



# **Environmental Health Specialist Training Program for Consumer Health Protection Services Trainee**

**Monica Baigorri, EHS III**  
Monterey County Health Dept.  
Environmental Health Bureau  
MEPHLI Cohort III  
October 11, 2017

Group study



New trainees



**INTRODUCTION** : New staff need help and guidance in preparing for the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) examination. Trainees do not have specific guidance on how to pass the exam. California Health and Safety Code, Section 106600-106735 mandates that any person who is known as an Environmental Health Specialist Trainee must pass a written examination to be an REHS. The current training program lacked organization and format, resulting in difficulties and a low passing rate in 2016. After a review and updates to the training program, a study group was formed that helped increase the passing rate.

# Objective

Develop and enhance the knowledge and skills of EH trainees, and improve the practice of the objective of the proposed training plan is to ensure the trainee has knowledge in administrative procedures and field inspections in accordance with the requirements of Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau, Consumer Health Protection Services.

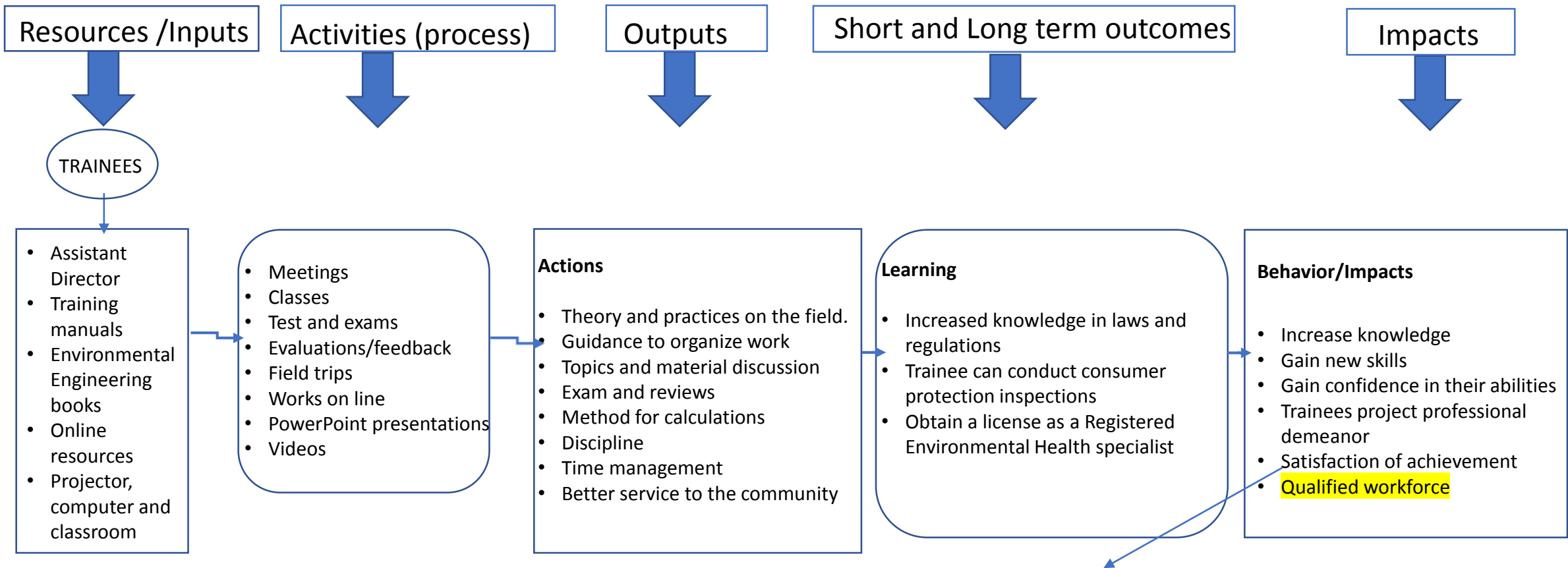
## ***Immediate objective***

Increase knowledgeable workforce, and prepare a qualified personnel to serve our community. After receiving proper training in the various programs within Consumer Health Protection Services, the trainee will be expected to be able to act in his/her own with minimum supervision in a period of six months.

## ***Long term Goal:***

Environmental Health trainees successfully passing the California State exam to become Registered Environmental Health Specialist required by California Health and safety Code, Section 106600-106735.

# What I did? – Logic Model



The Essential Environmental Public Health Services provided in this project was **Essential Service #8: Assure a Competent Environmental Health Workforce.**

## **RESULTS:**

There was no assistance available for trainee staff in 2016 to prepare for the exam. There were two trainees that took the exam and did not pass.

In 2017, a study group was created and six trainees took the exam. Out of the six, four successfully passed the exam.

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

- Classes and guidelines helped the trainees
- People are extremely thankful when somebody teaches them
- We created bond between coworkers in consumer and other sections
- We increased the workforce
- We have a new professional that will serve our community
- Trainees shall be ready with hours and experience in six months
- Trainees should be ready to deploy to conduct independent field inspections within six months.

## **SUGGESTIONS:**

- Trainees should have cross training in other sections
- Each Environmental Health services section should provide classroom training. Training should be conducted either by Supervisors or Seniors.
- Attendance to the class should be mandatory
- Group study should start six months before the trainees take the exam

## In conclusion

1. The plan, training and program are being re-evaluated with the new group
2. Corrective Actions are being taken for improvements

Thanks, Thanks and Thanks....