

ANNUAL ALLIANCE REPORT

**The Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Austin Area Office
And
The Workers Defense Project and Construction Safety and Health, Inc.**

August 13, 2014

I. Alliance Background

A. Date Signed

August 23, 2012

B. Evaluation Period

July 15, 2013 - July 15, 2014

C. Alliance Overview

To provide outreach to immigrant workers, provide training on OSHA regulations, policies and procedures to Worker's Defense Project (WDP) employees and volunteers to foster cooperation and to further the dialogue on safety and health.

D. Implementation Team Members

R. Casey Perkins, Area Director, OSHA

Joann Natarajan, Compliance Assistance Specialist, OSHA

Cristina Tzintun, Workers Defense Project

II. Implementation Team Meetings

Alliance meetings (in person or by phone) were held on August 30, 2014; January 14, 2014; and April 22, 2014.

III. Activities, Events and Products

OSHA has provided WDP with over 1500 copies of OSHA publications for distribution in their construction safety orientation classes.

- Outreach and Communication: OSHA participated in eight WDP in-take nights to provide Hispanic workers the opportunity to ask questions and file complaints with OSHA. WDP conducts intake nights to allow workers to make complaints about workplace safety issues and nonpayment of wages complaints. WDP has filed 30 complaints with OSHA.

- Promoting the National Dialogue on Safety and Health: OSHA and WDP have worked to promote knowledge about worker rights in Central Texas through a wide range of events targeted to reach immigrant Spanish speaking workers.
- Training and Education: OSHA providing pamphlets for WDP construction safety orientations, and intake nights. WDP has developed an OSHA 10 hour and safety orientation training that covered fall protection and focus four hazards. OSHA has publicized these events to assist WDP in finding Spanish speaking attendees. OSHA has attended the WDP's OSHA 10 hour classes to offer workers the opportunity to ask questions about safety and make complaints.
- Outreach and Communication: WDP communicates with OSHA staff monthly to make referrals, and to file complaints on behalf of Hispanic workers. OSHA has also received complaints during the intake nights. OSHA has put WDP in contact with outreach events that WDP may wish to participate in, such as HopeFest, an event that does outreach to low income Hispanic families in Central Austin.
- Promoting the National Dialogue on Safety and Health: The alliance has opened the door of communication with immigrant Spanish workers in the Austin and nationally, so that they can exercise their right to a safe and healthy workplace. As a result of the cooperation between WDP and OSHA, WDP was asked to assist NIOSH with translation for NIOSH publication 2013-111 on Simple Solutions for Residential Construction in Spanish.

IV. Results

The alliance has raised the Agency's profile with hard to reach immigrant Spanish speaking workers in the Austin area through a multi-pronged approach.

Type of Activity:	Attendees	2013-14 General Meetings Topics
OSHA Publications	1500	Spanish publications distributed
In-Take Night	600	Hispanic workers provided opportunity to ask questions and file complaints with OSHA.
OSHA 10 Hour	80	Focus Four and OSHA 10 Hour Instruction
OSHA Complaints/Referrals Process	30	OSHA received over 30 complaints from Workers Defense Project
TOTAL	2210	

V. Upcoming Milestones

The alliance has impacted Hispanic construction workers by offering free OSHA 10 hour classes, fall protection, and focus four hazard training and through the development of targeted training materials in Spanish offered by WDP. OSHA and WDP plan to renew the alliance in August 2014 for another two years.

Report Prepared by: Joann Natarajan.