

2023 MLAC Workplan Topics

8/8/23

- **Workers' access to and understandability of information re: workers' compensation**
 1. 801 form – QR code – easier access through smartphones
 2. Required notice information – WCD looking at already
 3. Worker friendly website – where to go next in the process (interactive flow chart)
 4. Other formats (meet workers where they are) – language, videos, podcasts, electronic, etc.
 5. Where are the information bottlenecks? Language barriers? Demographic data to help guide info bottlenecks (21-24%)
 6. What are the problems? (Complaint box/Feedback) Length of forms are arduous. Possibly shorten and simplify
 7. Round-up level – not piecemeal fashion. Address consistently and in whole
 8. Consider the worker perspective
 9. Focus Groups/Listening Tour
 10. Communications with workers about MCO enrollment
- **Ongoing intimidation of and retaliation against workers**
 1. Inability to capture that information – workers choosing to not enter the system. How do we get more workers to step forward and report?
 2. WC education to suggest when a worker starts a new job (i.e. Workers Bill of Rights in a digestible manner)
 3. Ongoing education to address issues throughout a worker's tenure on a job – culture and practice
 4. Ombuds Office – Retaliation of Safety and WC – Work has started
 5. Training on what and when employers are required to provide to workers
 6. Method of communication (point 1)
- **Overarching Review of Worker benefits**
 1. Examination of open-ended time loss (full committee)
 2. Fair system for both management and labor
 3. 66 2/3 time loss rate analysis of data
- **Legislative session preparation**
 1. Develop list of guidelines and general questions to assist with presenting legislative concepts to MLAC.
 2. Develop a video to go with the guidelines document.

Other items:

- Case law/litigation updates – the Board has suggested a number of topic areas that MLAC consider discussing as policy
 1. Board's managing attorney (or designee) brings to MLAC recent court cases and invites discussion
- Ongoing updates:
 1. Annual Workers' Benefit Fund report (next report due early 2024)

2. Biennial permanent partial disability report (next report due early 2024)
 3. Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences annual report – they are partially funded with workers' compensation funds (next report October 2023)
 4. NIOSH Report Review (tentative 2024, pending study availability)
- Educational sessions on topics as needed
 1. DEI
 2. Insurer's perspective start to finish
 3. Injured worker's perspective start to finish
 4. Mental health
 5. Overview of Boards, Commissions and Small Entities

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