

Nurture



Quarterly Newsletter of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

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Note to readers

Nurture will be distributed electronically beginning with the next newsletter (November 2007). To facilitate this, we request that you please send your name and e-mail address to nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu and type "Nurture" in the subject line. E-mail addresses will not be shown in the "To" box, and we will not share your address. If you do not have regular access to e-mail, please call us at 1-800-662-6900 and tell us that you still want a paper copy. Thank you.



National Children's Center
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

"The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety strives to enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments."

Federal council sets direction for agricultural safety and health

Representatives of agricultural business, producers, migrant workers, safety professionals and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) scientists took a large step toward a national action plan for agricultural safety and health during two days of meetings at the National Children's Center in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

The NIOSH-National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Sector Council on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries met Aug. 1-2 to set priorities for the future.

"We looked at the skills everyone brought to the table, with the goal of coming up with a national action plan," said George Conway, M.D., M.P.H., council co-chair and program leader of the NIOSH Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing program.

"The 30-member council is going to have considerable influence on proposing and implementing strategic goals at a national level, including funding from sources both public and private," said Barbara Lee, Ph.D., council co-chair and director of the National Children's Center.

Strategic goals were drafted, including priorities such as surveillance to enumerate workers and their adverse exposures, with special attention on workers considered "vulnerable" because of age, language, migration, culture or disability, Dr. Lee said.

Other goals are to reduce farm machinery deaths, musculoskeletal disorders related



Barbara Lee, Ph.D., and George Conway, M.D., M.P.H.

to repetitive job movements and emerging issues such as infectious diseases. The goals should be finalized by early 2008, and then the council's productive work will begin in earnest.

"The council members have made a commitment to move the plan into action with measurable objectives so we can track our progress over the coming five years," Dr. Lee said.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing is one of eight NIOSH-NORA sector councils. The others are: construction; healthcare and social assistance; manufacturing; mining; services; transportation, warehousing and utilities; and wholesale and retail trade.

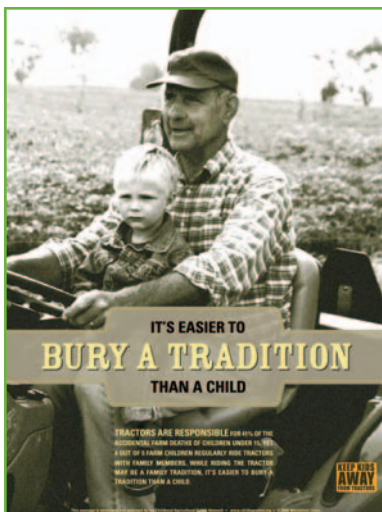
For more information and to add comments on the draft plan, go to <http://cdc.gov/niosh/nora/>.

'Bury a Tradition' featured on AgDay television

The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) campaign to keep children younger than 12 years away from tractors was featured as the lead story on the July 9 edition of AgDay Television Network news.

The report used clips from Michael Peterson's video public service announcement and an interview with National Children's Center Director Barbara Lee, Ph.D. AgDay, part of Farm Journal Media, is carried on more than 120 stations nationwide. For the latest campaign news, go to www.childsafety.org.

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK: The "Bury a Tradition" campaign is the theme of this 64th annual event, Sept. 16-22. To download special logos featuring the campaign's major messages – "Keep Kids Away from Tractors" and "It's Easier to Bury a Tradition than a Child" -- go to <http://www.nsc.org/necas/>.



FS4JK gives presentation at Amish conference

Farm Safety 4 Just Kids representatives gave a presentation titled "Transforming Farm Safety Resources to Save Amish Children" in June at the Amish in America Conference at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania. Shari Burgus, FS4JK Education Director, Kay Moyer, Lancaster Farm Safety Education FS4JK Chapter, and Heidi Wagner, Woolwich Community Health Center FS4JK Chapter; highlighted the project conducted in 2006 that adapted the FS4JK magnetic demonstration to reach "Plain People," as the Old Order Amish and Mennonites are sometimes known. This project was pilot tested in Pennsylvania, Ontario, Ohio and Iowa by several chapters and funded by the Children's Agricultural Safety Network mini-grant program. The conference enabled more than 300 participants to learn about Anabaptist and Pietist religious groups. Tours in Lancaster County provided insight into their business practices and family lifestyles.



Safe Play grants spark action on Ontario family farms

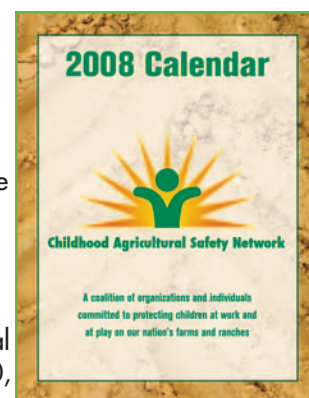
The Farm Safety Association implemented a province-wide \$50,000 Safe Play Area Grant Summer Program in Ontario. The goal is to increase awareness for the need to separate the workplace from the home, where children 10 years of age and under live, play and explore by providing eligible applicants a \$500 grant towards the development of a secure Safe Play Area.

