

Wellness: Planning for a healthier workplace!

2019 APA Alaska Conference | Healthy Communities

Ted Eischeid, Planner – Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Palmer AK.

Ted.Eischeid@matsugov.us Ph. 907.861-8606

Adam Bradway, Planner– Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Palmer AK.

Adam.Bradway@matsugov.us Ph. 907.861-8608

Why are we here?

Our goals:

- 1. To share the ...
- 2. To get your ideas on...
- 3. To start you on your own workplace wellness journey... Your workplace, your community, your wellness.

Your goals:

Why did you come to our session today?



What is "wellness"?

What words come to mind when someone brings up "wellness"?



Wellness is...???

- CDC: Workplace health programs are a coordinated and comprehensive set of health promotion and protection strategies implemented at the worksite that includes:
- Programs
- Policies
- Benefits
- Environmental supports
- And links...

... to the surrounding community designed to encourage the health and safety of all employees.

K.I.S.S.

Wikipedia: Any workplace health promotion <u>activity</u> or organizational <u>policy</u> designed <u>to support healthy behavior</u> in the workplace and <u>to improve health outcomes</u>.



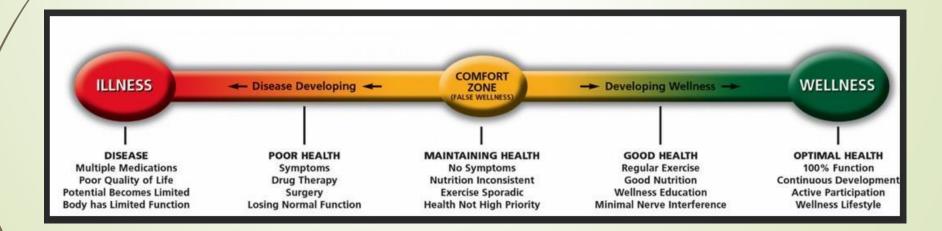
Why should we even think about workplace wellness?

What do you think???



Why wellness?

- 1) Lower health care costs/healthier employees
- 2) Achieve higher employee productivity
- 3) Reduce workers' compensation and disability-related costs
- 4) Improve employee morale and loyalty.



Why wellness?



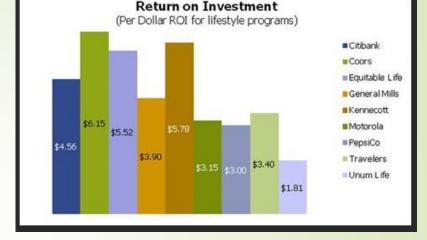
It saves money!

According to the American Journal of Health Promotion's in-depth analysis, employers with work site health promotion programs see on average:

- a 27% reduction in sick leave absenteeism
- 26% reduction in health costs, and
- 32% decrease in workers' compensation and disability claims.
- Reference: "Go365" three year study on wellness effects: LINK

Why wellness?

Wellness ROI.



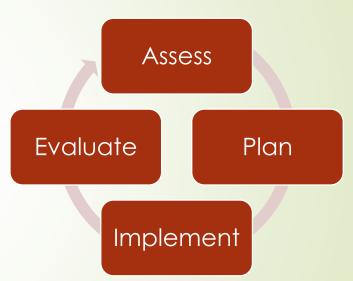
For every dollar invested in wellness, employers saw an average savings of \$5.81 due to improved employee health and reduced medical claims (American Journal of Health Promotion).

That's significantly higher than the <u>wellness ROI figures of \$3 to \$4 for every dollar invested</u> that are more commonly reported.

Takeaway: Good wellness programs pay off!

How To Plan A Successful Wellness Program

- 1. Organizational assessment
- 2. Management support
- 3. Wellness committee
- 4. Goals and objectives
- 5. Budget
- 6. Content creation & implementation
- 7. Evaluation

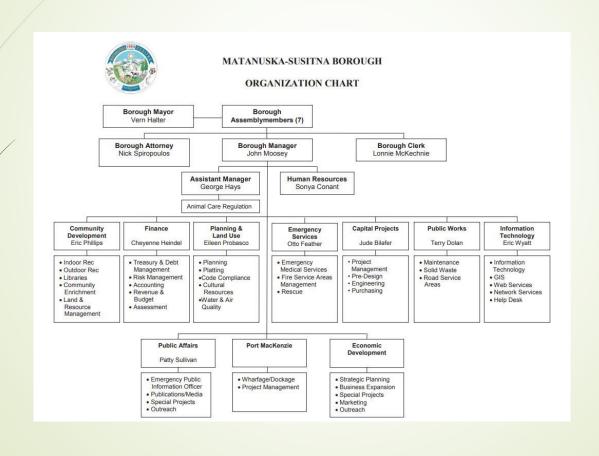


1. Organizational Assessment

- Survey
- Health risk assessment
- Healthcare cost trends



2. Management Support



3. Wellness Committee

- Participation
- Communication
- Planning

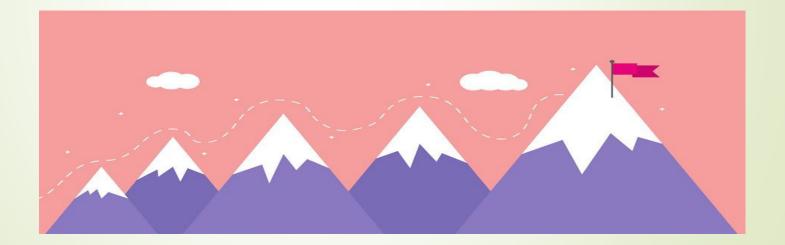






4. Goals and Objectives

- Define success
- Implementable, progressive goals



5. Budget Wellness

6. Content Creation & Implementation

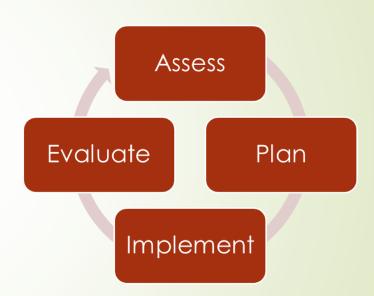


- Programs/Events
- Monetary Benefits
- Environmental



8. Evaluation

- Survey
- Health risk assessment
- Healthcare cost trends
- % of users
- Culture shift
- Lessons learned



Case Studies – example wellness programs

- Fond du Lac County
- Emporia School District-LINK
- Mat-Su Borough???



Best Practice/Tips

- Foster a culture of wellness
- Plan comprehensively
- Utilize a data-driven approach
- Ensure employee privacy
- ► K. I. S. S.



Wellness Program Assignment....

- Now it's your turn to design a wellness program.
- 10 minutes to create a wellness program considering:
- Public, private, nonprofit firm?
- Number of employees?
- Urban, rural, remote?
- What kind of policies, programs, events, and benefits would be involved?
- Facilitator, recorder, presenter??





Thank you!!!

We may use your ideas in the Mat-Su!!!