

May is National Stroke Awareness Month. Many people don't know that if the drug, tPA is administered within the first three hours of a stroke it can drastically improve the outcomes. Many people also don't always know when someone is having a stroke.

Here are three things you can do if you suspect someone is suffering from a stroke due to a change in their behavior or ability to communicate.

The Tips:

1. Ask the person to smile. Does one side of their face droop?
2. Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one of their arms drift downward?
3. Ask the person to repeat an easy sentence. Are the words slurred? Can the person repeat the sentence accurately?

If the person has any of the above symptoms -- time is VITALLY important. Call 9-1-1 immediately.

Mission Healthcare History and Values:

In the late spring of 2009, four San Diegans who were fed up with the "corporate" world, left their jobs, liquidated their 401k plans, and purchased a company that was approximately 2 million dollars in debt. The company wasn't able to pay its taxes, its employees, or maintain the building in which it was located. The individuals actually had to beg the IRS to keep its doors open. In October, after months of negotiating with a cantankerous, vacation loving, IRS liaison, they had a deal. The IRS would take 100% of the purchase price to cover unresolved tax problems of the former owner, but they were willing to allow the company to remain in business. The four founders rolled up their sleeves, and got involved in every aspect of the company, to not only fix the problems at hand, but to also build a thriving company that took care of its employees, and its patients.



Two years later, Mission Home Health is the largest company of its type in San Diego County. Almost 400 high paying jobs have been created in San Diego alone.

Mission's story isn't about financial success. It is a story about a unique value system. Mission's owners didn't take salaries for the first year of the company's existence while they worked 80 hour work weeks. While ownership didn't take salaries, they raised compensation for their employees so that they were some of the highest paid in their field in Southern California. They added "Cadillac" health benefit programs and removed mandatory waiting periods for new hires so that all employees were eligible immediately. The office was relocated to a high end business complex in Mission Valley that owners felt would make their employees comfortable at work. Company funded breakfasts, lunches, dinners and holiday parties for employees and their families became commonplace.

Mission Healthcare prides itself on being an employer of choice. As word spread through the community, employees applied en masse. As the talent pool at Mission grew, so did market share. They added four new offices and expanded services to Riverside County. Today, while Mission continues to grow, the unique values are still at work. Mission's owners only take their salaries home in the form of a paycheck, and in the hierarchy of their payroll, no owner is found among the top ten of the highest paid employees. All excess profits are reinvested in the form of computers, new offices, and new jobs. Mission's bylaws prevent a sale of ownership to any outside party and Mission's owners are confident that they have created a legal structure that will prevent a sale by their future heirs.

Mission is currently working on establishing a not for profit foundation to treat and support those who do not have the means or insurance to pay for medical and support services to prevent them from hospitalization or a higher level of care.

About Mission Healthcare:

Mission Healthcare is a clinically owned and operated organization whose services include Mission Home Health, Mission Hospice, and Mission Home Care. By providing a continuum and continuity of care, Mission Healthcare strives to have a positive impact on the lives of patients, their families, and their healthcare partners no matter what their needs may be. Mission Healthcare utilizes all available resources to provide the highest level of care possible to their patients, all while in the optimal healing environment, the home. www.homewithmission.com

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