



Facility Management Quarterly

Letter from the Director

The County has instituted a pilot program that includes the Facilities department, Sheriff's department, and Public Works. This program is known as the Transitional Work Program. Selected Facilities employees will be interviewed by Worker's Choice staff for an hour, to determine the job tasks associated with their position. This new benefit will begin in the first quarter of 2007. More formal information will be available in January or February.

Ralph



**WORKERS CHOICE
HEALTH SERVICES®**

Transitional Work Program

What is a Transitional Work Program?

It is a return-to-work program that permits the injured worker to return to work safely, recover at work while completing productive tasks, and use work activity as therapy.

What is Transitional Work?

A transitional work program uses real work tasks to accommodate the medical restrictions or an injured worker for a specified period of time, to gradually return them to their original job. The program includes a job analyses program, program-specific policy development, and program evaluation tools to measure effectiveness. Our transitional work program will also include therapy at the work-site tailored to the needs of the injured worker.

Who is eligible for Transitional Work?

Any employee who is injured on the job and is released back to work by their treating physician with temporary restrictions.

How long does a Transitional Work Program last?

The program can last up to twelve weeks as long as the injured worker makes continuous improvement.

What kind of work is done in a Transitional Work Program?

The injured employee completes as many tasks of their original job as they are able depending on his/her physical restrictions, and then they will be given other temporary work tasks that are within his/her doctor's restrictions.

How is a Transitional Duty employee paid?

An injured worker participating in a Transitional Work program will be paid 100% of their wages and continue to earn benefits while in the program.

Why does an injured employee need to seek medical treatment at the Occupational Medicine provider following an injury at work?

Because that Center is staffed by Occupational Medicine physicians - doctors who are specialists for treating work place injury, who know about the Worker's Compensation process for filing an injury claim, and who understand Transitional Work programs.

How can an injured employee receive physical therapy services at work?

Physical Therapy services can be provided at the work place by a licensed Physical Therapist if the injured employee's doctor prescribes that treatment.