Focus Four: Time to Add A New Focus?

Construction Ahead
Be Prepared to Talk About Addiction, Suicide, and Mental Health

- Falls 38.8%
- Struck-By 9.6%
- Caught-In or -Between 7.2%
- Electrocution 8.6%
We are all facing addiction in some way.
Every 4 minutes, someone in the U.S. dies from drug or alcohol addiction – the equivalent of a jet crashing every day.

- 20 million Americans are suffering
- 23 million more are in recovery
- 1 in 3 households are personally impacted
Addiction costs the U.S. $442 billion every year – 70% of which comes directly from lost productivity in the private sector.

Construction accounts for approximately 4% of Gross Domestic Product annually in the US:

- Alcohol - $9.96 Billion
- Substance Use - $7.72 Billion
- Mental Health - $8 Billion
“We must recognize that addiction is not a moral failing. It is a chronic illness that must be treated with skill, urgency and compassion.”

– 19th US Surgeon General, Vivek H. Murthy
TODAY IN AMERICA, DRUG AND ALCOHOL ADDICTION IS A MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS.
The Path Forward: A Clear Strategy

1. REBRAND ADDICTION
2. CREATE THE “ONE PLACE”
3. LONG TERM SYSTEMS CHANGE
TOGETHER WE CAN

• Develop more effective prevention and early intervention programs.
• Close the 90% treatment gap among those suffering.
• Reduce the economic toll of addiction and mental health issues in the construction industry.
## Typical Risk Factors (and Stereotypes) - Construction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Factor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stoic, “tough guy” culture</td>
<td>Seasonal employment/income fluctuation</td>
<td>Exposure to physical strain and potential injury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capability for fearlessness</td>
<td>Fragmented Community/Isolation</td>
<td>Industry with highest rate of prescription opioids</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culture of substance use</td>
<td>Access to lethal weapons</td>
<td>High pressure with risk of failure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men in high-skill/high-stakes occupations</td>
<td>Potentially less educated workforce</td>
<td>Sleep disruption</td>
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<td>Time away from family and support systems</td>
<td>Peer pressure</td>
<td>“Presenteeism” – including distraction lack of focus</td>
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Mental Health Challenges

Overall Population with Mental Health Challenges

- 360 Overall Population
- 90 MH Challenges

Treatment

- 90 MH Challenges
- 60 Seeking Treatment

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Data
Substance Misuse Average Annual (2008-2012)

- Binge Drinking Last Month:
  - Construction Rate: 16.5
  - Average Rate: 15.84
  - Overall: 8.7

- Illicit Drugs Last Month:
  - Construction Rate: 11.6
  - Average Rate: 11.13
  - Overall: 8.6

- Overall Substance Misuse:
  - Construction Rate: 14.3
  - Average Rate: 13.37
  - Overall: 9.5

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Data
Suicide

- Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the US
- Suicide costs the US $51 Billion annually
- Each year 44,193 Americans die by suicide
- For every suicide, 25 attempt

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Data
Suicide Death Rates Overall

[Graph showing suicide death rates for males, females, and total population from 1999 to 2014. The rates for males have been generally increasing from 17.8 in 1999 to 20.7 in 2014. The rates for females have also been increasing from 4.0 in 1999 to 5.8 in 2014. The total rates for the population have been increasing from 10.5 in 1999 to 13.0 in 2014.]

CDC Data
Suicides 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Rates Per 100,000</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CDC Data
Human Costs – Time to Re-Focus?

2015

- 44,193 Deaths by Suicide Overall
  - 4836 “OSHA related” deaths in all industries
  - 985 “OSHA related” deaths (falls, caught in between, struck by, electrocutions, collectively known as the Focus Four) in construction
  - 4300 Suicides in Construction
  - 5200 AEC Overall

CDC, OSHA Data
Labor Helping Labor
What Are Members Assistance Programs (MAP)?

- Peer based program that provides confidential help, and referral services to Union Members in need.
- MAP members specialize in:
  - Addiction
  - Stress
  - Family Issues
  - Marital Issues
  - Gambling Problems
  - Legal Issues
  - Anger Management
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Grief
  - Financial Burdens
  - Emotional Disorders
  - Dealing with change
EAP VERSUS MAP

- Employee Assistance Programs are contracted on a per capita basis to provide assessment and referral
- Academic Professionals as staff

- Member Assistance Programs are usually peer based and function within the union or corporation
- Staff are usually employees of the company and/or union
Who are the Labor Assistance Professionals? (LAP)

- A peer based assistance program founded in 1990 by a group of union members who recognized the disconnect between union members, employers and professional addiction treatment.
- Skilled representatives who provide confidential help to union members in need (peers).
Return On Investment

- For every $1.00 spent there is a return on investment between $4 and $7.
- It has been Local 478 Health Fund’s experience, that while utilization is up, overall costs have come down.
A BROAD BASE OF SUPPORT IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT & HOLLYWOOD
Help us build a national movement to forever change how we face addiction, suicide, and mental health. Together, we can save lives – starting now.
Three Key Next Steps

- Leadership
  - What motivates people to act?
- Learning
  - What more do we need to know?
  - How do we address stigma?
- Legacy
  - What will we do?
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