

A large, high-quality photograph of a blue water splash, with water droplets and bubbles captured in mid-air, creating a dynamic and energetic background for the title.

H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

Nomination Deadlines:

Spring Awards: February 1, 2022

Fall Awards: September 1, 2022

Agency: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Project/Initiative Title: Safety Month Implementation

Implementation Date: 06/01/2022 - 06/30/2022

Cost to Implement: \$1,479.84

Staff Time Required: 35 - 40 hours

Number of Employees/Facilities Impacted: All District Staff (165)

Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:

Name(s): Jessica Zaragoza

Job Title/Department: Human Resources Technician

Nomination Summary

Write a brief summary of your project/initiative. Clearly state the problem/hazard recognized by the nominee and the specific reasons that they initiated corrective action.

Jessica attended an event at local Water District and the topic of employee engagement was brought up. Jessica heard that another District hosts a “safety week” so she researched when National Safety Month was recognized by the National Safety Council (June). Jessica brought the idea back to our District to increase Safety Awareness and add another event that promotes active employee engagement. Jessica began to plan activities and games for the month of June that culminated with a Safety Fair.

Describe the specific actions taken to resolve the problem(s) or challenge(s). Share the best practices that made this initiative successful for the agency and its impact.

Jessica focused on education, interaction, and safety promotion for the month. She worked with the Safety Department and Safety Committee in implementing the following:

1. Safety training – Slips, Trips, & Falls; Eye Protection, & a Fall Protection Demonstration by 3M/DBI Sala
2. Activities – Ergonomic game, Crossword puzzle
3. On the spot raffle tickets – Observing safe behavior from employees driving into the parking lot
4. Safety fair – 9 stations
 - GIS Fire Safety Map Labeling
 - o To raise awareness, GIS Maps of Administration 1st Floor, Administration 2nd Floor, and Operations 1st Floor were printed and labeled with red push pins where employees think the fire extinguishers are. Individual employees mentioned how they felt that they had no idea, and they would need to start looking out for them on the day to day in case of an emergency.
 - Fire Safety
 - o A metal replica flame was welded, painted, and knocked over (put out) by a fire extinguisher filled with water. This exercise demonstrated how employees would utilize the “PASS” method to correctly extinguish a fire.
 - Egg & Spoon Race
 - o Employees place a plastic egg on a spoon and raced against one another, emphasizing slips, trips, and falls.
 - Confined Space Trailer
 - o The trailer was on display for employees that wouldn’t normally see it, this opened the door for dialogue between our administrative staff and field employees. Similar to a “Q & A” session that evoked a sense of understanding.
 - Hydration Station
 - o Pushing the idea of heat illness prevention, hydration stations were setup to remind staff to drink water especially at the time of the event (it was above 90 in the area).
 - What If’s of Safety
 - o A poster was created with pictures of incidents where safety was not followed. Each picture was relevant to our everyday work and had an explanation by a committee member for anyone with questions. Each picture had a resolution as to how this could have been avoided.
 - Safety Committee Fun Facts
 - o Each committee member gave a fun fact about themselves, and it was taped to the table. The committee member photos were cut out and laminated for employees to work together and place the picture to the fun fact to see if they guessed correctly. This game has been seen already showing who is on the safety committee and sparking conversations about their fun fact.
 - PPE Dawning Game
 - o This game had two employees dawn a hard hat, safety glasses, and a vest, seeing who can finish correctly the fastest. There was another set of field employees showing how to correctly put a harness on, letting employees be safely lifted by the davit arm.
 - Churro/Ice Cream Vendor
 - o Food vendor to end the fair while employees could enter the raffle for different prizes. (Most liked booth of the fair)

State whether the hazard was reduced with engineering controls, introduced a new administrative or work procedure, or relied on personal protective equipment to solve the problem.

Jessica's introduction of the Safety Month (June) at EVMWD instituted a new administrative control that will be aimed at educating staff on hazards associated with activities both at work and at home. Employee education focuses on how to conduct work safely at it is crucial to a safety program. Hazards were identified throughout the month and safe behaviors were rewarded with raffle tickets used at the Safety Fair. Even though hazards were not eliminated or substituted her forward thinking will assist in keeping Safety at the top of our employee's minds.

Describe any extraordinary circumstances that made this nominee's safety accomplishments significant. Describe whether the nominee influenced safety in the workplace, encouraged employee participation in safety efforts, obtained organizational "buy in" to implement the solution.

Jessica was able to hit all three of these target areas. She did not know how big the event was going to be or what type of funds were available in the budget, but she wanted to do something for staff. Providing training on various topics and promoting the idea of "Our Reasons for Safety" helped employees realize that they have individuals outside of work depending on them (families, friends, etc.). Employee engagement was much higher than initially planned; we had an amazing turnout at the Safety fair with over 70% of our staff attending the event. Employees were intrigued by the ideas revolving around safety and the face-to-face interaction with our Safety Committee members.

Describe whether the project/initiative addressed a hazard or exposure included in the JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program.

EVMWD's Safety Month covered topics associated with office ergonomics (matching game) and a live slips, trips, & falls presentation presented by members of our Safety Committee. This Safety Month idea even covers the Employment Practices field associated with the Commitment to Excellence. Safety Month promoted effective communication and staff development by showing our staff how safety impacts their lives and the lives of their loved ones. It also required our Safety Committee members to get out of their comfort zone and assist fellow employees in learning and experiencing safety related items.

