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Safety & Risk Management News - May 2019

Otterbein University

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May is National Stop the Bleed Month

The Department of Homeland Security wants everyone to join the National Campaign and call-to-action! Stop the bleed is intended to encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped and empowered to help someone in a bleeding emergency until the professional emergency responders arrive to help. The premise behind this program is much like that of “bystander hands only” CPR which is known to save lives. It is also known that nationwide, uncontrolled bleeding is a major cause of preventable deaths. Approximately 40% of all trauma related deaths are due to hemorrhaging. This program focuses on raising national awareness on preventing death from bleeding with the proper training and materials. The Westerville Division of Fire will be honoring this national emphasis program at Fourth Friday, May 24th from 6 pm to 8 pm. If you would like to learn more about this life saving skill, stop by and get some hands on training!

**Remember to Always Call 911 first!**

Food Trucks on Campus

It is the season for food trucks to visit campus. We all love to support our local food truck vendors, whether we are inviting them to our campus for a special event or if we are just getting out to enjoy the variety of food that they offer when they come to the Otterbein campus. It is important for everyone to know that while we welcome the opportunities to have the food trucks on campus, we all must be mindful of the safety and compliance regulations that apply. Any department or individual on campus that would like to invite a food truck vendor to set up for an event, must contact the Risk Management office for prior approval. Beth Kidwell will work with the vendor to execute a mobile food service agreement prior to their arrival on campus. It is also important to notify Risk Management so that the EH&S Officer, Tara Chinn can arrange the specific location and set up time for the food truck, as this will require special parking reservations, possible traffic or pedestrian safety measures, as well as arranging for a state required fire inspection. Without the food vendor contract and the fire inspection, the vendor can be asked to leave the campus by any safety personnel. We do not want to spoil anyone’s planned events, so be sure to make these arrangements prior to having any food trucks on campus.
Otterbein University is Recognized in Safety

On April 17, 2019, the Ohio BWC Division of Safety & Hygiene presented Capital Area Safety Awards. Otterbein University was an award recipient, recognized for our efforts in preventing accidents and injuries in the workplace. The Capital Area Safety Council is a network of professionals from various industries that all share the common goal of increasing safety awareness. Great job to everyone on campus that helps to promote and improve worker safety leading our campus to lower workers’ compensation costs and to ensure that all faculty, staff, students and visitors to our campus are provided the highest level of safety possible.

BWC also Congratulated Otterbein for the Successful Completion of Two Recent Safety Grants

Safety Grants were awarded to Otterbein to improve safety in both the Theater Department as well as the Service Department. The first grant was to purchase a scissor lift that would improve the safety of the job duties involving lighting changes on the stage in Fritsche Theater at Cowan Hall. These safety interventions increased safe practices in both areas by providing protection to both students and employees from injury of falls by eliminating possible risky and undesirable positions during elevated job tasks. It also provided improved efficiency in the job tasks allowing more work to be completed during their daily work hours. The safety grant awarded provided Otterbein a combined cost savings of $20,065.13 just on the equipment purchase alone. Utilizing the lifts has also cut the time required for elevated job tasks in both departments in half. For example, prior to the grant intervention the lighting changes on the stage in Fritsche Theater took about 30 hours per production, and about 20 hours to return to the base lighting system. Now these times are closer to 15 and 8 hours respectively.

The grant intervention also improved the training and education that the Theater Director can provide to the students. The students now get hands on training with focusing stage lighting using advanced safety equipment. And in the Service Department we estimate an additional savings of about $4,400 a year by owning rather than renting this type of equipment when elevated campus lighting needs changed in various areas of campus, such as parking lots.
June is National Safety Month

The National Safety Council recognizes June as National Safety Month! The goal of safety month is to find creative ways to engage with coworkers, families and communities in safety. Otterbein will celebrate by hosting two lunch and learn “Safety Awareness Sessions” at the Point.

The first session, scheduled on June 20th from 11:00 am to noon in room 139 at the Point, will be a session on “Safety Awareness”, a fun seminar that reminds all of us why it is important to think about safety. Join the campus Environmental Health & Safety Officer (EH&S), Tara Chinn and other safety team members for some history on the changes in safety and fun activities that will get you thinking with a “Safety Mindset”. The goal of the seminar is to help all of us realize what is really important in our day to day lives and how to focus on just one small thing that will remind all of us instantly to stay safe. After the session we encourage everyone to stop by the café at the Point to grab some lunch and enjoy a few minutes of camaraderie. So come down and learn about the yellow light!

The second safety session will be learning “Bystander Hands Only CPR” and it is scheduled for June 27th from 11:00 am to noon in room 165 at the Point. This session will be lead by both the campus EH&S Officer, Tara Chinn as well as the Nursing Laboratory Skills Supervisor, Stephanie Justice. Join the two of them in a fun interactive environment where you’ll learn how hands only CPR can save lives. You will practice on mannequins to get hands on training with administering chest compressions to a victim and develop the confidence needed to recognize and respond to an emergency. Nationally it is known that bystanders start CPR about 40% of the time. For every minute that CPR is delayed, a victim’s chance of survival drops by 10%. This session will be open for an entire hour, so feel free to grab lunch at the café at the Point and stop in and practice your CPR skills.

Come to the Point, grab lunch at the Café, and enjoy some Safety Awareness