"A Safe Play Area physically limits the child's exposure to hazards on the farm," says Farm Safety Association CEO and President, Dean Anderson. He stresses that under adult supervision, the child can grow, play and learn within a safe environment. "Prohibiting children access to the workplace has been the standard practice in virtually all other industries," added Anderson.

The Farm Safety Association has already approved 29 grants of the total 100 grants available. Becky de Wit, one of the early grant recipients with an eight-month old child says, "Even at such an early age, our child is already very interested in tractors. We appreciate the help Farm Safety Association has given us to keep him safe on the farm." More information is available at www.farmsafety.ca.

Safety calendars 2008

The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network is again publishing safety calendars. Each month in the 2008 calendars features a safety message from a different network member. To request calendars (availability of free calendars is limited), please contact a CASN member organization, or contact the National Children's Center, 1-800-662-6900, nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu.



Children's Center teams with University of Kentucky on Journalists Workshop

"Children and Agriculture: Telling the Story," held July 13-14 near Harrodsburg, Kentucky, gave 10 journalists an inside look at health and safety issues facing children on family farms in the hilly, central part of the state.

The fourth annual workshop was co-hosted by the National Children's Center and three units of the University of Kentucky – College of Public Health, College of Communications and Information Studies, and the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues.

The National Children's Center and the Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention – part of the University of Kentucky's College of Public Health – are funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The workshop focused on safety issues involving tractors and large animals.

"We blended discussion, presentations and field trips in order to generate story ideas, increase the frequency of stories about children in agriculture, and to portray appropriate roles for children," said Scott Heiberger, workshop director and communications specialist at the National Children's Center.

Providing context were faculty experts with backgrounds in extension, agricultural safety, health care, emergency response, education, social services and journalism.

Pesticide safety and childbearing for Latina farmworkers: new resources

Extensive promotora pesticide safety educational materials, which include pesticide safety for Latina farmworkers who are or may become pregnant, are available in Spanish and English at http://www1.wfubmc.edu/fam_med/Research/Educational/. New materials include: single-page handout; poster; and a lesson plan that is tied to the new materials, as well as to existing promotora pesticide safety educational materials.

Materials are available on CD by contacting Thomas A. Arcury, PhD, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC 27157-1084; e-mail: tarcury@wfubmc.edu. The development of these new pesticide safety and childbearing promotora pesticide safety educational materials was supported by a grant from the North Carolina Pesticide Environmental Trust Fund Project Proposal, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



A workshop field trip to the farm of Michael and Debbie Jones, Salvisa, Kentucky.

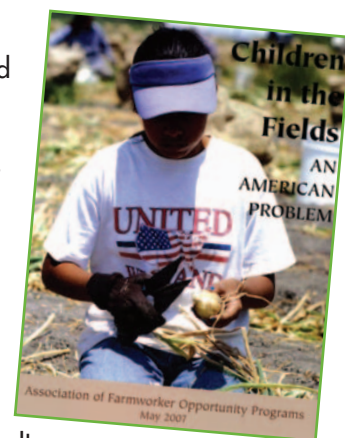
The journalists visited a 137-acre hillside farm that produces beef, tobacco and hay, and a third-generation dairy that milks Jersey cattle. Meetings were held at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, a restored historical site founded by the Shaker religious sect in the 19th century.

NOTE: Looking for a better relationship with journalists regarding your agricultural safety and health topic? A booklet on how to conduct a journalists workshop is due to be published by the National Children's Center in October 2007.

New report describes child farmworker issues

The Association of Farmworkers Opportunity Programs has issued a report to describe the current situation of migrant child farmworkers in the United States and to propose changes in federal law and regulations to improve their welfare.

"Children in the Fields: an American problem," published in May 2007, is available under the Reports heading at <http://www.afop.org/news.htm>. It can also be ordered by sending requests to Heather Anderson, Children in the Fields project coordinator, 202-828-6006, ext. 105; anderson@afop.org. To cover shipping costs, each copy is \$1.50



Teen worker guidelines in production

A project to modify current North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks posters to be applicable for hired adolescent farm workers is underway at the National Children's Center. The ultimate goal of this project, called "Safety Guidelines for Hired Adolescent Farm Workers (SaGHAF)," is to reduce the incidence of workplace injury and fatality to hired teen workers. The project team is developing user-friendly materials, including

posters, for employers and supervisors containing guidelines for training and supervision as well as federal regulations. Beginning in spring 2008, the SGHAF guidelines will be distributed to agricultural employers. Although there are safety standards in place for youth employed in many occupations, there are currently few guidelines for youth hired to work on farms and ranches.

Schedule of upcoming events

October 12 – 17, 2007

National Safety Council Congress & Expo
Chicago, Illinois

October 18 – 20, 2007

20th Annual East Coast Migrant Stream Forum
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

October 29 – November 1, 2007

National AgrAbility Workshop
Sacramento, California

November 3 – 7, 2007

American Public Health Association annual Meeting & Expo
Washington, DC

November 14 – 16, 2007

North American Agromedicine Consortium annual meeting/
Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference
Omaha, Nebraska

December 6 – 8, 2007

17th annual Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
"Honoring our History, Preparing for the Future"
San Antonio, Texas

Nurture is a publication of the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (a program of Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin).

It is published three times each year to disseminate children's rural health and safety information to professionals in the fields of health and safety, agri-business, the media, and others.

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