



Region 9 & 10 Pollution Prevention (P2) Roundtable

P2 and Environmental Justice

"Engaging the Hispanic community through Safer Choice webinars in Spanish."

Angel Contreras Cruz

Pollution Prevention Resource Center



October 19, 2022

## **AGENDA**

1 INTRO

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REACH OUT TO BIPOC COMMUNITTIES?

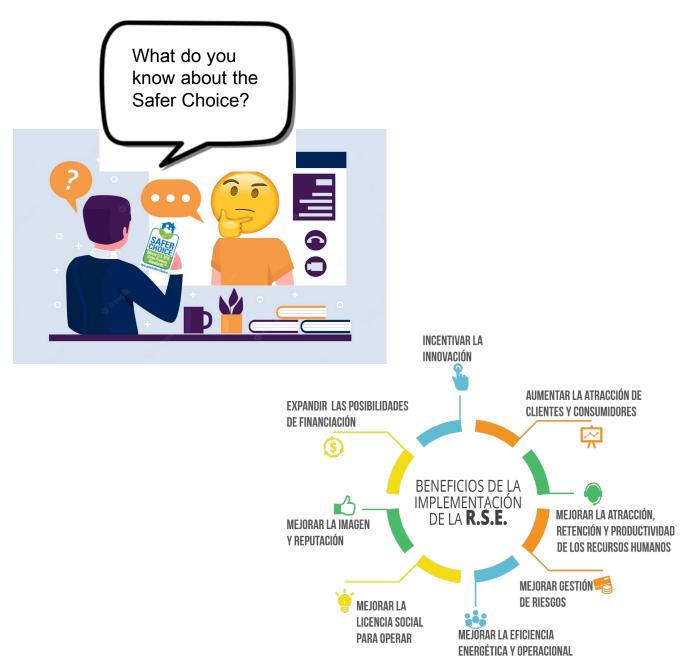
OUR WORK WITH THE
HISPANIC COMMUNITIES

4 LESSONS LEARNED

5 Q&A – DISCUSSION







## 1. INTRO

- I initially learned about Safer
   Choice in 2020
- It was during an internship
  interview with Oregon Soap
  Company.
- When moving to a different country, there are some many things to learn such as environmental regulations

# 2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REACH OUT TO BIPOC COMMUNITIES?

- *Environmental justice* (EJ) is the fair treatment that BIPOC and all people (race, color, national origin, or income) with respect to the *decision-making process* of environmental laws, regulations and policies (Source: EPA).
- EPA's objective is the contribution of a safe place for everyone.

# 2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REACH OUT TO BIPOC COMMUNITIES?

"The world changes according to the way people see it, and if you can alter, even by a millimeter, the way people look at reality, then you can change the world."

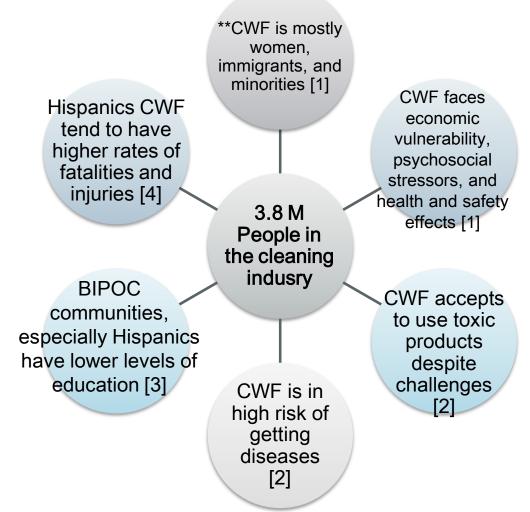
James Baldwin

Environmental justice

# 2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REACH OUT TO BIPOC COMMUNITIES?

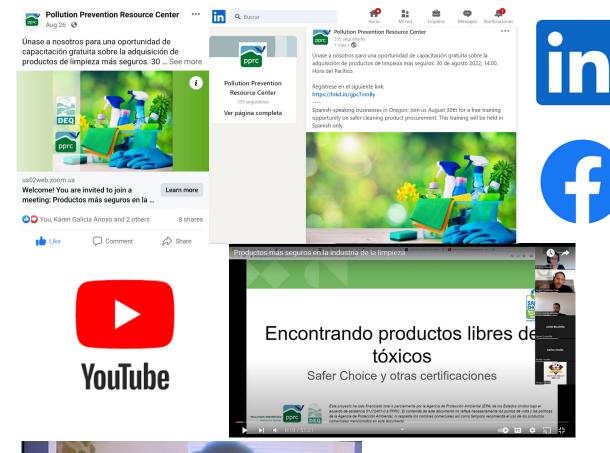
- Nostalgic purchase
- Accepting poor working conditions
  - Legal status
- Respect for authority culture (we must have the work done)

Additional challenges



# 3. OUR WORK WITH THE HISPANIC COMMUNITIES Pollution Prevention Resource Center Aug 26 · © Pollution Prevention Resource Cente

