

Crawford County, Bucyrus

Intervention Key Words: Adjustable Chairs, Armrests, Desk, Keyboard Trays

Industry: Office Work/Misc.

Risk Factor(s): Repetitive motion, Awkward Posture- Wrist deviations, Neck deviations, Back deviations

Situation:

The Crawford County government employs approximately 500 people, in which 75% of the employees work in an office environment performing duties that include computer use, reading, filing and copying for 8 hours per day. Outdated office equipment has resulted in ergonomic concerns, including poor lighting, inefficient/insufficient workstations, nonadjustable chairs and awkward keyboard and mouse positions. These concerns are substantiated by a history of tendonitis, carpal tunnel claims and back and neck pain complaints. Cumulative Trauma Disorders (CTDs) are a growing realism in office environments and their risk factors must be managed appropriately.

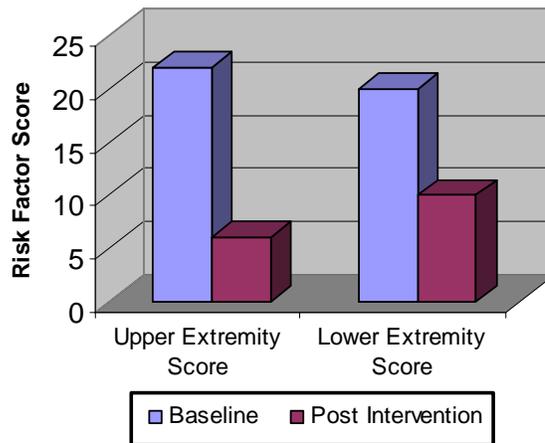
The following pictures illustrate the work environment at Crawford County:



Solution:

Crawford County purchased a number of items to help alleviate their CTD issues. Purchases included: adjustable chairs, document holders, task lights, glare screens and a number of complete workstations and add on pieces. In addition, employees were trained on how to utilize the new equipment properly and given reference material to refer to. Total cost for the intervention totaled \$29,545. Crawford County received \$23,636 from Safety Grant\$ to help offset the costs.

Results:



- Perhaps the most significant measure of success, Upper and Lower Risk Factor scores decreased 73% and 50% respectively following the intervention.
- Rates, per 200,000 hours worked, for CTDs, Lost Days, Restricted Days and Employee Turnover were at 0 for the 12 months prior to the intervention. Those rates maintained that level for 2 years after the intervention was in place.
- Although not directly measured, worker comfort and demeanor have increased following the intervention.