## **Opioid Abuse - Picture This**





# DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS AT WORK



## The number of drug overdose deaths at work is rising.

The top 3 industries with the highest numbers of drug overdose deaths at work from 2011-2016\*



Transportation & Warehousing 116 deaths



Construction 114 deaths



Healthcare & Social Assistance 96 deaths

### What do we know about drug overdose deaths at work?



#### Most overdose deaths at work were from opioids

Opioids are drugs commonly used to reduce pain and can be prescribed or used without a medical reason



## Workplace factors can influence the use of prescriptions and other substances

Examples: opioids prescribed for work-related back pain, and workers using substances to deal with work-related stress

# What don't we know about drug overdose deaths at work?

- The circumstances for substance use
- If the drug use was associated with work injury and pain

## Employers: You can take steps to prevent worker drug overdose

- Identify and remove workplace dangers
- Protect workers who do physically demanding jobs from getting injured
- Educate yourself on how you can support a worker with a substance use disorder
- Educate employees on risks for substance use and overdose prevention
- Consider implementing a program to make naloxone available in the workplace in the event of an opioid overdose Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose



#### Large Employers:

Provide training and encourage use of an employee assistance program, health plan, and other resources for treatment of substance use disorders



#### Small Employers:

Work with your local health department for resources in your community