Urban Waters Federal Partnership National Training

Sheila Lewis, U.S. EPA
Federal Support and Tools
December 3, 2014







Environmental Justice Grant Programs

GOAL: To help affected communities create self-sustaining solutions and community-based partnerships that will continue to improve local health and the environment.

Environmental Justice Grant Programs

EJ Small Grant Program

- Bi-annual solicitations to non-profit organizations
- One year projects
- **\$30,000**
- Partnerships encouraged

Environmental JusticeGrant Programs

Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) cooperative agreement program

- Bi-annual solicitations to non-profit organizations
- Two year projects
- **\$120,000**
- Partnerships are required

2013 EJ SG with Water Concerns Examples

New Haven Ecology Project (New Haven, CT)

- 1. engages area high school students on improving air quality, water quality, and access to other critical ecosystem services
- 2. contributes to environmental health solutions by identifying sources of water pollution and implementing strategies to address sources them

Groundwork New Orleans (New Orleans, LA)

- 1. addresses the city's aging and insufficient water management infrastructure by introducing a water catchment system that will filter contaminants and reduce flow into the municipal storm water system.
- 2. projected include reduced reliance on city drainage and pumping systems, reduced carbon footprint and decreased risk of minor flooding.

2013 EJ SG with Water Concerns Examples

Environmental Health Watch (Cleveland, OH) implements hands-on summer program for youth ages 11 to14 to understand the importance of water quality and learn storm water management solutions in an urban farm setting. The training program concentrates on urban organic gardening basics

Partners: Neighborhood Leadership for Health, Rid-All Green Partnership, Green House, Easy Does it Cooking Classes, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Earth Day Coalition Student Environmental Congress, John Hay High School Environmental Club -Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, City of Cleveland Planers, City of Cleveland Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland, City of Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve

2013 EJ SG with Water Concerns Examples

- Crow Tribe of Indians (Crow Reservation, MT)
 - 1. establishes a sustainable approach for addressing the adverse health effects associated with water pollution and educate the community on preventative measures to mitigate the effects of contamination.
 - 2. addresses fecal contamination issues at a sacred, medicinal spring located on the Crow Reservation. Spring is culturally significant and is used for recreational and ceremonial practices.

Partners: Crow Tribe's EPA, Crow Tribe's Health Department, Indian Health Service Hospital, 107 Committee of Tribal Elders, MT State University, MT State EPA, U.S. Geological Survey, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife.

Technical Assistance Services to Communities (TASC)

- The TASC program benefits people and communities by:
- Helping them understand complex environmental issues.
- Explaining technical findings and answering questions.
- Supporting their active role in protecting healthy communities and advancing environmental protection.
- Providing opportunities for environmental education.
- Bringing diverse groups together and helping them get more involved.
- Offering training and supporting environmental employment opportunities through the Superfund Job Training Initiative.

Technical Assistance Services to Communities (TASC)

Finally, the TASC program assists **EPA** by:

- Removing communication barriers.
- Connecting EPA with community feedback.
- Building trust through productive working relationships.
- Demonstrating EPA's commitment to meaningful community involvement.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc/

Thank You!

Sheila Lewis EPA's Office of Environmental Justice Deputy Director (Acting) 202-564-0152

EJ Website: http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/

EJ Grant summaries:

http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/grants/index.html