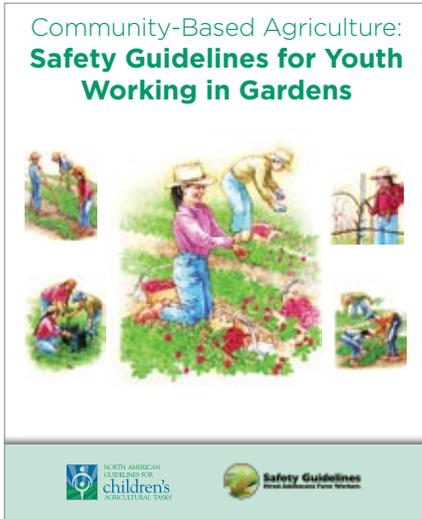


Youth garden safety featured in new resource

The spring air is thick with anticipation as gardeners buy seed packets and dream of bountiful harvests. Many will break new ground, as gardens are growing in popularity and diversity.

Whether sponsored by a town, school, church or neighborhood, these gardens are collectively known as Community-Based Agriculture, and they are attracting eager newcomers.

“Gardening can be such a positive experience and an excellent way to kick-start a child’s interest in agriculture,” said Bryan Weichelt, project manager for the National Children’s Center. “I know our 2-year-old daughter is already looking forward to going out and ‘helping’ in the garden this spring.”



The National Children’s Center has introduced a resource booklet to help ensure a safe, positive gardening experience. “Community-Based Agriculture: Safety Guidelines for Youth Working in Gardens,” provides guidance for adults who are making decisions about what work is appropriate for children.

The booklet (<http://cultivatesafety.org/cba/>) draws upon previous research and resources from the National Children’s Center. It packages relevant content from the North American Guidelines for Children’s Agricultural Tasks and recommendations regarding hired adolescent workers. Many of the guidelines are available in Spanish.

“A child’s experience in a garden depends on the adults: if a child has fun, learns something and is safe, it reflects back on the responsible adults,” Weichelt said.

The new booklet can help adults decide which tasks children should perform, what equipment they can use, what training they should receive, and how much supervision is needed, Weichelt said. The safety of the child is always the responsibility of the adults.



Project Manager
Bryan Weichelt
M.S., M.B.A.

Future of surveillance

Children’s Center project attempts to ‘fill the gaps’

The end of federal childhood agricultural injury data surveys has prompted the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to examine options. NIOSH hosted a webinar meeting March 30 and a public docket is open for comment until May 27, 2015.

A newly-funded National Children’s Center project, “Filling the Gaps in Child Agricultural Injury Data,” is exploring the most promising, existing public health surveillance systems to determine their utility for assessing the health and safety of children in agricultural settings.

The focus of the project, said Principal Investigator Barbara Marlenga, Ph.D., is on determining how these existing surveillance systems can identify injury events missed by other methods and/or provide more details about risks, activities, and circumstances surrounding child agricultural injury events. This information, in turn, can help to guide our prevention efforts, Dr. Marlenga said. Co-investigators are Will Pickett, Ph.D., Queen’s University; and Richard Berg, M.S., Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation. Scientific Advisor to the project is Risto Rautiainen, Ph.D., director, Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health.

Dr. Marlenga and Barbara Lee, Ph.D., authored the official National Children’s Center response in a letter submitted to the Federal Register. Their recommendations are based on the, “Blueprint for Protecting Children in Agriculture: The 2012 Na-

tional Action Plan.” In addition to demographics, agents of injury and exposure, future surveillance should include:

- Minimum child-specific data set with clear definitions and inclusion/exclusion criteria
- Data secured from multiple sources, including non-traditional agricultural data sources (e.g., child death reviews), with potential for merging or cross-referencing
- Data collected from parents and farm owners via methods other than land-line telephones
- Data collected from “hard to reach” populations such as migrating workers, Anabaptists, beginning farmers, and urban agriculture producers.
- Variables regarding work vs. non-work, farm residency status (live on, visit, employed on), and relationship of injured child to responsible adult
- Public access to regional and national data
- Timely reports and posting of updated data

For more information and to enter a comment, visit the Federal Register, <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/02/26/2015-03949/future-directions-for-the-surveillance-of-agricultural-injuries-public-meeting-request-for-comments>.



Three mini-grants announced for 2015

The National Children's Center is proud to announce the recipients of this year's mini-grants, which total up to \$20,000 per project.

