

Nurture

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

Free! 2015 safety calendars

Get 12 months of safety messages with the 2015 Childhood Agricultural Safety Network Calendar. Each month features topics such as tractors, all-terrain vehicles, heat stress, hearing conservation and water safety. There's even a child development chart to assist parents in deciding when a child is ready to perform various farm tasks. To order copies, contact the National Children's Center, NCCRAHS@mcrf.mfldclin.edu, 1-800-662-6900.



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."

Safeagritourism enhanced Website adds virtual walkthroughs, insurance info

If you blinked you probably missed major additions to the ever-evolving "Integrating Safety into Agritourism" website, www.safeagritourism.com.

A farmer engaged in agritourism faces unique safety challenges involving visitors and employees. The website now offers virtual safety walkthroughs specific to more than a dozen topics. Other enhancements updated this fall reflecting research and feedback from agritourism operators include:

- More information and resources on animal safety, including information specific to petting zoos. The sections on large animal activities (e.g., dairy tours, horseback riding) have also been expanded.
- Extensive additions to the play area section, including the importance of having proper types of materials under play equipment. Almost half of injuries on public playgrounds are caused by falls from equipment.
- Guidance on insurance, addressing common insurance issues and problems, and providing talking points for the farmer to discuss with his insurance agent.



Horseback riding is one of the expanded sections

By the end of 2014, look for safety information specific to farm markets/stands and inflatables (e.g., bounce houses, jumping pillows).

A number of high-profile agritourism fatalities during the busy fall season reminded operators nationwide of the need to incorporate safety into their business plans

"If there is a serious injury, whether as part of a regular farm or an agritourism activity, there will be negative consequences for the farm," said Marsha Salzwedel, agricultural youth safety specialist with the National Children's Center. "Farmers tell me that they sleep better at night knowing that they have done all they can to ensure a safe agritourism visit for everyone."

National Youth Symposium sets direction

The National Youth Farm and Ranch Safety Symposium, Oct. 27-28 in Louisville, KY, sparked interest in a national strategy for the direction of youth safety in agriculture.

Participating organizations included: Agricultural Safety and Health and Council of America, Department of Labor, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), National Children's Center, National FFA Organization, American Farm Bureau Federation, National Council of Agricultural Employers, American Association for Agricultural Education, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, and Progressive Agriculture Foundation.

The agenda encouraged discussion on the following topics:

- The history of regulating youth for agricultural employment and moving forward
- Modern farm structure and safe youth employment opportunities
- True hazards to youth employed on farms, including medical perspectives

- Formal and non-formal approaches for teaching agricultural safety and health

- Secondary agricultural education programs to provide training prior to employment

- Educational opportunities at the local level

- Access to additional resources for educators, employers, and parents

Safety in Agriculture for Youth (SAY) is a grant project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute for Food and Agriculture to develop a sustainable and accessible national clearinghouse for agricultural safety and health curriculum for youth.



The symposium in Louisville, KY, sparked discussion on the national strategy for youth working in agriculture. Attendees included (from left) Frank Gasperini, National Council of Agricultural Employers; Dennis Murphy, Penn State University; and Aaron Yoder, University of Nebraska Medical Center. Dr. Murphy is PI on a new Children's Center project, "Developing a Sustainable Infrastructure for the SAY National Clearinghouse."

A project within the next five-year cycle of the Children's Center, led by Dennis Murphy, Ph.D., of Penn State, involves evaluating the rollout of the clearinghouse to maximize its utility.

National Children's Center receives major grant for agriculture safety

Farm parents, insurers, youth organizations and others increasingly turn to the unique capabilities of the National Children's Center and its partners.

Recognizing the role played by the National Children's Center in the steady decline of childhood agricultural nonfatal injury rates over the past decade, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) announced Sept. 25 that it awarded the Center a \$1.2 million per year competitive grant renewal for a five-year cycle. NIOSH has funded the National Children's Center since 1997. The Center is also supported by Marshfield Clinic and through generous donations and other grants.

"This major award will significantly expand our efforts to integrate proven safety strategies into programs of organizations and businesses that are best-positioned to influence the safety of children living and working on farms," said Barbara Lee, Ph.D., National Children's Center director. "We expect to facilitate partnerships with private sector organizations such as agricultural employer associations, insurance companies, bankers and youth-serving groups. We want to ensure that

optimal safety interventions and guidelines are sustained beyond the span of the grant period.

"Innovative approaches will address safety for beginning farmers and ranchers; child care services for migrant and seasonal farm worker parents; and supervisor training of youth hired for agricultural employment."

While the overall decrease in childhood nonfatal injury rates is encouraging, a child is killed in a farm accident an average of every three days, indicating there's work to be done. Also of concern is the injury rate for children younger than age 10 is increasing.