- Our work started on July 2022 engaging the Hispanic community
- We have broadcasted webinars in Spanish called "Productos mas seguros en la industria de la limpieza"
- We partnered with a *Hispanic business group* to expand our work.
- We use social media platforms such LinkedIn and Facebook, phone and email outreach









### 3. OUR WORK WITH THE HISPANIC COMMUNITIES

Encuesta

### (Topics we covered in the webinar)















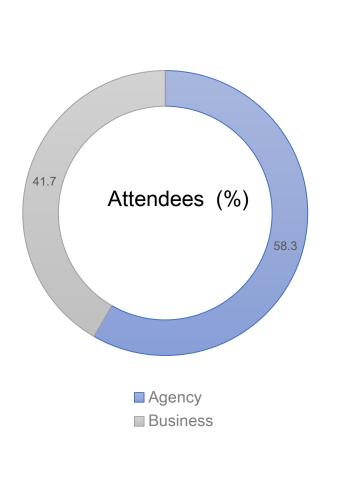


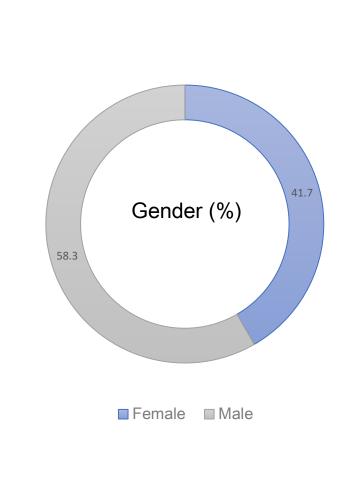


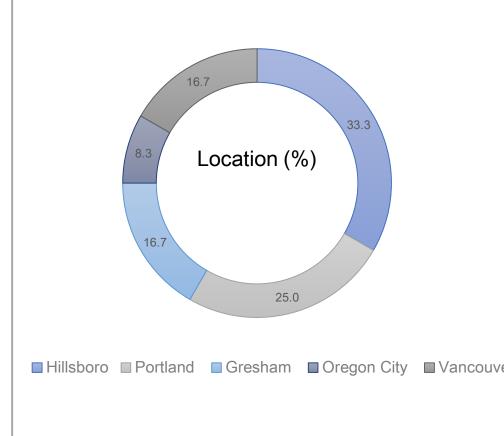
Source: King County Safer Choice Practitioner Training



# 3. OUR WORK WITH THE HISPANIC COMMUNITIES (Key Takeaways)







# 3. OUR WORK WITH THE HISPANIC COMMUNITIES (Key Takeaways)

#### **Sells Local Chapter**

"I liked the webinar/class on how to take care of the environment. I think you are also contributing with your bit of change to improve the environment"

#### Owner of Cleaning Business

"How can we pass our message to the EPA? They can learn a lot from us (final – user of cleaning products)"

#### **Radio Host**

"It seems that you are very active working with the Hispanic community. This is fantastic"

#### Owner of Cleaning Business

"I decided to attend this webinar because I am the owner of a cleaning business and worry about my employees"

#### Owner of a Cleaning Business

"I learned a lot from the webinar. Please, share a copy of the DfE list. I use a lot of these products and want to try a safer one"

#### TV Host

"PPRC is looking to educate cleaning business to reduce the use of toxic chemicals and consider safer options that reduce the environmental impact"

## 4. LESSONS LEARNED

Create all *pollution prevention* fact sheets in multiple languages

Create a Safer Choice *sample program* to promote certified products

Create social media content in Spanish

Provide virtual or in-person Safer Choice product *demostrations* to local organizations or businesses

Build partnerships with *Hispanic organizations* and co-apply for grants

Organize *round tables* or conduct *surveys* with Hispanics working in the cleaning industry

Provide *certified trainings* to businesses to help them to increase business opportunitties

Employ bilingual staff to reach Hispanic communities





## THANKS!

\* Do you have any questions?

Contact Info:

Email: acontrerascruz@pprc.org

LinkedIn:









#### REFERENCES

- [1] Eggerth DE, Ortiz B, Keller BM, Flynn MA. Work experiences of Latino building cleaners: An exploratory study. Am J Ind Med. 2019 Jul;62(7):600-608. doi: 10.1002/ajim.22986. Epub 2019 May 18. PMID: 31104342; PMCID: PMC7197437.
- [2] Zock JP. World at work: cleaners. Occup Environ Med. 2005; 62(8):581–584. 10.1136/oem.2004.015032
- [3] NIOSH. Safety and health among hotel cleaners. Cincinnati, OH: US Dept. of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; 2012.
- [4] CDC. Work-related injury deaths among Hispanics–United States, 1992–2006. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2008;57(22):597–600.
- [5] Productos más seguros en la industria de la limpieza. YouTube video retrieved from the PacNWPPRC channel.