# IMMUNOTALK

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

It's hard to believe we're already two months into 2025! Our year has been off to a strong start with well-executed customer deliveries, new business development activities, and customer audits. And in the normal organizational cadence, Q1 is heavily focused on our people. This is the time of year when we (people leaders) conduct annual performance reviews, set individual goals for the coming year, process annual merit increases, and pay bonuses for the prior performance period. Indeed, our HR team and your leaders have been busy!

In this month's edition of ImmunoTalk, we reflect on our safety performance in 2024, talk about the importance of effective CAPAs (and tackling the root cause of a problem), and spotlight the power of kindness. Many thanks to **Theresa Lomeli, Scott Lee**, and **Tami Wilson** for these submissions.

I am thrilled to see that we reduced our OSHA recordable incidents by 66% vs. 2023! You have truly made safety a priority in your centers, and for that I'm grateful and proud of your efforts. I am still concerned that our

most frequent type of recordable incident is "Cut/puncture injuries with potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens." Thankfully, none of these incidents resulted in serious illness. But let's not rely on luck! Please, double down on your efforts and eliminate this type of injury this year.

Join me in recognizing and celebrating our teammates who will hit significant service anniversary milestones this month (and February): **5 years: Aaron Renshaw**, VP, New Center Development; **7 years: Lucas Widner**, Manager, Field Education; **8 years: Holly Gary**, Assistant Controller; and **10 years: Jose Molina**, Manager, Plasma Collections. Congratulations to each of you, and thank you for your loyalty!

As always, be sure to check out Kudos Korner, which features activities and photos from **Quincy** and **Ruston**.

Onward!



"Making good strides."

Marvin Dyke

CFO

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### 2024 REPORTING SUMMARY

BY: THERESA LOMELI

Ensuring workplace safety remains a top priority at ImmunoTek, and the latest OSHA data highlights our progress in fostering a safer environment. Each year, ImmunoTek centers meeting OSHA's criteria must electronically submit injury and illness data from their OSHA FORM 300A. This information helps OSHA collect, analyze, and improve nationwide workplace safety efforts.

#### **KEY FINDINGS FROM 2024**

- Total Employee Incident Investigation Reports (EIIRs) Submitted: 153
- OSHA Recordable Events: 21
- Most Common Recordable Incident: Cut/puncture injuries with potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens
- Most Reported Incident Category: "Other" events, with the top three subcategories being:
  - Ergonomic injuries
  - Insect bites
  - Temperature-related injuries

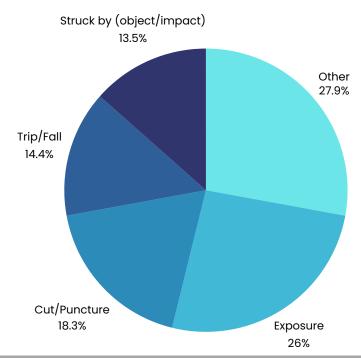
#### YEAR-OVER-YEAR IMPROVEMENTS

- 37% decrease in total EIIR submissions compared to 2023
- 66% decrease in OSHA recordable events

These numbers reflect the dedication and commitment of our teams to workplace safety. However, our work doesn't stop here. To sustain and build upon this success, we must continue prioritizing safety initiatives, encourage proactive reporting, and leverage the Safety Opportunities feature in iSupport to address potential risks before they become incidents.

By staying vigilant and proactive, we can ensure that 2025 continues this positive trend in workplace safety!

#### **EIIR SUBMISSIONS 2024**



# NOT ALL CAPAS ARE CREATED EQUAL

BY: SCOTT LEE

While this may sing out with a resounding "duh" (as my teenager would say), we rarely take a step back to truly evaluate the effectiveness of our corrective and preventive actions—much like we don't give a second thought to the soap dispensers in the bathroom.

Odd comparison, you say? You're not wrong! Allow me to provide some context.



A team member identifies a trend of leaking soap and sanitizer dispensers continuing to produce liquid long after use. The dripping liquid created soapy messes on the counters, floors, etc.



#### The Solution:

Place a tray under each dispenser to catch the leaking fluids.

The dripping has generally been contained and the bathrooms are notably less messy.

Problem solved, right?

While this reduced the messy bathrooms, the problem was not solved. Instead, the creators put a band-aid on the problem to avoid dealing with the real issue: stopping the pump from dripping in the first place.

