

FIRE FIGHTER CANCER AWARENESS
EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

URBAN FIRE FORUM 2017



WHAT DO WE KNOW?

Firefighter cancer rates compared to U.S. cancer rates

Greater number of diagnoses and deaths in Firefighters

More cases amongst younger Firefighters

Cancer rates increase with amount of fires and time spent at fires

WHAT DO WE KNOW?

FIRE FIGHTERS ARE AT MUCH HIGHER RISK FOR CONTRACTING CANCER

- ▶ Testicular Cancer
- ▶ Multiple Myeloma
- ▶ Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma
- ▶ Skin Cancer
- ▶ Prostate Cancer
- ▶ Malignant Melanoma
- ▶ Brain Cancer
- ▶ Colon Cancer
- ▶ Leukemia

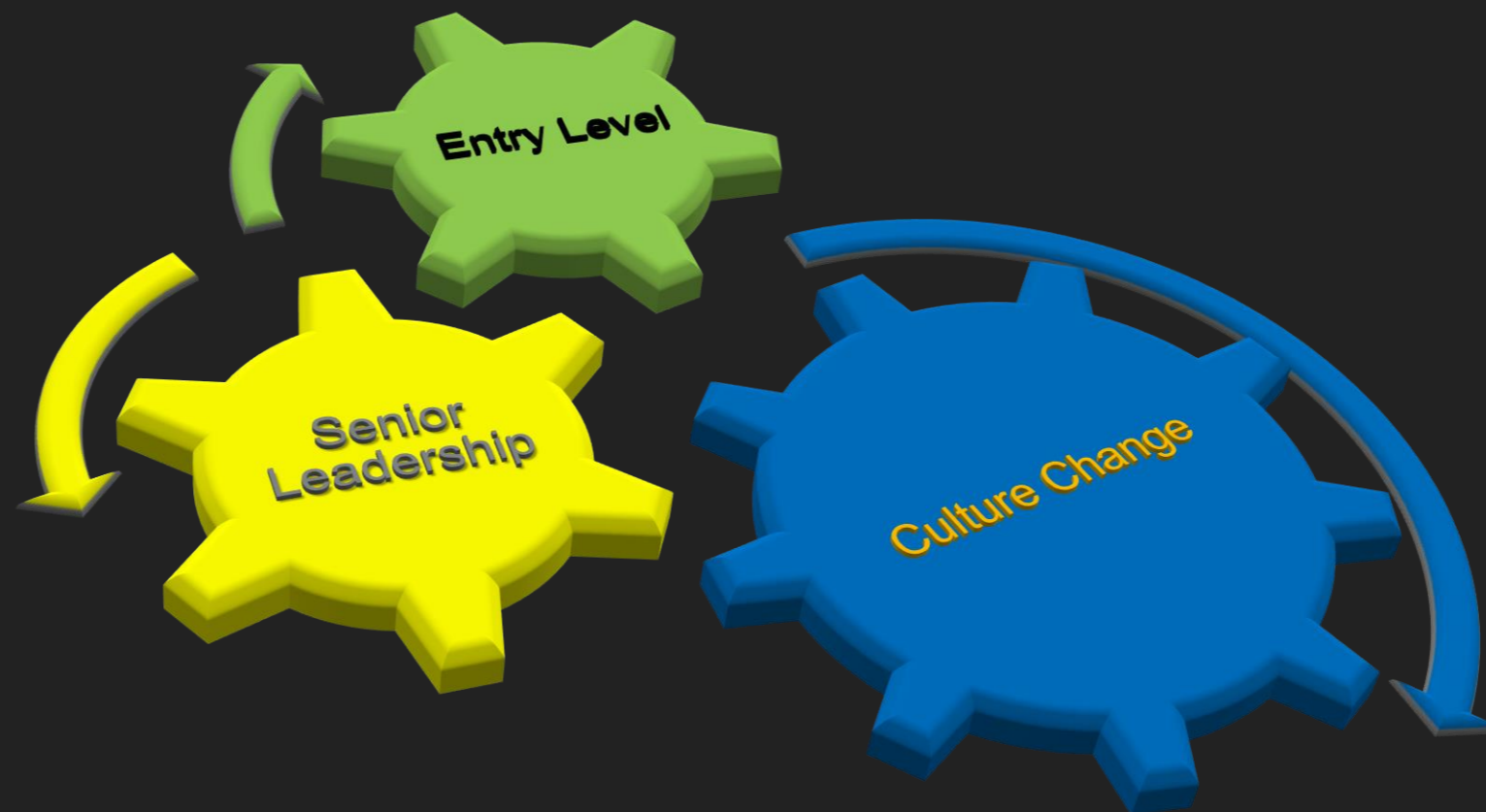
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

TAKING ACTION

- ▶ SCBA from Initial Attack to Overhaul
- ▶ Gross Decon of PPE in the Field
- ▶ Wet-Naps, Baby Wipes, Hero Wipes to remove soot
- ▶ Changing Clothes Immediately after a fire
- ▶ Showering thoroughly post fire
- ▶ Clean PPE
- ▶ Hood Exchange
- ▶ Station Design
- ▶ Exhaust Capture Systems
- ▶ Issuing Second set of PPE
- ▶ Apparatus Design
- ▶ Sunscreen
- ▶ Cessation of Tobacco use
- ▶ Annual Physicals
- ▶ Cancer Studies
- ▶ Presumptive Legislation

WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING?

TAKING MORE ACTION!



WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING?

TAKING MORE ACTION!

- Curriculum Development for Firefighter Training Programs
- NFPA 1001 – Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications
- Embed Cancer Awareness, Education, & Prevention in all Standards
- Cancer Awareness, Education, Prevention, as an Integral part of all Fire Fighting Texts
- Engaging national organizations to promote culture change

633.35 Firefighter training and certification. —

(3) Initial training for both career and volunteer firefighters shall include training related to cancer and mental health risks within the fire service as a requirement for obtaining Firefighter Certificate of Compliance.