☒ Office/Field Ergonomics

☐ Vehicle Operations

☒ Slip/trip/falls – falls from heights

☒ Other: Employment Practices

List and attach any supporting materials that you feel are important for the reviewers to gain a complete picture of the nomination. Digital photos, supporting documentation, sample forms, etc.

Safety Month Recap

Safety Fair Photos

Nominated by: Jon Moore



Date: 08/03/2022

General Manager: Greg Thomas



Date: Aug 3, 2022

SAFETY MONTH

Breakdown of Activities and Cost:

Those Involved:

- Safety Month Members: Jessica Zaragoza, Daniel Lohre, Jon Moore, Jamie Huffman, Jennifer Dancho
- Safety Committee: Daryl Conner, Mowafa Salhani, Martin Soria, Josh Sandefur, Andrew Saucedo, Joey Garcia, Haley Garland, Nik Tejada, Javlon Davison, Chato Stuart

Safety Month Activities:

- Eye Protection Safety
 - Presenters: Haley Garland & Josh Sandefur
 - Prizes for Quiz at End of Presentation: Gatorades and Raffle Tickets
 - Price: \$15.59
 - Attendance: 15
- Slips, Trips, and Falls
 - Presenters: Daryl Conner & Daniel Lohre
 - Prizes for Quiz at End of Presentation: Gatorades and Raffle Tickets
 - Price: \$15.70
 - Attendance: 39
- 3M Fall Restraint Demonstration
 - Presenters: 3M
 - Price: Donated by 3M
 - Attendance: 36
- Safety Committee Members at Entrances Giving Tickets for Safe Driving (not speeding, not on the phone, and seatbelt on)
 - 06/15/2022
 - Main Gate: Andrew Saucedo
 - Regional Gate: Daniel Lohre
 - Price: Free
 - 06/28/2022
 - Main Gate: Daniel Lohre
 - Regional Gate: Joey Garcia
 - Price: Free
- Games Sent Over Email
 - Ergonomics Quiz/Labeling Game
 - Prize: Raffle Tickets
 - Price: Free
 - Crossword Safety Word Search
 - Prize: Raffle Tickets
 - Price: Free

Safety Fair:

- Time: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

- Attendance: 104

Safety Fair Booths:

➤ 9 Booths Total:

- GIS Fire Safety Map Labeling
 - To raise awareness, GIS Maps of Administration 1st Floor, Administration 2nd Floor, and Operations 1st Floor were printed and labeled with red push pins where employees think the fire extinguishers are. Individual employees mentioned how they felt that they had no idea, and they would need to start looking out for them on the day to day in case of an emergency.
- Fire Safety
 - A flame was welded, painted, and knocked over (put out) by a fire extinguisher filled with water. It taught employees the “PASS” method to correctly extinguish a fire.
- Egg & Spoon Race
 - Employees place a plastic egg on a spoon and raced against one another, emphasizing slips, trips, and falls.
- Confined Space Trailer
 - The trailer was left open to be viewed by employees that wouldn’t normally see it, bringing about a sense of understanding for the work others complete.
- Hydration Station
 - Pushing the idea of heat illness prevention, hydration stations were had to make sure water was always available.
- What If’s of Safety
 - A poster was created with pictures of incidents where safety was not followed. Each picture was relevant to our everyday work and had an explanation by a committee member for anyone with questions. Each picture had a resolution as to how this could have been avoided.
- Safety Committee Fun Facts
 - Each committee member gave a fun fact about themselves, and it was taped to the table. The committee member photos were cut out and laminated for employees to work together and place the picture to the fun fact to see if they guessed correctly. This game has been seen already showing who is on the safety committee and sparking conversations about their fun fact.
- PPE Dawning Game
 - This game had two employees dawn a hard hat, safety glasses, and a vest, seeing who can finish correctly the fastest. There was also a second part of field employees showing how to correctly put a harness on, letting employees be safely lifted by the davit arm. (A hit of booth)
- Churro/Ice Cream Vendor
 - Food vendor to end the fair while employees could enter the raffle for different prizes. (Most liked booth of the fair)
 - Price for Safety Fair Booth Essentials:

- \$22.08 for waters
- \$7.89 Table covers
- \$850.00 Food Vendor (DD's Ice Cream)
- \$28.80 Poster Board
- \$88.37 Decorations
 - Total = \$997.14

Prizes:

- Robot Vacuum (1)
 - Price: \$107.20
- Hi Vis Field Jacket (5)
 - Price: Donated by Western Safety Supply (\$250)
- \$100 Home Depot Gift Card
 - Price: Donated by Industrial Safety Professionals (\$100)
- Gas Card (2)
 - Price: \$100
- Blenders Blue Light Glasses
 - Price: \$50.29
- Hats (6)
 - Price: Donated by West Coast Safety Supply (\$60)
- Personal at Home Medical Safety Kit (4)
 - Price: \$193.92
 - Total Spent = \$451.41
 - Total Donated = \$410.00
 - Total in Prizes = \$861.41

Safety Month Total Spent: \$1,479.84

Safety Month Total with Donations: \$1,889.84







