

CIHC Young Workers Health & Safety Initiative

By Richard Hirsh, MPH CIH FAIHA
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23 year old Tree Service Worker Killed on First Day of Job

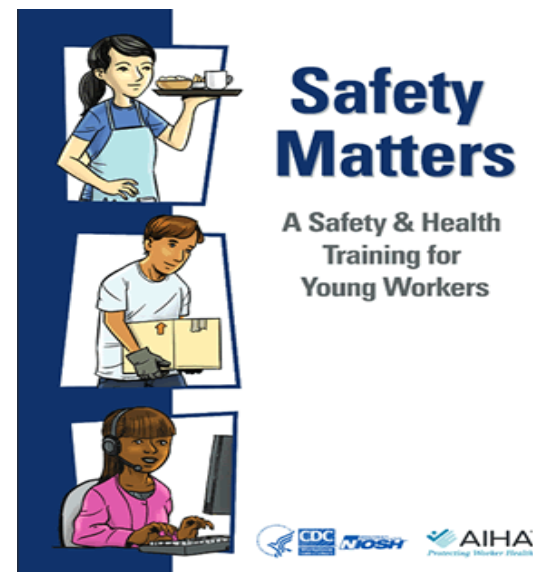
- ▶ November 14, 2016
- ▶ Pulled into a wood chipper his first day on the job.



OSHA investigation found:

- Failure to provide safety training
- Failure to protect workers from the wood chipper's rotating parts.
- Failure to ensure workers used safe operating procedures
- Exposed employees to laceration, amputation, and eye hazards while operating chain saws
- Employees did not wear protective helmet or leg protection while trimming branches
- Employees not trained on use of PPE.
- The proposed fines for these violations total \$141,811.

AIHA/NIOSH Initiative



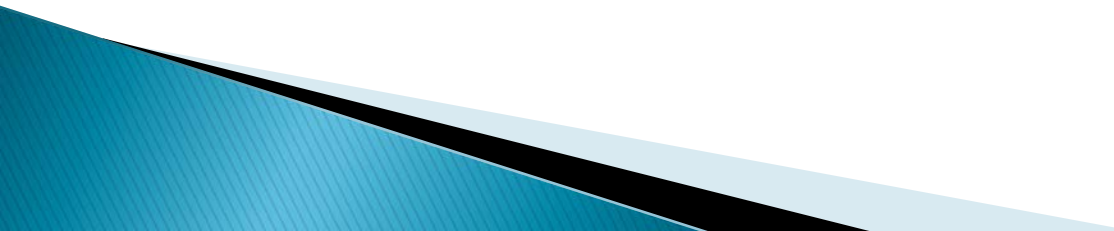
- ▶ AIHA/NIOSH “Safety Matters” Initiative – based on NIOSH’s “Youth @ Work: Talking Safety” curriculum ([www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/Talking Safety](http://www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/Talking_Safety))
- ▶ Developed for schools throughout the US.
- ▶ “Safety Matters” 1-hr interactive teaching module targeting grades 7 to 12.
- ▶ California long version “Talking Safety” curriculum.

Core Student Competencies

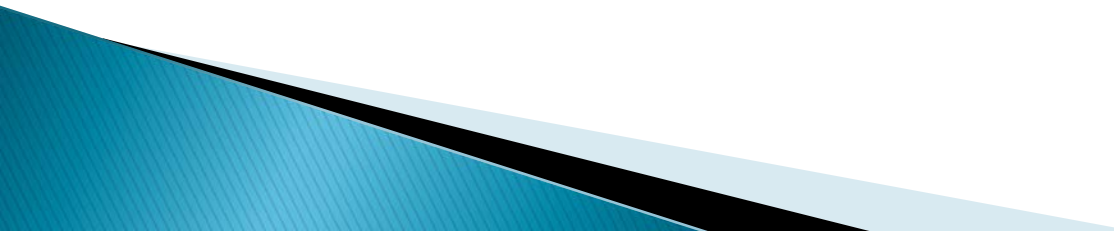
- ▶ Anticipate, recognize and control workplace risks
- ▶ Problem solving skills
- ▶ Focus on prevention
- ▶ Identify/address emergencies
- ▶ Recognize employer/worker rights and responsibilities
- ▶ Find Resources
- ▶ Communication



Current CIHC Collaborations

- ▶ California Partnership for Young Worker Health and Safety (LOHP, DIR, DOE, Worksafe, others)
 - ▶ Chop's Teen Club and Youth Connections in Santa Rosa, CA.
 - ▶ UC Berkeley School of Public Health IH Program
 - ▶ Continue dialogue with EHS Inc.
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Current CIHC Collaborations