We often take this same "fix" approach in our own environments, choosing quick fixes over true problem-solving due to time, money, or resource constraints. Let's be honest, you know you've done it – we all have.

But what if we approached CAPAs differently - like Dr. Joseph M. Juran suggested - by investing time and resources upfront in process design and employee training rather than chasing corrective actions later? It may cost more initially, but it saves significantly in the long run.

How we hire, train, and hold people accountable is just as critical to our success as having the best processes. In this instance, simply being "able to fog a mirror" does not mean someone is the best candidate (quoting the master of one-liners, Scott Ramsey here), just as putting someone through a checklist of tasks doesn't mean they are truly "trained."

People take time, effort, and resources—there's no denying that fact. However, when we invest in hiring the right people, instilling the "why," and guiding them through their development, they in turn do the same for others, creating a sustainable culture of success.

No, not all CAPAs are created equal—but some can create excellence.

# THE POWER OF KINDNESS IN THE WORKPLACE

BY: TAMI WILSON

In our fast-paced industry, often demanding world, it's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day tasks, but one thing that can truly make a difference is **kindness**. Whether it's a smile, a kind word, or simply taking a moment to check in with a colleague or donor, acts of kindness create a ripple effect that can brighten someone's day, especially when you never know what someone may be going through.

Everyone you encounter; whether it's a fellow employee, a donor, or a partner, carries their own story and challenges. A little compassion can go a long way in making others feel seen, valued, and supported. Kindness not only strengthens relationships, but it fosters a positive work environment where collaboration, trust, and respect thrive.

At the end of the day, being a good human is what matters most. It's the simple, everyday actions of kindness that can transform a workplace and a community. So, let's make kindness a priority in everything we do, for the well-being of ourselves and those around us.

HERE ARE FIVE WAYS TO SHOW KINDNESS DAY TO DAY...

Take the time to listen without interrupting. Showing empathy and understanding makes

with challenges.



people feel heard and valued,

especially when they're dealing

Take a moment to recognize someone's hard work or share a genuine compliment. A simple acknowledgment can brighten someone's day and boost morale.

1



power of gratitude. A sincere
"thank you" for someone's
effort, no matter how big or
small, fosters appreciation and
goodwill.

4



If a colleague is overwhelmed, offer to assist with a task or provide support. Even small gestures of help can relieve stress and strengthen teamwork.

2



A quick "How's everything going?" or "Is there anything you need?" can make a huge difference in someone's day. It shows that you care beyond just the work at hand.

5



Small acts of kindness like these can make a big difference in creating a supportive and positive work environment.

Quote by Aesop -- "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."



# **KUDOS KORNER**

#### **Christine Mims, Ruston**

"We had a fantastic celebration at Ruston last week! This month, we combined multiple milestones into one big event—three birthdays, an anniversary, Phlebotomist Week, and Valentine's Day. It was a chance to recognize everyone together as one team.

We decorated, created special gifts and cups for our amazing phlebotomists, and celebrated our team's hard work and dedication. It's always a joy to bring everyone together, honor their efforts, and strengthen our team spirit. Check out the pictures of our celebration!"















## **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Have a great story, achievement, or celebration to share? Send it our way for the next edition!

### Kali Moran, Quincy

"At the Quincy Center, we went back to our school days for Valentine's Day! Everyone created or brought in Valentine card boxes and filled them with cards and treats. It was a fun and nostalgic way to celebrate together, building camaraderie and strengthening our team connections."

# FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

#### 1YEAR

Amanda Farnsworth Andrew Maggio Ashley Ross Brandon Lingard Christine Peyton Ciera Minor Clifton Sukhai

Clifton Sukhai
Jamelia Tyson
Kayla Key
Kerry Crew
Lana Hood
MacKenzie Lockhart
Makhenzi Brooks

Megan Miller

Michal Zamulinski

Najda Clark Norra Powers Sarah Hafner Steven Oliver Valencia Bush Veronica Jackson

#### 2YEAR

Allison Stucki
Briyith Amador
Colleen Eswine
Darby Wilson
Davieonna Nichols
Erinn Pertuset

Darby Wilson
Davieonna Nicho
Erinn Pertuset
Jamey Black
Karen White
Keita Walker

Lashone Davis Latasha Cane Lori Miles Rena Mollihan Veronica Teague

#### **3YEAR**

Camile Colbert Janice Grier Marlow Alexander

#### 8YEAR

Holly Gary

#### **4YEAR**

Desmone Kearse Pamela DeLucia

#### — 10 YEAR

Jose Molina

# **FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS**



Raven Smith

Reed Smith

Samantha Rackcliffe

ShaKira Johnson

Sharie Coleman

Sierra Maugans

Tara Manigault

Taylor Bradley

Thomas Ulrich

Yasmine Owens

William Jackson Jr.

