

More Than Training: Community-Based Participatory Research to Reduce Injuries Among Hispanic Construction Workers

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Background

Workplace mortality and severe injury are disproportionately distributed among foreign born and Hispanic construction workers. Worker Centers (WCs) provide services and advocacy for low-wage workers and a way for investigators to reach them.

The goal of this project was to prevent occupational injuries by increasing awareness of hazards and self-efficacy among foreign born, Hispanic construction workers and by expanding the agenda of WCs to include occupational health and safety.

Investigators partnered with eight WCs in seven cities to train worker leaders to deliver a modified OSHA 10-hour curriculum to their peers.

Findings

Thirty-two worker leaders trained 446 workers over three years. There was a demonstrated improvement in knowledge, hazard identification, self-efficacy and sustainable health and safety activities.

Number of Participants				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total by Site
	Training 1; Training 2; Training 3	Training 1; Training 2	Training 1; Training 2	
Site 1 (2 WCs in 1 City)	23; 19; 16	20; 17	15; 25	134
Site 2		15; 11	20; 9	55
Site 3		17; 10	13; 18	58
Site 4		12; 29	20; 18	79
Site 5			44; 14	58
Site 6			45; 14	29
Site 7			16; 16	32
Totals, by year	58	131	257	446

What does it mean?

This study provides evidence for successful implantation of a training intervention for low wage, low literacy Hispanic construction workers using a community-based participatory research approach.