

0836 **THE IMPACT OF A PEER-LED PARTICIPATORY HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LATINO DAY LABOURERS IN CONSTRUCTION**

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**Background** Immigrant Latino day labourers working in residential construction are at particularly high risk of fatal and non-fatal traumatic injury and benefit from targeted training.

**Objective** To understand the impact of a participatory, peer-facilitated health and safety awareness training customised to the needs of Latino day labourers.

**Methods** Baseline surveys exploring exposures, PPE use, attitudes, work practices and work-related injuries were collected from more than 300 New Jersey Latino day labourers in construction prior to their participation in a 1 day (minimum of 6 h) Spanish language health and safety training class. The classes, led by trained worker trainers, engaged participants in a series of tasks requiring teamwork and active problem solving focused on applying safe practices to situations they encounter at their worksites. Follow-up surveys were collected from 70 of these day labourers (22% response rate) 2–6 months following training.

**Results** Changes from baseline to follow-up revealed significant differences in the use of certain types of PPE (hard hats:  $\alpha=0.02$ ; work boots with steel toes:  $\alpha=0.008$ ; safety harnesses:  $\alpha=0.002$  and visible safety vests:  $\alpha=0.04$ ), and in the frequency of trying to self-educate about job hazards:  $\alpha=0.008$ ). There was also a suggestive decrease in self-reported injuries (serious injuries the prevent completion of the work day:  $\alpha=0.07$ ) post-training based on small numbers.

**Conclusions** Participatory, peer led training tailored to the needs of construction day labourers can have a positive effect on Latino immigrant workers attitudes, work practices and self reported injury rates.