“The South Central Pennsylvania Anabaptist Youth Trauma Prevention Consortium (AYTPC): A Regional Syndicate for the Prevention of Rural Trauma in Anabaptist Youth”

Principal Investigator: Ron Baier, EMT-P – Lancaster General Hospital

The objective of this project is to address preventable injuries in the vulnerable rural Anabaptist population by expanding an existing pilot Anabaptist Youth Trauma Prevention Program from a single county to a regional initiative, targeting the most prominent, trauma-prone rural centers in South Central Pennsylvania (Lancaster, Lebanon, Cumberland, Chester, and York). This grant will test a community model to reach this at-risk agricultural population. The project will work to facilitate and support adoption within the Anabaptist community of new safety practices to reduce three of the most prevalent rural-related injuries for Anabaptist youth in central Pennsylvania: 1) hay hole falls, 2) non-motorized transportation (bike/scooter/rollerblade/walk) vs. motor vehicle collisions, 3) horse drawn buggy vs. motorized vehicle collisions.

“Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission's Manoomin Canoe Safety Project 2014-2015”

Principal Investigator: Heather Naigus – Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

Native Americans continue to be underrepresented in agricultural health and safety research as well as the resulting intervention programs. Since little is known about the agricultural practices

of Native American groups in terms of safety, participants, especially youth, are particularly vulnerable. The primary goal for this project is to develop and promote canoe safety specifically for those participating in Manoomin (wild rice) harvesting throughout the signatory tribes of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC). Because youth often participate with Manoomin harvest, this new curriculum will be especially focused on both young participants as well as the responsible adults. GLIFWC is charged with keeping tribal members and their resources safe. This project will also serve as an example of what can be produced from applied ethnographic research. GLIFWC's collaboration with Dr. Casper Bendixsen and his “Intervention through Inquiry: Understanding Beginning Farmers and Ranchers” project (also supported by the Children's Center) is anticipated to generate a number of culturally informed childhood injury preventions.

“Safe Children on Georgia Farms: Implementing A Statewide NAGCAT Training Program through GWIAA”

Principal Investigator: Shyeasta Cullars – Georgia Women in Agriculture Association

This prevention/education program proposes to implement a statewide training program in the use of the NAGCAT guidelines by members of the Georgia Women in Agriculture Association (GWIAA) organization. The purpose of this program is to reduce injuries and fatalities to children on farms in Georgia, owned or operated by women and minorities in the GWIAA membership.” This project is linked directly with Dr. Bendixsen's project, “Intervention through Inquiry: Understanding Beginning Farmers and Ranchers” (also supported by the Children's Center). Dr. Bendixsen aims to use ethnographic inquiry as a way of getting to know different farm communities in an in-depth way, thereby eventually motivating them to develop or translate a community developed child injury intervention.

Scientific advisors meet in Madison

The National Children's Center, its Scientific Advisors and its external Principal Investigators met in Madison, WI, Dec. 3-4, to discuss the Center's seven new projects and the next five years. The meeting fostered a collective understanding of the

Center's mission and its role among other national initiatives addressing youth, agriculture and safety. It also guided strategies of specific projects and enhanced the integration of projects and communication strategies in line with the Center's theme, “...to strengthen public-private partnerships to address childhood agricultural injury prevention.”



Schedule of upcoming events

May 5-7, 2015

National Farmworkers Health Conference, San Antonio, TX
<http://meetings.nachc.com/c-training/national-farmworkers-health-conference/>

May 19-21, 2015

National Occupational Injury Research Symposium, Kingwood, WV
<https://noirs.conference-services.net/registration.asp?conferenceID=4286&language=en-uk>

June 21-24, 2015

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

June 22, 2015

Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN)
Co-located with International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health Annual Conference, Normal, IL
<http://www.childdagsafety.org/>

July 25-29, 2015

Agricultural Media Summit, Scottsdale, AZ
<http://agmediasummit.com/>

Aug. 11-13, 2015

National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing and Media, Atlanta, GA
<https://www.nphic.org/conferences/2015/nchcmm>

Sept. 20-26, 2015

National Farm Safety and Health Week
www.necasag.org

Sept. 26-Oct. 2, 2015

National Safety Council Congress & Expo – Building Safer Workplaces, Atlanta, GA
<http://www.congress.nsc.org/NSC2015/Public/Content.aspx?ID=2594&sortMenu=107000>

Congratulations to Reynolds-Porter!

Susan Reynolds-Porter has been named the first CEO in the 20-year history of Progressive Agriculture Foundation. She had served as interim CEO since March 2014. “After conducting a nationwide search, the board of directors had no hesitation selecting Susan to fill the newly created CEO position,” said Brian Kuhl, president, board of directors, Progressive Agriculture Foundation. “We are grateful to have her strong leadership, years of experience and passion for rural safety, which will help continue to grow the foundation and its programs.”



Susan Reynolds-Porter

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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