

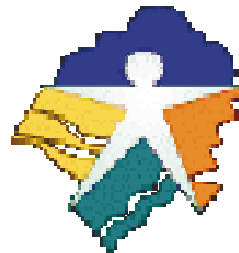


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## Promotion of Best Practices in Training

### An Overview of the NIEHS Worker Education & Training Program

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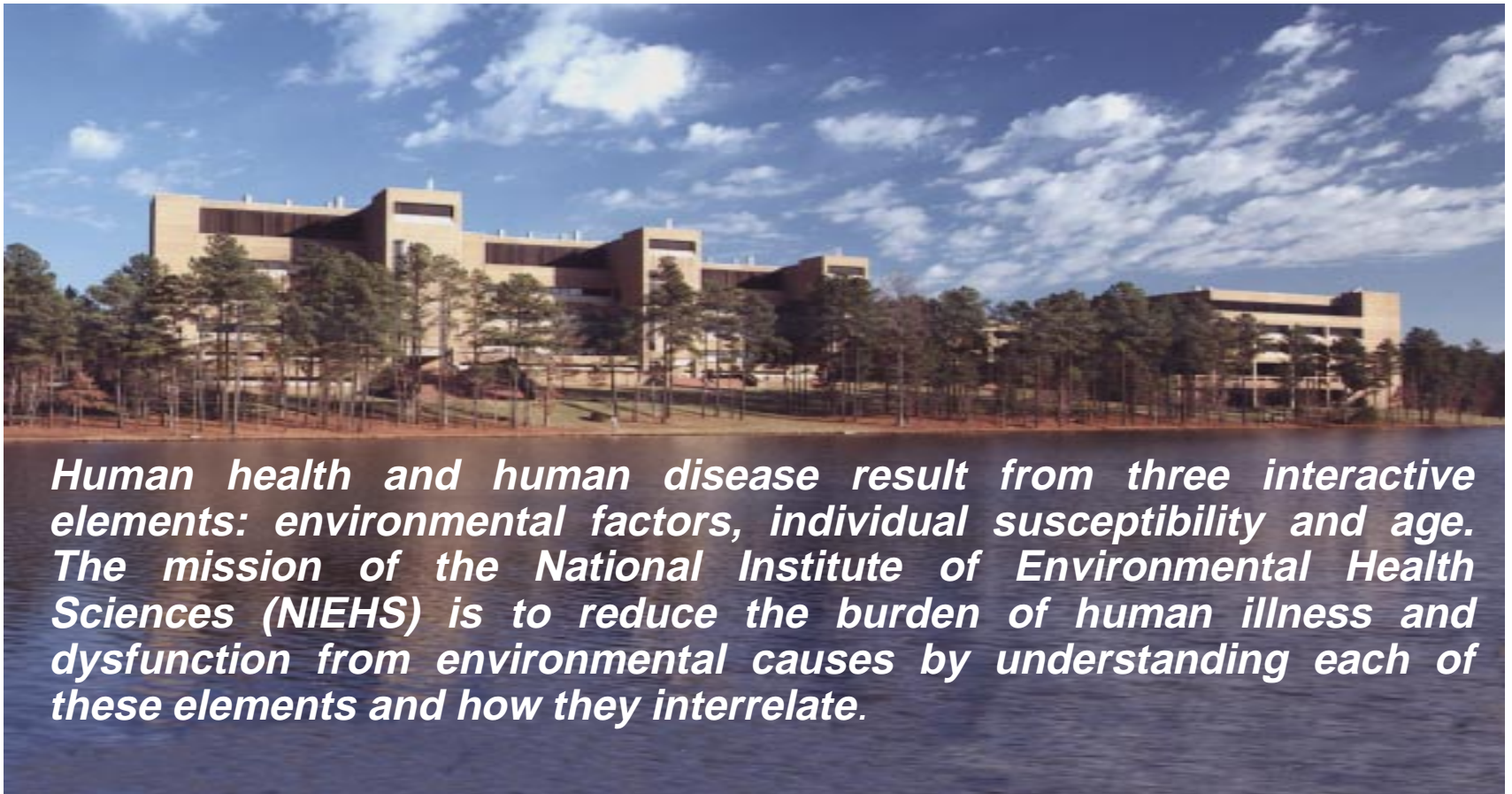
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# NIEHS Mission Statement



*Human health and human disease result from three interactive elements: environmental factors, individual susceptibility and age. The mission of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) is to reduce the burden of human illness and dysfunction from environmental causes by understanding each of these elements and how they interrelate.*

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## Statutory Authorization (Superfund, 1987)

- SARA Section 126 (g):
  - Creation of a grant program to support curricula development & model training delivery
- Target populations addressed:
  - Hazardous waste cleanup operations
  - TSD facilities, waste generation, & removal remedial actions, & containment
  - Emergency response by hazmat teams, firefighters, and collateral duty workers etc.

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## Program History

- **The NIEHS has supported health and safety training programs since 1987.**
- **Focus - provide awards to organizations to develop model worker safety and health training programs for workers engaged in activities related to hazardous waste removal or containment or chemical emergency response**
- **17 non-profit organizations at 80 universities, labor-based safety programs and other institutions.**

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# NIEHS Program Components

- **Hazardous Waste (HWWTP)** – provides model occupational safety and health training for workers who are or may be engaged in activities related to hazardous waste removal or containment or chemical emergency response.
- **DOE Nuclear Cleanup Training** – targets for workers engaged in environmental restoration, waste treatment and emergency response activities in the DOE's nuclear weapons complex.
- **Brownfields and Minority Worker (MWTP)** – focuses on delivering comprehensive training to disadvantaged minority inner city young adults in order to prepare them for employment in the environmental restoration and hazardous materials fields.

