



LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Slips, Trips, and Falls By: Jeremy Olivier, Lofton Safety Services

Slips, trips, and falls are among the most common hazards in the workplace. They put many workers at risk of sprains, strains, cuts, bruises, fractures, and other injuries. At worst, they can lead to death, especially in high-risk occupations such as construction. Slips, trips, and falls are consistently ranked in the top three causes of non-fatal workplace injuries. They are the second leading cause of fatal accidents behind only transportation incidents.

Slips occur when there is little to no traction between the footwear and the walking surface. Since the friction is too small to hold their feet on the ground, a person can lose their balance. Causes of slips are wet or muddy floors, loose mats or rugs, sloped or uneven floors, ramps, and smooth surfaces such as ceramic or concrete.



Trips happen when a person's foot hits an object or steps down to a lower, uneven surface. Cluttered floors, obstructed views, poor lighting, uncovered cables, wires, hoses, and extension cords are all contributors to tripping.

Falls happen when someone drops from an elevated working surface. Falls can happen on the same level, such as a fall from a step stool or ladder. Or, someone may fall to a lower level than their original work surface. An example would be a fall from a roof. Damaged or unsafely positioned ladders are major contributors. So are improper railings or unguarded ledges.

Some ways to prevent slips, trips, and falls are:

- Practice good housekeeping. Remove clutter on the floor. Keep drawers, cabinets, and other stor-

age items closed when not in use. Throw away trash in the right bin. Put boxes away from the main halls. Hide cables, extension cords, and wires in protective covers.

- Place proper lighting in access and egress points such as halls, ramps, stairs, and exits.
 - Install safety signs and markers to prevent slips, trips, and falls in hazardous spaces. For example, establishments may place the "Caution: Wet Floor" sign to alert guests of slippery floors.
 - In case of spills, be sure to have them cleaned as soon as possible. Mop and sweep or dry any substance on the floor that could reduce traction.
- Aside from keeping the floors clean, it is important that workers have proper footwear. The right shoes protect their feet from harmful elements that can cause them to slip, trip, or fall. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requires the use of non-slip shoes with good traction. Moreover, avoid wearing sandals, canvas shoes, high heels, and open-toed shoes while on work surfaces. These types of footwear can increase one's risk of getting injured.
- Maintain and improve floor quality. Paying attention to the quality of walking and working surfaces. Inspect floors regularly for cracks, holes, missing blocks, uneven surfaces, and other hazards that can trip people. Consider installing resilient, non-slippery flooring.

down as their referral on the application. Once they have worked their first 120 hours within a 2 month period, call your local office to process your referral. There is NO limit to the number of referrals.

Lofton Job Board. Search for open positions right from the Lofton website. Search by position or area, or see what's available throughout the network. Go to [Lofton.jobs](https://lofton.jobs) and start your search.

*BTW: You can share job links to your referral so they can apply directly.

Staying Active in 2024

Stay Active! Be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date in your online file. Whether you are currently working with Lofton, or a past employee, Lofton keeps in contact through emails and messaging regarding important information like, job openings, benefit updates, open enrollment, referral updates, etc.

Referral Bonus! You can get a \$100 bonus for each referral that is placed through Lofton - PLUS - they can earn \$100 bonus too! Just have them put you

January 2024

January 1
New Year's Day



LOFTON
offices
will be
CLOSED
Monday, 1st

January 15
Martin Luther King Day

"People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other; they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other."

- Martin Luther King, Jr.





What On Earth Are We Here For?

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

What on earth are we here for?" This thought-provoking question is the subtitle for one of the best-selling books today, *The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren (Zondervan Press, 2002). For thousands of years philosophers have pondered the question, why are we here, but ultimately it is one that each of us as individuals must explore. In reflecting on Warren's book and my own research on productive businesses and schools, I also believe it is one that organizations must explore.

Rick Warren teaches about the five purposes of your life: *"Be centered on God, learn to love others, grow in spiritual maturity, give something back, and tell others about God's love."* As a classroom teacher and educator, I found purpose. Teaching for me was not just a job. It was a calling.

What about Lofton Staffing Services? What on earth are we here for? A review of some of Tommy Lofton's beliefs on which Lofton was founded, likewise suggest a purpose beyond

the important task of providing and filling jobs. "I believe" Tommy frequently reminds us, *"in a workplace where people can have fun and be better, where people expect fair pay, fair treatment, and an opportunity to learn; where people are told what to do and not how to do it so that they can amaze you with their ingenuity; where relationships are built one on one; where problems are viewed as opportunities to build rela-*



tionships and trust; where we help others and thereby help ourselves; where people feel better when they leave than when they came; where people learn to love Mondays; where people are reminded that life is a temporary assignment and to have a good day because you won't get it back; and

where people do what they do for the joy of it."