Sheila Dowell

Alana Orona
Alexis Smith
Amber White
Amy Levario
Anna Faciane
Autumn Garrow
Ayshia Little
Cheryl Daniels
Cory Hammond
Cynthia Peterson
Debbie Sharpe

Dominquie Holmes Donald Hartin

Eldridge Graves Jr.

Ericka Brister Erin Brangers Erinn Pertuset

Giovanni Sifuentes

Hailey Caplinger Hailey Underwood

Haley Stover

Ines Bucinski

Jacqueline Conaway

Jacqueline Greely

Jade Jones

Jamyia Fletcher

Jana Kloecker

Ja'Niyah Brumfield

Johaida Gonzalez

Kaitlyn Maugans

Kally Rose

Kelly Grimes

Kris Berry

Lapatches Barnes

Latresta Addison

Lawrance

Stephenson

Lori Leindecker

Madison Sink

Marlisha Johnson

MoNeisha Hughes

Pamela Griffin

# MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

#### 1YEAR

Alexis Mcsherry
Alissa Stonewall
Amanda Epling
Brennan Pierce
Chelsey Shoup
Christopher Holt
Christopher Patterson
Danielle Welte
Desiree Bost

Desiree Bost
Elizabeth Jackson
Ericka Brister
Haley Johnson
Hannah O'Brien
Jocelyn Valdes
Joycelyn Batiste

Kaiya Newsome Leeza Roseman Mario Bartolo-Campos

Michelle Walton Nekerria Harrell Nykirea Winchester

Sean Myers

Sydney Albritton Taylor Bradley

Tia Beckem

Wesley Short

Ymani Washington

Ynikili Howard

#### 2YEAR

Colby Johnson
Donna Coburn
Jasmine Swanson
Jennifer Mackey
Katelyn Tompkins
Kayla Roberts
Latresta Addison
Linda Ruiz

Lucinda Babcock Marvin Dyke Monique Simms Nia Wilson Norma Salazar-Mercado Samuel Sanders Scott Peterson

#### **3YEAR**

Adam Hite Andrea Autman Ashley Joseph Benjamin Ward Demirria Williams

Lindsay Mitchell

Freddy Johnson Nathan Callender Rachelle Phillips Tara Smith

#### 4YEAR

Chelsea Stewart
Donald Hartin
Gladys Daniels
Joanna Nieves
Tarnisha Jackson
Veronica Whitehead

#### **5YEAR**

Aaron Renshaw

#### **7YEAR**

Lucas Widner

# **MARCH CELEBRATIONS**



Alicia Hoebeke Alyssa Ruiz Amer Tyler April Shirley Ashley Wetterling Austin Bash Barbara Filbey Blanca Reyna Caitlin D'alessandro Christine Mims Christopher Holt Christopher Walker **Daniel Moran** Deana Collins Derek Rhoades Destiny Ford Dorticha Holloway Greta Greenup Jamey Black Jasmine Swanson Jennifer Jones Jerdasia Shelvy Jessica Walls Kaiya Newsome Kayley Harper Keita Walker Kenzi Keathlev Kibsaim Gonzalez Kimberly Davis Kira Glasper Kiwana Autrey Koleasha Haynes Lawanji Rogers

Leiandra Hester

Madeline Fletcher

Markeevia Walker

Marneisha Moore

Makenzie Idlett

Leslie Denton Lorrie Mathis

Lydia Frick

Mar'quisha Payne Matthew Lingle Megan Trapp Mia Sanders Michele Caldwell Monica Miller Nacurria Holt Nancy Newman Naquater Taylor Nia Wilson Norma Mercado Nykirea Winchester Pranati Robertson Renee Svorec Samantha Cunningham Samuel Sanders Shaquana Gary Tammy Segebartt Tara Whorley Teena Cunningham Tina Ahlstrom Travis Miller Ymani Washington Ynikili Howard Zainab Ali