



PREPARE, REACT, SURVIVE – Hazards of Workplace Violence

Workplace violence is a growing problem

FACT: 1. Two thirds of workplace assaults involve healthcare and social service employees.

Are you at risk for workplace violence:

DO YOU WORK . . .

- in highly emotional and turbulent situations?**
- late at night or early morning hours?**
- In home health, behavioral health, or social work?**
- With criminals or aggressive patients?**
- In an emergency healthcare setting?**
- In remote locations?**
- With mentally ill patients?**
- In a hospital/clinic?**
- Alone or in small groups?**
- Around drugs?**
- In poorly lit areas?**
- In high crime areas?**

(If you checked any of the above, you are at risk for workplace violence)



You can't always predict when there is a high risk for violent behavior, but there are some clear warning signs or characteristics to look for:

- 1. Disorientation or clients under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or Stress**
- 2. Confrontational, defensive, or obsessive behavior**
- 3. History of violence**
- 4. Angry outbursts**
- 5. Uncontrollable impulses**
- 6. Verbal Threats**

WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF:

- 1. Use the "Buddy System"**
- 2. Have an action plan in case of violence and practice your plan often**
- 3. Call security**
- 4. Know how to handle an angry person**



For more information on how to prepare, react, and survive workplace violence, contact the DBH Safety Coordinator (909) 873-4476.