

St. Raphael's Home, Columbus

Intervention Key Words: Patient Lifts, Electric Beds, Chart Carts, Broda Chairs, Turn-Aide, Laundry Bin, Patient Transfer, Resident Lifts, Resident Bed

Industry: Health Care

Risk Factor(s): Awkward Posture- Back deviations, Neck and Shoulder deviations, Manual Handling- Lifting/Carrying and Pushing/Pulling, Repetitive motion

Situation:

St. Raphael's Home as does other facilities, faces high employee injury and turnover rates due to everyday, work related tasks. These tasks include lifting residents, repositioning them and assisting with their many other daily activities. In addition, CTD risks lie within other duties throughout the home. Housekeepers must reach into deep laundry bins in order to remove laundry. The required repetition and excessive bending can also lead to CTDs.

Solution:

In order to address CTD issues in the nursing department, Belle Manor purchased 4 resident lifts with a variety of slings. They also added a resident turn-aide to ease the stresses involved with repositioning. Both systems were designed to reduce/eliminate the constant resident lifting that has historically plagued nursing homes with injuries. The addition of front loaded laundry bins were of great benefit to the housekeeping employees. These bins have side entry doors, eliminating need to bend over to reach the bottom of the baskets anymore. The home replaced 5 beds with electric high-low beds. The new beds have a broad range of adjustment in order to accommodate residents who need extremely low beds for safety, and they rise up to working heights to accommodate nurses. Finally, St. Raphael purchased 10 Broda pedal chairs and 4 mobile chart caddies. The pedal chairs give non-weight bearing residents some freedom of mobility while easing nurse transfers to and from the chairs. The chart caddies provide a light-weight mobile alternative to the bulky, static system they once had. Total cost for the equipment was \$42,266. St. Raphael's Home received \$29,448 in assistance from SafetyGrant\$ to offset the costs.

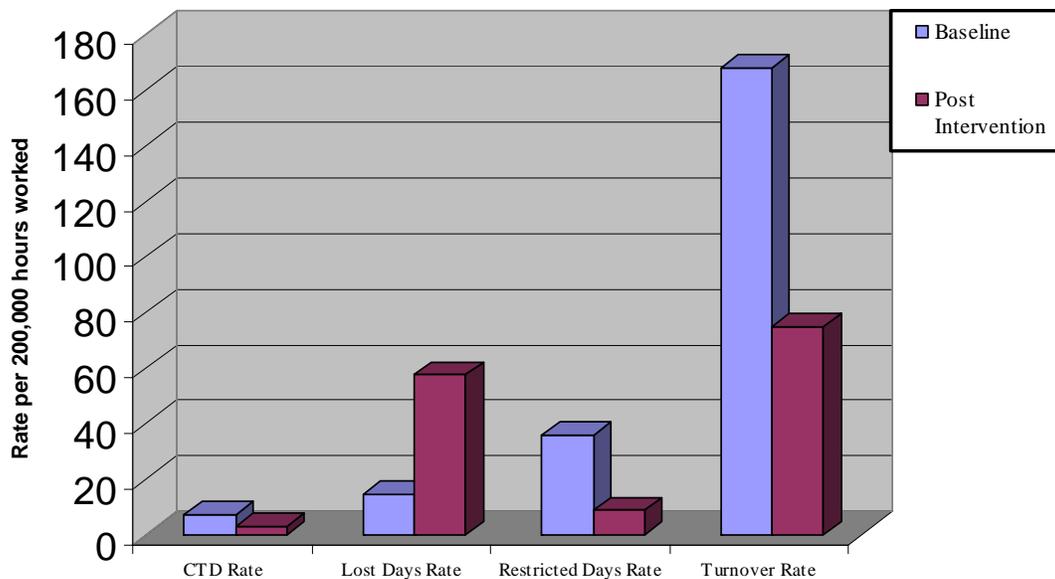




New Bed and Turn Aide

Results:

- A 65% reduction in CTD Risk Factor scores was observed within 2 years following implementation of the intervention.



- CTD rate (standardized per 200,000 hours worked) decreased from 7.2 the year prior to the intervention to 3.0 in the 2 years following. This equates to a 58% improvement.
- Lost Days rate increased from 14.4 to 57.4 while Restricted Days rate decreased from 36 to 8.7. Also, Employee Turnover rate decreased from 167.8 to 74.9 in the same time period. The decreases equal 76% and 55% respectively.