

Title of Intervention: The Home Safe Program

Website: http://www.hbadenver.com/HomeSafe_main.asp

Intervention Strategies: Group Education, Individual Education, Environments and Policies

Purpose of the Intervention: To reduce injury rates among construction workers

Population: Construction workers

Setting: Construction sites; worksite-based

Partners: Home Builders Association (HBA)

Intervention Description:

- Group Education: The Home Safe Program consisted of a three-hour safety training and access to optional OSHA Training Institute-approved 10-hour Construction Courses, tailored to the particular needs of residential construction workers.
- Individual Education: A "Guide to Safe Work Practices for Home Builders: Home Safe 10 Point List" pocket-sized booklet was distributed.
- Environments and Policies: In return for participation in the program, companies received focused inspections on the content of the 10 points in the Home Safe booklet from OSHA compliance officers, thus limiting citations for non-serious violations. In addition, if a Home Safe company was cited, it was eligible to receive the maximum penalty reductions available. Participating companies were also eligible for the Colorado Cost Containment program, which reduced workers' compensation premiums.

Theory: Not mentioned

Resources Required:

- Staff/Volunteers: Not mentioned
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Not mentioned
- Space: Room for group education
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: "Guide to Safe Work Practices for Home Builders: Home Safe 10 Point List" pocket-sized booklet, training program materials
- Evaluation: OSHA logs, first reports of injury, worker compensation logs

Evaluation:

- Design: Pre- and post- evaluation
- Methods and Measures:
 - Annual injury incidence rates were calculated by year from OSHA logs, first reports of injury and workers' compensation logs.

Outcomes:

- Short Term Impact: Analysis of injury incidence rates revealed a significant decrease in lost work day incident rates and a significant decrease in lost work day incidents associated with medical cost.
- Long Term Impact: Injury incidence rates declined significantly following Home Safe; however, this effect was not statistically significant once temporal variation was controlled.

Maintenance: Not mentioned

Lessons Learned: Interventions in residential construction settings are difficult to implement and monitor because of industry specific characteristics. These include a transitional workforce employed by small businesses with sporadic work patterns, short term employment opportunities, and multi-employer, temporary and/or isolated work sites. In an effort to overcome these challenges and provide a comprehensive and

effective intervention program, the creators of Home Safe provided safety training that was accessible, involved management in the program and addressed hazards specific to residential construction.

Citation(s):

Darragh AR, Stallones L, Bigelow PL, Keefe TJ. Effectiveness of the HomeSafe Pilot Program in reducing injury rates among residential construction workers, 1994-1998. Am J Ind Med. Feb 2004;45(2):210-217.