklets that can be distributed and used for



training workers and volunteers at disaster and cleanup sites. Other tools include fact sheets to help workers recognize hazards and implement controls to protect themselves and others from harmful exposures in the workplace.

• Disaster Resilience Training Materials: MDB supported the Gulf Responder Resilience Training Project to develop behavioral health training for disaster-impacted communities. The project produced three sets of awareness-level training materials: one for disaster workers, one for disaster supervisors, and one for disaster care providers.

CONTINUED FROM OTHER SIDE

• Research Products: MDB conducted a needs assessment to explore how WTP-funded organizations adapted worker health and safety training in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to determine their concerns, challenges, and needs. MDB wrote a comprehensive report, WTP COVID-19 Training Needs Assessment, to outline findings and next steps. We conducted a similar needs assessment in 2015 following national outbreaks of the Ebola virus disease.

WTP MATERIAL UPLOAD AND SEARCH TOOL FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE (MUSTID)

MDB developed a database that houses science-based resources and training materials to inform worker safety during the COVID-19 pandemic and future infectious disease outbreaks, such as other coronaviruses (i.e., SARS, MERS). This tool offers a centralized location for WTP administrators, WTP-funded organizations, and the public to find



infectious disease resources. MDB also developed a Quick Tips User Guide, which provides detailed instructions on how to use and search for resources within MUSTID.

WTP SAFETY CLIMATE ACTIVITY SHEETS

MDB created a set of how-to activity sheets focusing on the promotion of workplace safety culture and climate on construction sites for CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training. By fostering partnerships with managers and workers, safety culture embodies principles that promote a positive atmosphere in the



workplace to ensure that hazards are eliminated, or at least minimized, to the maximum extent. These activity sheets aim to positively affect safety culture indicators, which include management commitment, employee involvement and empowerment, and safety-based accountability. MDB was responsible for developing content, design, and layout for these safety climate activity sheets.

WTP GULF RESPONDER RESILIENCE PROGRAM

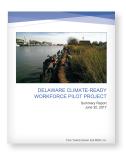
MDB provided services to develop a behavioral health resilience curriculum for disaster workers. This effort has been accomplished in partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The project included three phases. For Phase 1, MDB facilitated a stakeholder meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Stakeholders from federal, state, and local governments,



academia, community organizations, and responders provided input into the behavioral health issues faced by Gulf responders and their families following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. For Phase 2, MDB facilitated another meeting of stakeholders in Biloxi, Mississippi, to discuss the approach to curriculum development. Phase 3 included the development of training materials for workers. Additional pilot tests occurred in New York with groups impacted by Hurricane Sandy. MDB also developed curriculum for supervisors and care providers.

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A CLIMATE-READY WORKFORCE

In support of the Delaware Climate-Ready Workforce Pilot Initiative, MDB partnered with a climate risk analytics firm, Four Twenty Seven, to identify state employee health risks associated with the changing climate and recommend strategies to minimize risks. The initiative was an interagency collaboration between Delaware's



Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Department of Transportation, Department of Health and Social Services, Department of Safety and Homeland Security, and Office of Management and Budget.



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MDB holds a GSA Multiple Award Schedule:
Contract Contract 47QRAA20D0028, that allows us to offer a wide range of professional services to the U.S. federal government.

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