Thankfully these beliefs have been distributed, modeled and added to by members of the staff at Lofton. In my files is a note from one of our long-time employees, Rae Milano, with a message ironically from Rick Warren that reinforces these beliefs: *"Bring Your Love and Work Together."*

What on earth are we here for? The manual for Lofton Security summarizes our purpose well. Our purpose is to be the best service possible...We study train and work, not only to serve our clients but to serve each other, understanding that if we help each other to improve, we have already improved ourselves." Successful people and successful organizations don't just have their purpose in writing. They live it.

As we ring out the old and ring in the new, I hope you will take a few moments to reflect on these beliefs and the year that was. Who had a positive impact on your life? What kind of mark are you leaving on the lives of others? What can you do to make an impact in someone else's life? I would also ask that you reflect on the year ahead and pray for our country. Happy New Year and may God bless America!

Build a Better World

By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing

Whether it's the start of a new diet, the start of a new project, or the start of returning to work, this is the time of year for change. As Glenda Lofton says above, *"How are you going to make an impact on someone today?"* This year, instead of starting that new diet, start the journey of making the world a better place - one act of kindness at a time. Below are a few easy things we can all do to make this world a little brighter.

COMPLIMENT SOMEONE

Sounds too simple, right? Yes, it is. Compliments can go a long way to make a positive impact on someone else's day. You never know what is happening in somebody's life. Tell them how much you like their haircut, outfit, smile, eyes, singing voice, etc., and you'll see instantly what I mean.

BRING SOMETHING TO SOMEONE

Pick up an extra candy bar, smoothie, or coffee and give it to someone for no good reason. It tells them that you were thinking of them and wanted to do something nice for them. It's amazing what one small act can do.

Last Tuesday, Amanda Lambert (Lofton Accounting Manager) brought me a surprise iced coffee. Not only did it bring a smile to my face, but made me feel included in the Accounting group. (Marketing is a department of one). So it meant a lot!

LEAVE A LARGER TIP

We have all seen the stories on TikTok of the person who left a substantial tip. While this is AMAZING, most people can't leave that type of tip. If you can, however, when a server has done an exceptional job, let them know by leaving a larger tip of 25% or more. It will not only put extra money in their pocket, but it also tells them their service is appreciated.

COMPLIMENT AN EMPLOYEE TO THEIR MANAGER

It is one thing to leave a tip, but it's another thing entirely to contact the manager and tell him or her directly what a great job their employee has done. I have done this several times and it's funny how the manager is expecting a complaint, not a compliment. It seems to brighten their day, as well.

OPEN DOORS

Yes it's old fashion, but it still sends a message of kindness and respect. Do this as often as you can.

MAKE SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE

Bake an extra batch of cookies or brownies, and give it to someone for no reason. When we make homemade Mac & Cheese, we make an extra batch for my neighbor. He LOVES it! Not only does it taste great, but it shows him that we are thinking of him.

LET SOMEONE INTO TRAFFIC

While it's true everyone gets rushed, the simple gesture of letting a car in ahead of

you in traffic can go a long way to ease the tension.

GREET SOMEONE WITH A SMILE

Greeting someone with a smile is another simple thing to do, but this gesture has the greatest impact. It's amazing how a simple "Good morning" with a smile to a stranger can lift their spirits.

I ran into a young man once coming out of the store while he was rushing in. You could tell he was distracted, frustrated and rushed. As I opened the door for him (another good gesture), I looked him in the eye and with a big smile said, "Good Morning!" As he looked up you could see he was coming out of that daze, and said "Good Morning" back to me. Instantly he had the biggest smile. Whatever had him frustrated, melted in that moment. We all need that.

SAY THANK YOU TO SOMEONE

Did someone let you in line before them? Open the door for you? Tell them "Thank You." One kindness deserves another and good manners are, after all, completely free of charge.

DO A SMALL CHORE/TASK

There are a million small chores/tasks that can make enormous impacts. It might be something as simple as returning the grocery basket back to the corral; helping someone grab an item off the top shelf; carrying a heavy object for someone; helping someone change a tire; etc. The list is endless.