

# GDOT Newsletter

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## SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website
- Plan Reading



## The Lutzie 43 Foundation and Georgia Department of Transportation commit to two year partnership in an effort to end distracted and impaired driving in Georgia

The Lutzie 43 Foundation and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) have agreed upon a two year partnership that will launch ahead of holiday travel. The partnership will promote the Lutzie 43 Foundation's 43 Key Seconds safe driving initiative and the Georgia Department of Transportation's Drive Alert Arrive Alive campaign in an effort to reduce the number of crashes and fatalities in Georgia caused by unsafe driving such as distracted and impaired driving, speeding and not wearing a seatbelt.

The partnership will include a comprehensive communications plan, new Safe Driving Summit events and the distribution of the Lutzie 43 Foundation's 43 Key Seconds keys through GDOT's HERO and CHAMP programs.

"We are looking forward to working with the Lutzie 43 Foundation to make the roadways in Georgia safer," said GDOT Commissioner Russell McMurry. "The Lutzie 43 Foundation is an independent organization created to help reduce the number of distracted driving incidents through its 43 Key Seconds safe driving initiative, ultimately diminishing the number of deaths caused by unsafe driving, and is very much in line with GDOT's Drive Alert Arrive Alive Campaign. Together, these driver safety focused initiatives can make an impact on driver behavior making roads in Georgia safer."

The Lutzie 43 Foundation was founded after former Auburn football player, Philip Lutzenkirchen, passed away in 2014 as a passenger in a distracted and impaired driving accident in LaGrange, Georgia.

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## 4 Ways to Build a Culture of Safety

### How to prioritize staffing with onboarding & training at the forefront

Nearly 80% of construction jobs eliminated during the pandemic have returned, and employers are scrambling to fill open positions. But in terms of safety, expediting the hiring process may do more harm than good.

With the supply of construction workers failing to meet demand, there are concerns that contractors will rush the onboarding and training processes for new hires. Pushing workers into projects without a clear understanding of safety training and on-site hazards increases the already-high risk of serious injuries and fatalities (SIFs). Despite the urgency to fill the employment gap, safety needs to remain at the core of the hiring and onboarding process.

### Experience & Training Are Critical

Approximately 20% of workplace fatalities in the United States occur in the construction industry, making it one of the most dangerous fields in the country. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) identifies falls, electrocutions, caught-ins and struck-by hazards as the top four causes of jobsite injuries and fatalities.

However, most on-site fatalities — especially the 33% of all construction deaths caused by falls — are preventable with effective management and safety training. Although OSHA provides standards for training requirements, companies often circumvent or disregard standard protocols — particularly when they need to fill job openings quickly. Despite companies raising wages and offering additional benefits, finding skilled workers remains a core issue for many organizations. Hiring unskilled or inexperienced workers for these positions poses an even greater risk for SIFs.

Failing to provide sufficient training and a safe work environment can result in financial losses, legal implications and reputational damage.

### 4 Ways to Build a Culture of Safety

Providing new hires with adequate onboarding and training is paramount when a worker is hired, but it's just as important to ensure safe practices are maintained. There are four initiatives you can take to embody safety in the workplace culture while retaining top talent.

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## About The GDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on GDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



**CEI DBE Supportive Services**

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