

Nurture



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

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Features

Page 2

NAGCAT tractor guidelines updated
FS4JK has new look, Web site
Pediatric journal examines child ag injury
Employment opportunity

Page 3

Mini-grant updates

Page 4

Demand grows for Safe Agritourism
Upcoming events



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."

Action Plan 'activation' scheduled for Summit

"Blueprint for Protecting Children in Agriculture: The 2012 National Action Plan" (<http://marshfieldclinic.org/blueprint>) will be activated at the 2013 North American Agricultural Safety Summit, September 25-27 at the Marriott Minneapolis City Center Hotel. The activation and continued work of the Blueprint team is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).



Blueprint for Protecting
Children in Agriculture



The Summit will convene agricultural safety and agribusiness leaders and include topics specific to children, hired adolescents and families. Confirmed Summit speakers include



2013
NORTH
AMERICAN
AGRICULTURAL
SAFETY
SUMMIT

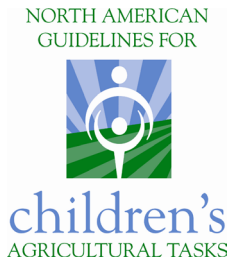
CHS Inc. President and CEO Carl Casale, NIOSH Director Dr. John Howard, Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. Gary Doer, and Redlands Christian Migrant Association Executive Director Barbara Mainster. Also confirmed are Dairy Farmers of America Vice President David Darr, National Council of Agricultural Employers Executive Vice President Frank Gasperini and Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association President Mike Stuart. U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and others have been invited. Registration is open. For more information, go to www.ashca.com.

Free hard copies: Complementary to the Blueprint is an issue of the *Journal of Agromedicine* (Volume 17, Issue 2 - <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wagr20/17/2>) dedicated to "Protecting Children in Agriculture." Free hard copies of both the *Journal of Agromedicine* and *Blueprint* are available by contacting the National Children's Center, nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu, 1-800-662-6900.

News in brief

NAGCAT tractor guidelines updated

It has been more than a decade since the North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT) were released to assist parents in assigning developmentally appropriate and safe farm work to their children ages 7-16 years. The safe operation of farm tractors is heavily emphasized within NAGCAT because farm tractors account for the majority of fatal injuries to youth working on farms. Since NAGCAT were released, a growing body of scientific evidence has accumulated related to the tractor guidelines and children's physical ability to safely operate them.



A panel of childhood agricultural safety and health experts was convened by NIOSH to review the scientific literature and provide recommendations for updating the tractor guidelines. Based on their recommendations, the National Children's Center's Tammy Ellis and Barbara Marlenga, Ph.D., have been working to update the adult responsibilities, recommended supervision, and age recommendations for 22 NAGCAT guidelines that involve tractor operations. In addition, five child development and tractors guidelines were developed with the assistance of David Schwebel, Ph.D., from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and include physical, cognitive, perceptual, social, and sociocultural development. The new and updated tractor guidelines are due to be released by this summer.



FARMSAFETY
For Just Kids

**FS4JK has new
look, website**

Farm Safety for Just Kids has rebranded with a new logo and Web site (www.farmsafetyforjustkids.org) that features new resources. In addition to the new look, the distribution of materials has changed. Farm safety educational materials will be available to download as PDFs for free.

"As we looked at rebranding, we realized it was the perfect opportunity to also evaluate the delivery process of our materials," said Tracy Schlater, marketing director. "Offering resources online eliminates two main obstacles of cost and convenience for the volunteers and teachers using our materials."

Resources available include lesson plans, activities, background information, fact sheets, and Power Point presentations. Chemical and ATV resources are available in both English and Spanish. In addition, one-page fact sheets cover a variety of other topics. A supply of printed resources is still available. To order hard copy resources while supplies last, call 1-800-423-5437.

CASN to meet June 24 in Sandusky



The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN), www.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs/casn, will hold its annual in-person meeting, 5:30 -9 p.m., Monday, June 24, 2013, at Sawmill Creek Resort, Sandusky, Ohio, during the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) conference. Anyone interested in joining the network or learning more about its activities is encouraged to attend. To RSVP or for more information, contact Marsha Salzwedel, M.S., salzwedel.marsha@mcrf.mfldclin.edu; or 1-800-662-6900, option 8.

Pediatric journal examines child ag injury

A journal devoted to timely and practical topics in pediatric medicine focused on "Childhood Agricultural Injuries: An Update for Clinicians," in its February 2013 edition. Current Problems in Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care (43:2;19-46) features a review co-authored by Barbara Lee, Ph.D., and Barbara Marlenga, Ph.D., National Children's Center, and pediatrician Suzanne Wright, M.D., Marshfield Clinic. A commentary is provided by Dee Jepsen, Ph.D., Ohio State University.

"This issue puts childhood injuries that occur in rural settings in the national spotlight," writes John Pascoe, M.D., an associate editor at the journal. The co-authors have written a document that "focuses on a number of important topics within this often neglected domain of children's health."

Topics include a description of the population at risk, types of injuries and complications that result in long-term disability, the psychological impact of injuries and a number of childhood injury prevention strategies. The authors also reviewed the family farm exemption for child labor regulations and the role of farm culture and farm traditions.

Employment opportunity

The National Farm Medicine Center (NFMC) seeks a tenure track Research Scientist who will contribute to the development and continuation of occupational health and safety/injury control research consistent with the goals and efforts of the Farm Center and Marshfield Clinic. Requirements include a Ph.D. or M.D. in injury prevention/control, occupational safety and health, sociology, anthropology, nursing, program evaluation, health communication, or a related field. New Ph.D. graduates are encouraged to apply. To apply online, visit www.marshfieldclinic.org and reference position number: MC100226 Research Scientist. Inquiries may be directed to Beth Pescinski in Human Resources at Pescinski.bethany@marshfieldclinic.org.

