Today is Monday, July 23, home contact





Search WCC search Research News Calculators Forms School Shop Other States Articles Jobs Free Ads

My WCC

Advertisement

Edit Account My Events My Documents Continuing Education What's New

Save Big on Complicated Bills

Advertisement

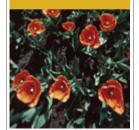
News

MEDICAL BILL REVIEW SUMMER SPECIAL

\$1499

enroll at workcompschool.com or call our Sales Dept. at 866-975-2667





News | Print | Add to My Documents | Email a friend | Post a Comment

## State: California Return-to-Work Project Gets Boost in Calif.: Top [07/16/07]

At least 15 California employers and medical providers committed Friday to Related News: participating in a fledgling return-to-work movement that supporters hope will change the focus of workers' compensation systems throughout North America from treating workplace injuries to preventing work disabilities.

Dr. Melvin Belsky, medical director for Safeway Inc., said representatives from Kaiser Permanente, State Compensation Insurance Fund, Zenith ACOEM Survey Aims Insurance Co. and other institutions attended a meeting at the World Get Users' Perspectiv Institute on Disability in Oakland to follow up on the "60 Summits" project 11/15/2005 that was launched in California at a June 21 meeting in Pleasanton.

Belsky said participants at Friday's meeting promised to spread the word Employers about 16 work disability prevention guidelines published by the American 08/25/2005 College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

"We want to basically help people institute policies, procedures, changes in Yesterday" administrative approaches and changes in the way departments work to, in stories: fact, put in effect the kinds of actions that flow from these 16 Calif. 5th Won't Chang recommendations," Belsky said.

So far, California, New Mexico and Oregon have held meetings, or "summits," on the ACOEM work disability prevention guidelines. Other summits are scheduled for Arizona, North Dakota and Minnesota and are planned for Florida and Ohio.

Dr. Jennifer Christian, who developed the guidelines along with 21 other in Fight Against Medic ACOEM physicians, hopes to eventually hold a summit in each of the 50 Fraud states and in 10 Canadian provinces, hence the name of the project.

Christian said the guidelines shift the focus of workers' compensation programs from post-injury claims management to disability prevention. She said enlightened institutions will stay on top of workplace injuries from the first day to help injured workers negotiate the system and work toward a recovery that will get them back on the job.

"In the old paradigm, people watch and wait while the worker tries to

National Return-to-Work Movement Lan First Sponsor 06/13/2007

log

Texas Launching RTW Program

Interpretation of Labor Code

Breaking: Senate Pane Cancels State Fund

Injured Workers Enliste

manage the situation the best they can and nobody ever intervenes until the situation is off track," Christian said Friday. "In the work disability prevention guideline we start making sure that people get and stay on the right track right form the beginning. There is not this letting the person ricochet around the system."

Belsky said participants in the California summit have already created a Web site and plan to augment it with a blog and regular educational features in the near future. He said he has sent out questionnaires to participants in the June 21 California summit and will write an executive summary to sum up conclusions from the meeting.

Belsky said the group hopes to develop a speakers bureau, a newsletter and produce regular educational information.

"This committee can't do all of this work, so we are hoping a lot of people who were at the meting can support these things, and to the extent that they are supported, they will be done," Belsky said.

The California Division of Workers' Compensation is keeping an eye on the group's effort and so far likes what it has seen, said spokeswoman Susan Gard.

"The summit project goals are aligned with the goals of workers' comp reform, which include providing prompt, effective medical treatment to injured workers and getting them back on the job quickly," Gard said in an email. "This is a win-win for workers and employers. However, we need to figure out how to help small employers and especially those in high-hazard industries, who don't have extensive human resources services, return-towork or comprehensive safety programs, become part of the win-win equation."

The 60 Summits group has already launched a Web site about the guidelines, although Belsky said it still is in rough form. The site can be found at:

http://www.saw-rtw-californiasummit.com/

--By Jim Sams, WorkCompCentral Senior Editor jim@workcompcentral.com

News | Print | Add to My Documents | Email a friend | Post a Comment

## Other's Comments on This Issue (0)



N/A NCOIL Goes Back to Drawing Board with PEO Bill: Top	07/23
N/A Illinois Chiro Files Class Action Suit Against Zenith: Top	07/23
TX Office Readying Comments on Hospital Fee Guidelines: Top	07/23
MO Missouri Details History of Second Injury Fund: Top	07/23
CA Schwarzenegger Signs Bill Protecting CIGA: Top	07/23
CA Sweep Finds Two Bars with No Coverage: Fraud	07/23
CT Conn. Chiropractor Sentenced to Federal Prison: Fraud	07/23
FL Fla. 1st: Leased Employee Owed a Termination Notice: Courts	07/23
CA WC Section Plans Sessions at Annual Bar Conference: Events	07/23
MA Bureau Amends Premium Determination Basis: Regulatory	07/23

N/A Social Insurance Academy Elects 4 Directors: People	07/23
VT Comp Conference Set for Oct. 11-12 in Burlington: Regulatory	07/23
N/A IAIABC Touts Disability Prevention Guidelines: Events	07/23
NM Advisory Council Meets Aug. 15 in Albuquerque: Regulatory	07/23
OR Brochure Explains Covering Leased, Temporary Workers: Regulatory	07/23
MN Minn. Holding Meeting on Electronic Records: Regulatory	07/23
TX Corpus Christi Office Sets Dispute Resolution Session: Regulatory	07/23
N/A Assurant Bumps Up Another Employee: Business	07/23
NY Yankee Stadium Builders Approve Safety Partnership: Safety	07/23
HI Best Assigns 'A' Ratings to Hawaii Employers' Mutual: Business	07/23
GA OSHA Fines Poultry Processor \$155,000: Safety	07/23
NE FirstComp Marks Anniversary in Arkansas Market: Business	07/23
ME Workers' Compensation Board Meets Tuesday in Augusta: Events	07/23
N/A RIMS Heads to Vancouver for Western Region Event: Events	07/23
OR Medical Advisory Committee Sets Meetings: Events	07/23
KS Registration Starts for Safety Conference: Events	07/23
Correction: Other	07/23
NEWS ARCHIVE	

## CONTACT US | ABOUT US | HELP

Subscribe | Request a Media Kit | Submit a Press Release Terms of Services | Privacy Policy | Copyright Policy

CENTRAL SCHOOL JOBS FORUMS STORE ADS