- ▶ Continuing support for the California Partnership for Young Worker Health and Safety Initiative
 - ▶ Disseminating information via CIHC newsletter, the AIHA Synergist and local section newsletters
 - ▶ Participate in work groups and develop recommendations for “Strategic Directions for Young Worker Safety”
 - ▶ Introduce legislative resolution to mark May as “Safe Jobs for Youth Month”
 - ▶ Support critical engagement and drive by the CA Department of Education.
 - ▶ Soliciting volunteers within CA local sections and Universities
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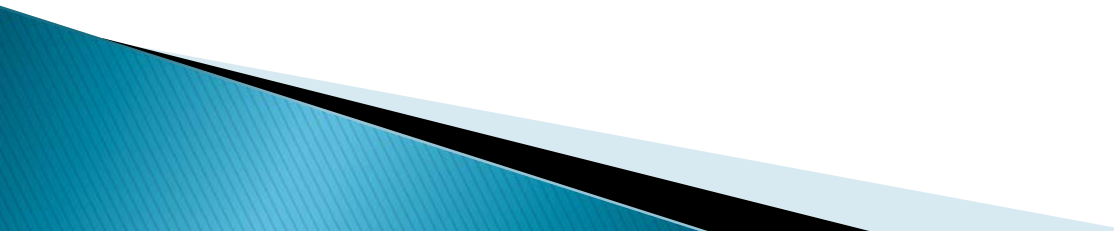
Pilot Project:



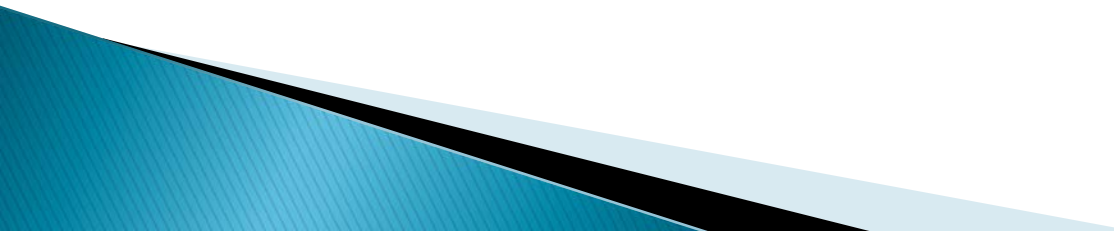
- ▶ LOHP curricula “Youth @ Work: Talking Safety” and OHS participatory materials introduced during Work Readiness workshops
- ▶ 2017 workshops planned



Chop's Teen Club – Future Plans

- ▶ Job Fair scheduled for March 2017
 - ▶ Booth to inform employers of their responsibilities within the permit system.
 - ▶ “Teen Workers – Real Jobs/Real Risks” video and “Are You a Teen Worker” handout.
 - ▶ Discussions with H.S. College Career Coordinators , Continuing Education and Career Technical (vocational) schools.
 - ▶ LOHP train the trainer sessions
 - ▶ Discussions with Santa Rosa Superintendent to integrate curricula into school work permit application process.
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What Can We Do?

- ▶ Collaboration with College and Career Coordinators
 - ▶ Engage Students and Early Career Professionals committee at AIHA
 - ▶ Engage University IH Graduate Students to teach curricula
 - ▶ Support LOHP's "Safe Jobs for Youth Month" (in May) and
 - ▶ Support Young Worker Leadership Academy and other peer leader programs
 - ▶ Discuss institutionalizing OSH training at the H.S. level
 - ▶ Discuss improvements to CA's work permit system
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In Summary

A major shift in ownership of this issue is needed:

- ▶ Educational system
- ▶ Companies' EHS programs
- ▶ State work permit process

You can assist with:

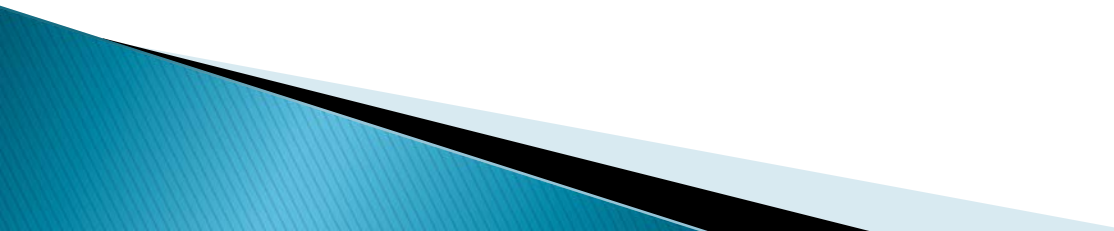
- ▶ Outreach
- ▶ Identify champions
- ▶ Volunteer to deliver curriculum
- ▶ Support “Safe Jobs for Youth Month” in May
- ▶ Youth internship programs
- ▶ Contact local and state representatives
- ▶ Prototype legislation at state level



Key Resources

- ▶ California Industrial Hygiene Council:
<https://www.cihconline.com/youngWorkerSafetyResources.html>
- ▶ Young Worker Safety Resource Center:
www.youngworkers.org
- ▶ Labor Occupational Health Program:
<http://lohp.org/young-workers/>
- ▶ NIOSH: www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/ and
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/safetymatters/>
- ▶ U.S. OSHA: www.osha.gov/SLTC/teenworkers
- ▶ U.S. Department of Labor/Wage & Hour:
www.youthrules.dol.gov
- ▶ AIHA: <https://www.aiha.org/publications-and-resources/TheSynergist/AIHANews/Pages/AIHA-Members-Report-on-Initiatives-to-Protect-Young-Workers.aspx>

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 - ▶ Kelsie Scruggs (LOHP)
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Thank-you for your support!

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