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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Partnerships to Advance the National Occupational Research

Agenda (NORA)

AGENCY: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following public meeting: "Partnerships to Advance the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA)".

Public Meeting Time and Date: 10a.m.-3:30p.m. EDT, June 27, 2012.

Place: Patriots Plaza, 395 E Street, SW, Conference Room 9000, Washington, DC 20201.

Purpose of the Meeting: The National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) has been structured to engage partners with each other and/or with NIOSH to advance NORA priorities. The NORA Liaison Committee continues to be an opportunity for representatives from organizations with national scope to learn about NORA progress and to suggest possible partnerships based on their organization's mission and contacts. This opportunity is now structured as a public meeting via the Internet to attract participation by a larger number of organizations and to further enhance the success of NORA. Some of the types of organizations of national scope that are especially encouraged to participate are employers, unions, trade associations, labor associations, professional associations, and foundations. Others are welcome.

This meeting will include updates from NIOSH leadership on NORA as well as updates from approximately half of the NORA Sector Councils on their progress, priorities, and implementation plans to date, likely including the NORA Construction, Manufacturing, Public Safety, Services, and Wholesale and Retail Trade Sector Councils. Updates will also be given on at least one NIOSH Program that is working on several NORA priorities, e.g., the NIOSH Global Collaborations Program.

After each update, there will be time to discuss partnership opportunities.

Status: The meeting is open to the public, limited only by the capacities of the conference call and conference room facilities. There is limited space available in the meeting room (capacity 34). Therefore, information to allow participation in the meeting through the Internet (to see the slides) and a teleconference call (capacity 50) will be provided to registered participants. Participants are encouraged to consider attending by this method. Each participant is requested to register for the free meeting by sending an e-mail to noracoordinator@cdc.gov containing the participant's name, organization name, contact telephone number on the day of the meeting, and preference for participation in-person or by Web meeting (requirements include: computer, Internet connection, and telephone, preferably with 'mute' capability). An e-mail confirming registration will include the details needed to participate in the Web meeting. Non-US citizens are encouraged to participate in the Web meeting. Non-US citizens who do not register to attend in person on or before June 5, 2012, will not be granted access to the meeting site and will not be able to attend the meeting in-person due to mandatory security clearance procedures at the Patriots Plaza facility.

Background: NORA is a partnership program to stimulate innovative research in occupational safety and health leading to improved workplace practices. Unveiled in 1996, NORA has become a research framework for the nation. Diverse parties collaborate to identify the most critical issues in workplace safety and health. Partners then work together to develop goals and objectives for addressing those needs and to move the research results into practice. The NIOSH role is facilitator of the process. For more information about NORA, see <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/about.html>.

Since 2006, NORA has been structured according to industrial sectors. Ten major sector groups have been defined using the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). After receiving public input through the Web and town hall meetings, ten NORA Sector Councils defined sector-specific strategic plans for conducting research and moving the results into widespread practice. To view the National Sector Agendas, see <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/>.

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