



# Protección en Construcción

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## Lawrence-Area Construction Contractors Commit to Improve Safety Conditions

Five Lawrence-area construction contractors have joined the Leaders in Safe Construction (LISC) program sponsored by Protección en Construcción: the Lawrence Latino Safety Partnership. The contractors are: Hebert Construction, Dionicio Santos, RM Technologies, BC Construction & Design, and Migueline Contracting. The LISC program enrolls contractors in a research project designed to improve construction safety in Lawrence, especially for Latino construction workers. Latino construction workers are at greater risk of accidents and injuries on construction sites. Bernada Carden of B&C Construction, one of the participating Lawrence contractors joined the program because “I find LISC very helpful for our company. It targets a huge problem in the construction field, specifically in the Merrimack Valley. I want my employees to learn to protect themselves and increase their awareness of falls on the worksite and exposure to silica. The benefits that LISC will provide to our company will be very valuable.”

The LISC program, which is free, helps contractors recognize potential safety problems and develop workable solutions. The program will include training in worksite inspection, supervisor training to improve safety leadership, communication strategies with non-English speaking workers, and planning for safety. Silica dust is also a target of the program since many contractors are unfamiliar with the ways to protect workers from breathing hazardous concrete dust. (continue next page)



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## REMINDERS

Contractors are welcome to apply to join the program. For more information call 1-888-977-2250 or see the project website <http://www.lawrenceworksafe.org/>

OSHA) has announced that residential contractors must now fully comply with all the provisions of the fall prevention standard

## Lawrence-Area Construction Contractors Commit to Improve Safety Conditions (cont.)

Recent changes in the rules governing worksite safety will have a particular impact on construction firms employing Hispanic construction workers. U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has announced that residential contractors must now fully comply with all the provisions of the fall prevention standard – additionally, OSHA has clarified that workers must be trained in the language that they best understand. Jeffrey A. Erskine, Area Director for OSHA said “In my experience, I have found that working with experts in free community projects in the Lawrence area such as Leaders in Safe Construction is beneficial for employers in that it helps them to get the assistance they need to keep their workers safe.”

The Latino Safety Partnership which is sponsoring LISC includes Laborers Local 175, University of Massachusetts Lowell, the City of Lawrence and a local community organization, Community Connections. "As the number of Hispanic construction workers continues to grow, the LISC program serves a vital need in ensuring that companies understand how to adequately protect Latino construction workers whose accident and fatality rates are higher than other workers." The research project is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and is expected to produce results that will benefit construction companies and workers across the country. Contractors are welcome to apply to join the program. For more information call 1-888-977-2250 or see the project website <http://www.lawrenceworksafe.org/>



# Accidents Happen

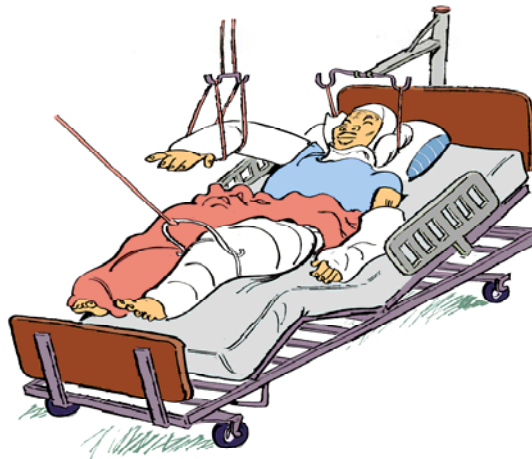
By: Ellie Parker

LIUNA Local 175

This past December I was driving down my street on my way to pick up my son at school. It was bitterly cold and extremely windy and I noticed that a siding crew was working on a house nearby. The thought flashed through my mind "it is too windy to be up on a ladder today". I watched in horror as the worker on the ladder carrying up siding was scooped up by the wind. He grabbed at the ladder but the force of the wind took him and it and dropped him in the middle of the road.

Luckily a car had just past and I was coming from the other direction or he would have been hit. The other driver and I stopped and ran to him, as did his co-workers. He lay on the ground not moving and the driver of the other car took out her cell phone to call 911. The fallen worker screamed for her not to make the call and the others begged her not to as they did not have insurance.

The injured worker stood and hobbled to a nearby truck and insisted that he was not hurt. We encouraged them to let us call for assistance but they quickly packed up and said they would bring him to the hospital. A crew of two men returned the next day and completed the job.



## REMINDERS

The LISC program, which is free, helps contractors recognize potential safety problems and develop workable solutions

**Accidents like this occur daily and reinforce the need for programs like LISC.**

# Now, We Are Recruiting Contractors!

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Is safety on the job site important to you?  
Would you like to minimize worker injuries?

You are eligible for LISC (Leaders In safety Construction) program if you are a contractor who:

1. Will have jobs that have at least some fall and silica hazards over the next 12 months (Silica could come from cutting or grinding concrete, mixing cement, or work with bricks, wall board, or porcelain tiles)
2. Employ at least some Latino workers
3. Hire workers from the Lawrence area or do jobs in the Lawrence area
4. Have a current workers' compensation insurance policy

**Enroll now! And let us help you make your work sites safer!!**

## PenC WonderWord

Circle the 21 words listed below. Words appear straight across,

backwards, up and down, down and up, and diagonally.

Please send us your answers and receive a beautiful Protección en Construcción T-Shirt.  
**Proteccion en Construcción PenC**  
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Kitson Hall 200  
Lowell, MA 01854

A	E	C	R	L	B	T	P	O	L	I	C	I	E	S	R	R	F
G	G	D	C	I	A	Y	S	J	D	R	G	W	E	U	F	E	A
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LISC
ASSESSMENT
BASE LINE SITE AUDIT
SURVEYS
SILICA PLAN
COORDINATOR
FACILITATOR
HAZARD MANAGEMENT
HAZARDS REPORT
GUIDELINES
WRITTEN PROGRAM
POLICIES
SUPERVISOR
SKILLS
RESPECTFUL
WORKPLACE
LEADERS