
Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

Addressing the Nation's Leading Killers: At A Glance 2010

HEART DISEASE AND STROKE Prevention Programs Are Making a Difference in Health Outcomes

Success Stories

Health Screening Kiosks for School District Staff in Osceola County, Florida

Officials with the Osceola County School District noticed an increase in health insurance costs for high blood pressure among its school bus drivers during 2007–2008. The U.S. Department of Transportation Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 and Florida statute 1006.25 require commercial drivers, including school bus drivers, to meet physical requirements, such as blood pressure control, in order to maintain their licenses. The Osceola County School District used these laws to push for better high blood pressure control among its school bus drivers.

In 2008, the school district received funds from the Florida Department of Health's Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program for employee wellness. With these funds, and in collaboration with its insurance carrier, the school district installed three health screening kiosks at worksites for bus drivers as a part of its employee wellness program. The health screening kiosks record and track blood pressure, pulse rate, weight, pedometer steps, and glucose meter readings. These data are used to create personal health records for employees, which can be printed and shared with doctors. The kiosks provide information in English and Spanish, and they alert employees of critical results. Employees with abnormal results are told to seek medical attention immediately.

This combination of intervention and legislation shows how policy changes can help to improve the health of employees and create a healthy workforce.

The Health Kiosk mentioned above was provided by Florida Medical Screening.

Article was taken from the center for disease control's (CDC) website on March 15th, 2010.

<http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/publications/AAG/dhdsp.htm>