**Managing Risk from Behind the Desk: A Systems-Based Approach**

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**Educational Outcomes:**

* Offer participants a paradigm-shifting metaphor for risk management systems  
* Explore examples of competing incentives and cognitive dissonance  
* Foster critical thinking and self-reflection through discussion and small-group activities

**THE ECOSYSTEM MODEL:** Think of your program’s risk management system as a series of inter-related elements. The following elements can **compete, co-exist, or reinforce** each other, as they would in an actual ecosystem:

- Mission  
- Culture & relationships  
- Risk tolerance  
- Actual program risks  
- Assessment of staff skill  
- Staff training  
- Medical screening  
- Legal paperwork  
- Insurance coverage  
- Emergency response plan  
- Policies  
- Facilities, Vehicles  
- And more!

(We encourage you to refine this concept by integrating the actual elements that are most relevant to your program)

Questions? Feedback? Want to ask permission to reprint this material? Contact

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