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Contacts:

Barbara 808.629.7505 // bln@biahawaii.org

Lesley 808.457.7100 // lesley@gwandc.com

Website: www.biahawaii.org

BIA-Hawaii awarded grant funding to provide training for disaster relief clean-up & recovery support. Trainings will be held in Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Hawaii. BIA-Hawaii is currently seeking partner organizations to guide program development.

Honolulu (October 16, 18)—The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has awarded the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii) a \$250,000 Susan Harwood Training Grant, intended to provide training support in some areas affected by the recent catastrophic storm systems. The increase in tropical storm and hurricane activity has prompted a proactive response. Training will produce a better-prepared workforce and public in the event of a natural disaster.

BIA-Hawaii will conduct on-location training to address occupational safety and health hazards that may be encountered by workers, supervisors, and employers involved in natural disaster site response and cleanup activities in Hawaii, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition, trainings will address the hazards and conditions, which may be encountered by volunteers and support organizations providing services in direct response to a natural disaster or catastrophic storm event.

BIA-Hawaii will coordinate with organizational partners to provide expertise through on-location training activity in the wake of Typhoon Mangkhut, which hit Guam & the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and Hurricanes Olivia and Lane, which impacted Hawaii. The training program will be tailored to the needs of the training audiences, which is likely to vary by location and severity of catastrophic impact. It is anticipated that a group of 3-5 individuals will conduct on-site training and support efforts on Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Hawaii.

BIA-Hawaii currently seeks the input of organizational partners to further support this effort by contributing to project planning, coordinating beneficial community partnerships, and sharing expertise. No additional funding is sought, though community partners are encouraged to collaborate to further leverage this opportunity. If you or your organization is interested in lending your knowledge and expertise, please contact Lesley at lesley@gwandc.com or 808.457.7100.

Enrollment in this program is **free** and will be available to employees, employers, and any organizations' personnel involved in cleanup and recovery activities. Trainings may be available in

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multiple languages, in order to better serve this diverse population. For more information on participation as an attendee, please join our information list to stay up-to-date on available trainings and events: eepurl.com/dJWQDE.

About BIA-Hawaii and the Construction Training Center of the Pacific (CTC)

The Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii) is the voice of the construction industry. BIA-Hawaii is a not-for-profit trade organization chartered in 1955 and is affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) with members including developers, general contractors, specialty contractors, suppliers and associates. BIA-Hawaii members build the living spaces that we call home and the organization is dedicated to supporting the residents of Hawaii and the building industry by promoting policies and programs to improve the safety and availability of housing at all price points. The Construction Training Center of the Pacific is located at the BIA-Hawaii headquarters in Waipahu and was constructed in 2009. The Training Center provides continuing education and workforce development programs to address the ever-changing needs of the public and the industry. The Construction Training Center of the Pacific operates in order to support a safe, healthy, and well-trained workforce operating in Hawaii and throughout the Pacific.