

Safety First

Presented by: DON Services

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SAFETY COMMITTEE

- Phillip Webster
- Justin Mastrantuoni
- Mark Tobin
- Christine Ullrich
- Heather Rockwell
- Ronalynn Smeltzer

Please contact anyone on the committee with any safety questions.

June's Topic: Violence in the Workplace:



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 27 out of the 100 fatalities in healthcare and social service setting that occurred in 2013 were due to assaults and violent acts.

BLS data show that the majority of injuries from assaults at work that required days away from work occurred in the healthcare and social services settings, 70-74% of workplace assaults happen in the healthcare and social service settings. For healthcare workers, assaults comprise 10-11% of workplace injuries involving days away from work, as compared to 3% of injuries of all private sector employees.

We can better protect ourselves and our consumers by understanding some of the Setting and Organizational Risk Factors.

June's Topic: Violence in the Workplace Continued

Patient, Client and Setting-Related Risk Factors

- Working directly with people who have a history of violence, abuse drugs or alcohol, gang members and relatives of consumers
- Transporting consumers
- Working alone in a consumer's home
- Poor environmental design of the workplace that may block employee's vision or interfere with their escape from a violent incident
- Poorly lit corridors, rooms and parking areas
- Lack of means of emergency communication
- Prevalence of firearms, knives and other weapons among consumers, family members or friends
- Working in neighborhoods with high crime rates

Organizational Risk Factors

- Lack of policies and staff training for recognizing and managing escalating hostile and assaultive behaviors from consumers or their families or visitors
- High worker turnover
- Perception that violence is tolerated and victims will not be able to report the incident to police and/or press charges.

As always if you have any questions or concerns regarding your safety in a consumer's home or the safety of your consumer please contact your PAS Coordinator or a member of the Safety Committee.

PRIZE TIME!!!

Let's test your knowledge. If you can answer the following question you will be entered into our monthly prize drawing.

Assaults comprise what percentage of workplace injuries involving days away from work?