

## Broadview Multi-Care Center, Parma

**Intervention Key Words:** Wheelchair, Vander Lifts, Electric Low-Beds, Slings, Transfer, No Lift Policy

**Industry:** Health Care

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

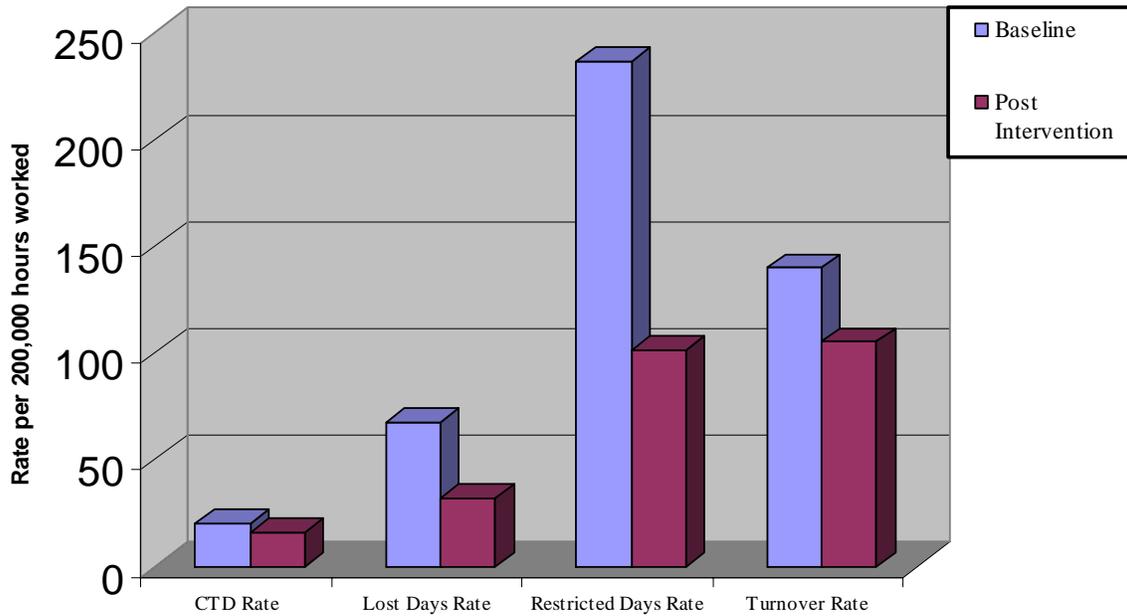
### Situation:

The incidence Cumulative Trauma Disorders (CTDs) in nursing homes is a growing problem. Constant interaction between patients and employees and absence of proper equipment result in many preventable sprains and strains. Risk factors for nursing home employees include repetition, awkward posturing and the use of physical force necessary for many tasks. The Broadview Multi-Care Center, like many other elderly care facilities in the state, faced 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. This facility currently utilizes a small number of mechanical lifting devices, but the ratio of residents to lifts is highly disproportionate. Broadview would like to educate its staff members of proper lifting techniques and encourage employees to adopt a "No-Lift" policy. Lack of equipment and improper equipment has resulted in inconsistent lifting techniques, leading to an increase in CTD risks.

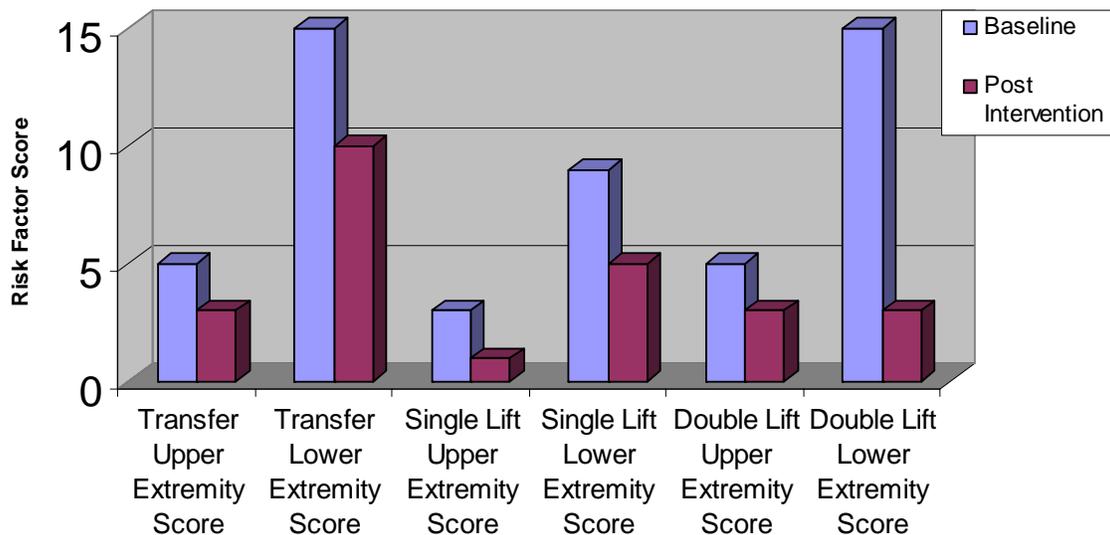
### Solution:

Broadview Multi-Care Center purchased 2 Vander Lift lifting devices with scales to add to the 4 they already had. The intention is to make the lifts more accessible and available for the nurses, thus encouraging their use and reducing manual resident lifting. They also purchased 15 slings of assorted sizes for use with the lifts. Broadview also replaced 17 wheelchairs. Their old chairs had fixed arm/leg supports which made patient transfers very difficult. The new chairs have removable/adjustable supports, making it much easier to move residents in and out. The facility also purchased 22 electric beds. Since they are a 0 restraint facility, beds must be kept in a low position to prevent injuries to residents. Many of the old beds at Broadview were not adjustable or had manual adjustments. Nurses either couldn't or didn't raise the beds to appropriate lifting heights, leading to a significant CTD risk. The new beds make proper adjustment a quick and easy task. Total cost for the intervention was \$50,811. Broadview Multi-Care Center received \$40,000 in assistance from SafetyGrant\$ to offset the costs.

**Results:**



- CTD rate (per 200,000 hours worked) decreased from 19.8, the year prior to the intervention, to 15.8 in the 2 years following. This equates to a 20% improvement.
- Lost Days rate decreased from 67.6 to 32.2, Restricted Days rate from 236.6 to 101.1 and Employee turnover rate from 139.8 to 105.2. The decreases calculate to 52%, 57% and 25% respectively.



- CTD Risk Factor scores, averaged over 3 tasks, decreased 52% following the intervention.