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# Program Challenges

- How do we build model training programs to protect workers in high risk occupations?
- How do we create effective consortia and organizational relationships to support training delivery?
- How do we maintain Interagency Working Partnerships to support innovative program development?
- How do we develop our capacity for utilizing and sharing technology tools to support worker-centered learning?
- How do we share our model training programs through information dissemination, networking & communications?

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## Promoting Best Practices in Training



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## **NIEHS WETP: TRAINING EVALUATION COMPONENTS**

- **Competent program management**
- **Adequate training facilities**
- **Access to target population**
- **Requirement for outside evaluations of each grantee program**
- **Independent NIEHS program evaluation**
- **Effective program training plan with course evaluation**

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## **NIEHS WETP: NATIONAL PROGRAM IMPACT**

- **Develop model curricula & training techniques**
- **Expansion of training resources to new sectors**
- **Upgrade work practices and technical skills**
- **Diffusion of occupational safety and health knowledge**
- **Creation of new national benchmarks for quality worker safety and health training**

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## Promote Safe & Healthy Work Skills



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## Future NIEHS Training Goals

- Diffusion of NIEHS WETP awardee model programs and best practices to public & private sectors.
- Creation of national safety and health training benchmarks and guidance.
- Integration of safety and health training with work practices, skills development & workplace OSH programs.
- Establishment of innovative program evaluation protocols to demonstrate training effectiveness and impact.

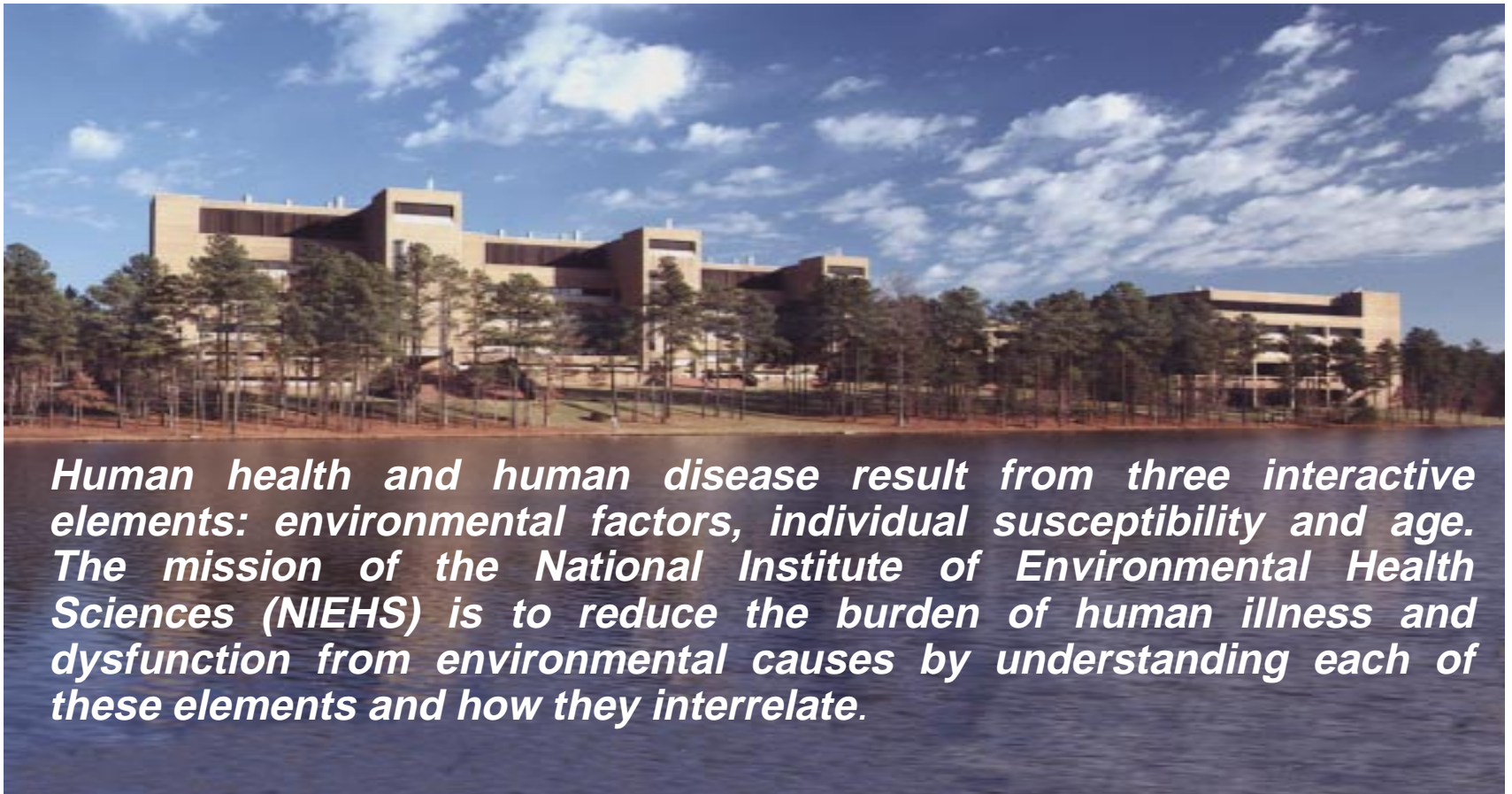
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