



CHWCA

Cash for Safety Culture

Employee Submission

WINNERS

Congratulations to the winning employee submissions for the 2022 California Housing Workers' Compensation Authority (CHWCA) Cash for Safety Culture program! With these submissions, employees are promoting a positive safety culture, one idea at a time.

Through this program, employees of member agencies can win cash awards of up to \$500 by submitting their safety ideas and solutions. Member agencies can also receive up to a \$6,000 award by winning the most proactive and innovative safety program submitted.

For more information on this safety award and to submit your ideas for 2023, go to:
<https://www.chwca.org/safety-awards/>



HAZARD

Loosing track of personal protective equipment (PPE) in a maintenance van.

IDEA

Designate a safety station location in the maintenance van. The safety station is where eye protection, hearing protection, gloves, and other safety items reside.

\$500
winner

RESULTS



If the employee can get into the habit of placing PPE in their vehicle safety station, they will be more likely to be able to find it and ultimately use it.



HAZARD

Office heaters are a common office appliance that can be the source of injury, fire, and wasted energy.

1. Set the office at a reasonable temperature to reduce the need of individual office heaters.
2. Heaters should have an adequately long cord.
3. Purchase automatic outlet shut off timers for each heater.
4. Designate an employee to perform annual safety checks for heaters before the cold months begin.

**\$250
winner**

RESULTS



The solution provides immediate reductions in tripping hazards, fire hazards, and electrical waste and a reduction in electrical bills.



HAZARD

Too many safety protocols to keep track of.

Create one comprehensive document that is succinct, easy to detect and placed on each floor of the administrative, HCV buildings, and at each public housing office site.

**\$250
winner**

RESULTS



All staff will have comprehensive safety procedures that are easy to access and easy to follow.



HAZARD

Staff are often dealing with high levels of stress from various sources, such as workload, working environments, and customer interactions.

Staff with direct contact with clients should have de-escalation training to work more effectively with clients. Employees will learn how to create professional boundaries in the workplace, give them the tools they need to choose how they conduct themselves in difficult situations, and have an overall healthier experience at work.

**\$250
winner**

RESULTS



Employees can have a clearer understanding of their roles while having difficult conversations. There could be a decrease in verbal altercations, an increase in professionalism when law-enforcement is called and fewer reminders needed on how to conduct oneself with conflict arises.



HAZARD

There are no curtains in briefing rooms that could be pulled down for safety in the event of a mass shooter entering the building.

\$250
winner

IDEA

Black out curtains that can easily be pulled down in a rush can be added to every briefing room.

RESULTS



Curtains can provide concealment from attackers.



HAZARD

Reporting safety hazards should not make a person feel like they are tattling or causing a ruckus especially if they report problems multiple times. Reporting safety concerns should also be safe and easy.

\$250
winner

IDEA

Agencies should have a program in place that allows employees and tenants to anonymously report safety hazards so that they feel that they can be heard without a stigma being placed on them or be ostracized for reporting frequently. Reports and tips can be submitted online, over the phone, or through suggestion boxes.

RESULTS



Safety hazard reporting should be secure, simple, and protect the reporter. A conspicuous and anonymous safety reporting system will encourage, simplify, and expedite safety hazard reporting and correction; the reporter won't feel exposed to questioning, stigmas, and retaliation.



HAZARD

Staff is not well informed on safety procedures, how to use medical equipment, or how to use our intercom system.

Certificate
winner

IDEA

A safety second presentation can be held at every agency meeting to keep staff up to date with safety protocols.

RESULTS



Staff will be educated and ready to handle medical emergencies.