UPDATE: progress reports from recent mini-grants

"Youth Health Educator Program to Prevent Heat-Related Illness among Child Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers." Principal Investigators – Thomas A. Arcury, Ph.D., and Chaya R. Spears, Ph.D., Department of Family and Community Medicine, Wake Forest School of Medicine.

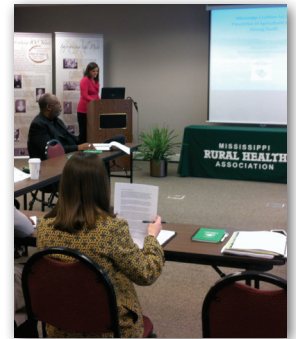
The project was developed through a community-academic partnership between NC FIELD, Inc. (North Carolina Focus on Increasing Education, Leadership and Dignity) and Wake Forest School of Medicine's Center for Worker Health (CWH-WFSM). The program, which can be presented in less than an hour, includes: 1) a health educator training curriculum; 2) "The Deadly Heat/El Calor Mortal" flip-chart with an incorporated educational script; 3) educational game materials, "The Cabbage Game," that can be used to reinforce flip-chart content; and 4) a brochure to be given to participants as an in-field reminder of the symptoms and methods of prevention and treatment of heat-related illness. The project documented an increase in farmworker youth knowledge as well as created an increased occupational health leadership among farmworker youth by training seven Youth Health Educators in the heat-related illness curriculum. A manuscript based on the project has been accepted by the journal *Practicing Anthropology*.



"Mississippi Coalition for the Prevention of Agricultural Injury among Youth." Principal Investigator – Ryan Kelly, M.S., Mississippi Rural Health Association, Madison, MS. The Mississippi Rural Health Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to providing resources, education and advocacy to rural health-related matters.

The grant is being used to identify major stakeholders within Mississippi who have experience or practice in the prevention of agricultural injuries among children, and then to develop a coalition to plan for the prevention of these

injuries. The initiative includes a public awareness campaign and development of a strategy for sustaining the coalition. The first stakeholder meeting was held earlier this year (*image on right*). It consisted of a discussion on the programs currently in place within the state, and how this grant could potentially advance those programs while providing guidance and cooperation among groups. Serving as project advisor is Deb Reed, R.N., Ph.D., University of Kentucky.



"Utilizing Social Narratives to Promote Diné Youth Agricultural Safety: Development of an Online Community Resource for Parents." Principal Investigator – Michael Pate, Ph.D., Utah State University, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

This project assessed the need of Diné (Navajo) parents and community leaders for a training program for the prevention of livestock injuries, including horse-related injuries. The project identified parents' perceptions of livestock injury risks to Diné children, described Diné community stakeholder input on prevention interventions for reducing injury risks to children related to livestock (e.g., attitudes towards equestrian helmets), and identified information about Internet usage, as well as Facebook and other social media network use. Nearly 100 Navajo Nation members agreed to participate in the survey and provided usable responses. Sixty percent perceived a youth who worked with intact male livestock to be at high risk for injury. Twenty-six percent perceived a youth who rides a horse without an equestrian helmet to be at high risk. Participants expressed concerns about intervention methods, including social acceptance (e.g., youth will feel humiliation when wearing protective gear). Several key partnerships were developed and numerous participants wanted assistance with starting programs within their area.

News in brief *continued*

News clippings sought

The National Children's Center seeks news clips/Web links describing agricultural injury events. Clips are an excellent way to "tell the story" about safety, and the center will

gladly share the content of its informal collection. To submit or request clippings, contact Marsha Salzwedel, M.S., salzwedel.marsha@mcrf.mfldclin.edu; or 1-800-662-6900, option 8.

Demand grows for Safe Agritourism

A full page story in Hoard's Dairyman (February 25 issue) is indicative of the buzz generated by the interactive Web guide, www.safeagritourism.com. Marsha Salzwedel, M.S., project manager, is being asked to speak at meetings of agritourism associations, and regularly fields calls from farmers asking for more information. She is not surprised. "Good safety practices ensure peace of mind not only for visitors but for the agritourism operators," Salzwedel said. "They can take pride in having an operation that is safe, as well as fun and educational for their visitors."



Schedule of upcoming events

June 23-27, 2013

International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health
Sandusky, OH, www.isash.org

June 24, 2013

Childhood Agricultural Safety Network • Sandusky, OH,
www.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrahs/casn

September 25-27, 2013

North American 2013 Agricultural Safety Summit
Minneapolis, MN, www.ashca.com

September 28-October 4, 2013

National Safety Council Congress and Expo
Chicago, IL, <http://www.nsc.org/pages/contactus.aspx>

November 2-6, 2013

American Public Health Association
Boston, MA, <http://www.apha.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting/>

November 14-16, 2013

Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
South Padre Island, TX,
<http://www.ncfh.org/?pid=48>

October 19-22, 2014

7th International Symposium Safety and Health in Agricultural and Rural Populations: Global Perspectives
Saskatoon, SK, Canada
<http://cchsa-ccssma.usask.ca/sharp2014/>

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.

Contact the National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, Marshfield Clinic, 1000 North Oak Ave., Marshfield, WI 54449-5790; phone 1-800-662-6900 or 715-389-4999; fax 715-389-4996.

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