

WORKFORCE SAFETY INSURANCE SAFETY OUTREACH PROGRAM AWARD

The Safety Outreach Program has helped the Baptist Home achieve our goals of reducing the frequency and severity of workers' injuries. After implementing the plan formulated specifically for us, the results were amazing in just the first year!

In 2005 we had 73 Workforce Safety Insurance claims, resulting in 54 days of time lost and a cost to the Baptist Home of \$107,931. In 2006, the numbers dropped to 39 claims, zero days of time lost, and a cost of about \$17,000.

What did we do that led to these phenomenal results? A number of things, actually. We identified hazards throughout the building, in all departments. New lifts were purchased and staff were educated and trained in their proper use. Staffing assessments were conducted to ensure that enough staff was available during peak lifting periods. Supervisors and managers were trained to evaluate their departments' programs to increase safety and ergonomics. Staff was trained to properly handle aggressive residents. All drivers of Baptist Home vehicles took Drivers' Education. The maintenance department developed a new policy and procedure manual to incorporate new safety measures. All of these added up to create a safer environment for our staff.