The new NIOSH grant includes seven distinct projects, along with administrative, scientific and evaluation oversight. Principal investigators from MCRF include Lee; Barbara Marlena, Ph.D.; Matthew Keifer, M.D.; and Casper Bendixsen, Ph.D. External principal investigators include Amy K. Liebman, Migrant Clinicians Network; Dennis Murphy, Ph.D., Penn State University; and Diane Rohlman, Ph.D., and Shelly Campo, Ph.D., University of Iowa.

News in brief

NIOSH Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Initiative

A new report from NIOSH highlights 15 years of childhood agricultural injury prevention. The report, by Drs. David Hard and Allen Robison, summarizes research of the National Children's Center and others that have been funded by grants from the Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Initiative (CAIPI). Through surveillance, research, and information dissemination, the initiative prevents injury and death to children and youth in an agricultural environment. To download a copy of the Summary of NIOSH Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Extramural Research: A Quindecennial (1997–2011) of Progress, visit: www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2014-121/

Deere looks at ways to keep kids safe

Marsha Salzwedel, M.S., National Children's Center, accepted an invitation from John Deere to address nearly 100 of its product safety and compliance professionals from around the world at the Deere Financial facility in Johnston, Iowa. Salzwedel's presentation, "Keeping Kids Safe on Farms and Ranches," focused on safe, appropriate ways to promote to young children farming as a career. Instead of allowing children on tractors in order to "get them hooked" on farming, Salzwedel presented ideas for gardening toys that would plant and irrigate, as well as educational video games and mobile apps allowing children to track the progress of their parents' crops. These alternatives generated a buzz at the recent meeting, which included Deere safety professionals from North America, India, China, Russia, Germany and Brazil.



JOHN DEERE

CASN holds annual meeting

The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (below) held its annual meeting June 23 in Omaha, NE, during the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health conference. It was CASN's best-attended meeting ever! Check out the new, redesigned CASN website, www.childagsafety.org.



Welcome to NCCRAHS



*Bryan Weichelt,
M.S., M.B.A.*

Bryan Weichelt brings information and communication technology expertise to the Advanced Knowledge Mobilization and E-communication (AKME) project, a centerpiece in the new National Children's Center grant. Weichelt comes to the Center from the Biomedical Informatics Research Center of Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation. He'll work closely with project Principal Investigator Matthew Keifer, M.D., M.P.H., and the AKME project team to optimize communication among projects and cores, and with agents and adults responsible for the safety and health of children on farms. Weichelt is a fourth generation farmer, growing up on a family dairy that is still operational. Weichelt served eight years in the Army National Guard, three years active duty, and one 12-month tour in Iraq as a platoon leader. He plans to finish his Ph.D. in Biomedical and Health Informatics in 2015.



Renee Kaiser

Renee Kaiser officially joined the Center in October as its administrative assistant after working in that role for two months. She assists across all National Children's Center projects, and also is involved in the work of the National Farm Medicine Center.

Work. Respect. Dignity.

Casper Bendixsen, Ph.D., of the National Farm Medicine Center/National Children's Center, participated in a panel discussion Sept. 18 in Salisbury, MD, examining the human side of immigration. Amy K. Liebman, M.P.A., M.A., of host Migrant Clinicians Network, moderated. Panelists also included photojournalist Earl Dotter, Salisbury University professors Dr. Louis Detwiler and Dr. Tim Dunn, and immigrant and long-time Salisbury resident Noe Parra Manrique. The Salisbury University Downtown Gallery concurrently hosted Dotter's photo exhibition: Work. Respect. Dignity. Shared Images and Stories of Maryland's Eastern Shore Immigrants. The exhibition was organized by Migrant Clinicians Network with support provided by the Maryland Humanities Council.



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.

Schedule of upcoming events

February 23-25, 2015

Western Migrant Stream Forum,
San Diego, CA
www.nwrpca.org

March 1-7, 2015

Agricultural Safety Awareness Week
(American Farm Bureau Federation)
www.fb.org

April 13-16, 2015

AgrAbility National Training
Workshop, Rochester, NY
www.agrability.org

April 14-17, 2015

National Rural Health Association
Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA
www.ruralhealthweb.org/

May 5-7, 2015

National Farmworkers Health
Conference, San Antonio, TX
[http://meetings.nachc.com/c-training/
national-farmworkers-health-conference/](http://meetings.nachc.com/c-training/national-farmworkers-health-conference/)

June 21-24, 2015

International Society for Agricultural
Safety and Health Annual
Conference, Normal, IL
<http://isash.org/>

Sept. 20-26, 2015

National Farm Safety and Health Week
www.necasag.org

Urban farming

Community gardens and urban farming operations are increasing in number and popularity. These experiences may be among the best ways to familiarize and educate children on basic agricultural practices. The National Children's Center is studying child safety and involvement in community gardens, with plans to create and disseminate safety materials in the coming months.

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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