

# AIHA Pittsburgh Local Section Outreach; Young Worker Safety & Health

- What was your first job ?
- Would you let your child/niece/nephew do that job now ?

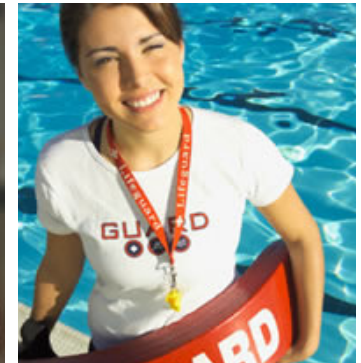
# AIHA/NIOSH Partnership to Protect Young Workers

Aim is to equip young people with the skills and knowledge they need to participate in safe and healthy work environments throughout their working lives



# Work is a formative experience

- Work has a positive impact on young people's lives
- 80% of youth work while in high school
- In 2013, workers < 24 years old made up 13% of the workforce (18.1 million people)



# Working youth are at higher risk

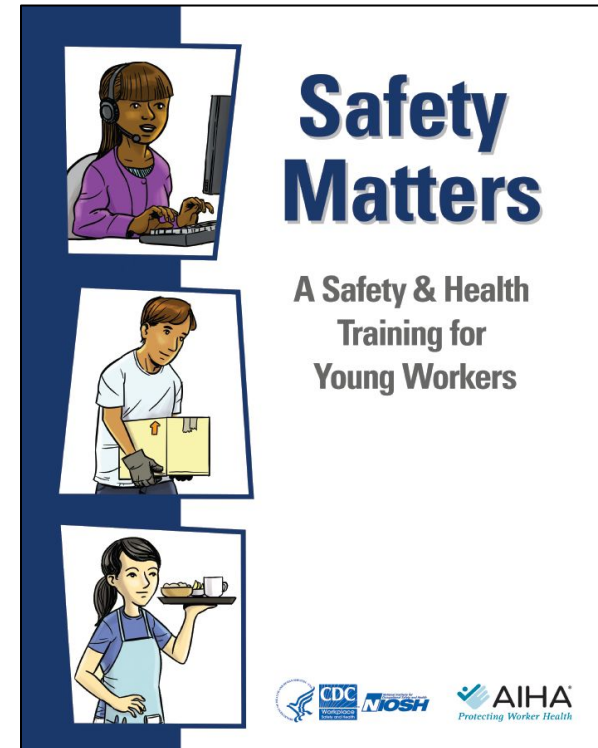
## In the United States:

- A young worker < 24 years is injured on the job every minute
- Youth age 15–24 years are injured at work at twice the rate of adults
- Job injuries for youth (< 19) have an estimated cost of \$5 billion/year



# *Safety Matters is...*

- A 1-hour presentation for students in grades 7-12
- Adapted from the NIOSH *Talking Safety* curriculum
- For use by members and others to teach students critical OSH competencies



# *Teen Safety PSA (click to play video)...*

# How do I use it?

1 hour training, 5 sections:

- Young worker injuries
- Finding hazards
- Controlling hazards
- Rights and responsibilities
- Being prepared, taking action

Provides:

- Learning objectives
- Key points
- Step-by-step instructions & PowerPoint prompts

### Teen Worker Injury Statistics


- Approximately 1.6 million teens (aged 15–17) in the United States work, about 55% of 10th graders and 75% of 12th graders have jobs.
- A teenager in the U.S. is injured on the job every 9 minutes.
- On average, each year:
  - 50,000 workers younger than 18 are sent to the ER for job-related injuries, but actual injury statistics are probably much higher.
  - 37 workers younger than 18 die on the job.
  - Young workers are twice as likely to be injured than adult workers.

**Show PowerPoint 3**

**Inform** students that young workers are twice as likely as adults to be hurt on the job. In the United States, a teenager is injured on the job every 9 minutes.

**Inform** students that injuries are NOT accidents! An “accident” happens randomly, by chance, and you can’t predict or avoid it. But workplace injuries, incidents, and illnesses can be predicted and prevented.

### Mallory's Story



- [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3m734863d78e](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3m734863d78e)
- What are some factors that contributed to this incident?
- What could have kept Mallory from being hurt?
- How might this affect Mallory's future life choices?

**Show PowerPoint 4**

**Demonstrate** to students how work injuries can affect a young person's life by showing a brief video.

*Mallory's story (3 mins.).* When the video has ended, **ask students:**

- “What are some factors that contributed to this incident?”

# Examples of Teen Work Injuries



## Jack's Story

**Job:** Fast food worker

**Hazard:** Greasy, slippery floors

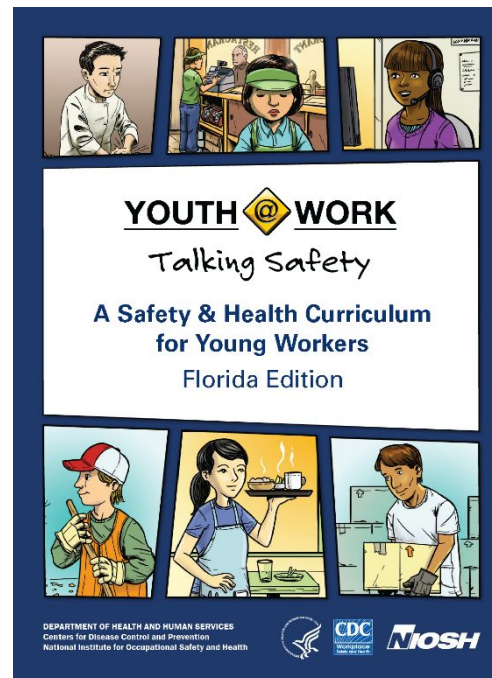
**Injury:** Injured tailbone

- Why do you think this happened?
- What could have prevented Jack from getting hurt?
- How might this injury impact Jack's daily life?



# What can you do?

- Volunteer to bring the 1-hr *Safety Matters* training to schools or other events where children in grades 7-12 gather
- Bring the NIOSH *Talking Safety* curriculum into local school districts
- Spearhead new legislation to require exposure to workplace health and safety principles;
  - In PA, consider Safety Matters as a prerequisite for the Student Work Permit
- Tell the Local Section Executive Committee about your efforts



[www.AIHASafetyMatters.org](http://www.AIHASafetyMatters.org)