

In the news

ASHCA Summit: Call for abstracts, safety awards



"Model programs to protect working and non-working children in agriculture" are among topics sought for poster sessions with lightning talks at the North American Agricultural Safety Summit, March 19 – 20, 2020, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Deadline for submission is Nov. 20. In addition, the Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America seeks nominations for nine categories of safety awards to be presented at the Summit. Honorees will receive complementary registration and one will receive a \$2,500 cash prize. Nomination deadline is Nov. 13. Visit ashca.org for information.



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."

Workshops bring synergy to child agricultural injury prevention

The Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Workshop series wrapped up during 2019 National Farm Safety and Health Week, a fitting conclusion for an initiative that carries national implications.

"What we're seeing in the preliminary evidence is that this workshop can be an effective model for building capacity in organizations," said Marsha Salzwedel, Ed.D., workshop director. "We can use that information not only in the realm of child agricultural injury prevention, but in agriculture injury overall, both child and adult, and maybe extending outside the agriculture arena."

Interactive, 1.5-day workshops took place in Marshfield, Wisconsin; Des Moines, Iowa; Lexington, Kentucky; and Hershey, Pennsylvania. The combined attendance of more than 100 included representatives of insurance companies, health care systems, Extension, government agencies, media, farm organizations and agribusinesses.

"There was a really effective mix of informative presentations, learning labs and interactive small group work," said Joan Mazur, Ph.D., deputy director at the Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention at the University of Kentucky. "The small groups benefited from participants' varied perspectives and experiences as we learned how to identify risks; identify age- and ability-appropriate tasks; and prevent injuries to farm and non-farm children on family farms, larger farming operations and in other situations like visits to agritourism sites."

Each workshop saw the National Children's Center partner with other organizations, including Penn State Extension and the following agriculture centers that receive support from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH): Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health; Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health; Southeast Center; Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety; and the Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

Moving the workshop to different parts of the country was beneficial. "It gave us a group of people concentrated in a geographic region, making it more likely that they'd be able to work together with what they learned, thus building capacity," Salzwedel said.

Co-sponsoring the workshops were Westfield Insurance, John Deere and the National Farm Medicine Center.



The Des Moines workshop was held in conjunction with the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health conference.



Progressive Agriculture CEO Brian Kuhl at Marshfield workshop.

Childhood Agricultural Safety Network updates its 'Media Guidelines'



Nearly 50 individuals attended the annual in-person CASN meeting.

Newly updated "Media Guidelines for Agricultural Safety" were unveiled at the in-person meeting of the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) in June during the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) conference in Des Moines, Iowa. The guidelines, which are also available in French and soon in Spanish, address the safe depiction of agricultural activities in the media. The network's resources for all-terrain vehicles and utility task vehicles (ATVs and UTVs) are currently being updated. For more information on the network go to childdagsafety.org.



Feds use AgInjuryNews for quality assurance

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has begun using AgInjuryNews as part of its Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries case discovery quality assurance. In a review of each state's case discovery process, potential cases are culled from databases and news sources and flagged for follow-up, and many potential cases are now noted from AgInjuryNews, according to Jameson Bair, administrative program specialist in the bureau's occupational safety & health section, U.S. Department of Labor. Bair said AgInjuryNews is well organized with lots of information pertinent to worker cases. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has supported the AgInjuryNews initiative for several years, said Bryan Weichelt, Ph.D., project leader. The bureau may now be the most well-represented organization in terms of user registrations on AgInjuryNews.org, Weichelt said.

CHS invests in Ag Youth Work Guidelines

CHS, a leading global agribusiness owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives across the U.S., has announced a generous financial commitment to help the National Children's Center disseminate the Agricultural Youth Work Guidelines. This initiative will enable partner organizations to select relevant guidelines for use in customized resources aimed at their particular stakeholders. cultivatesafety.org



Child care resource published

A new resource, "Roadmap for delivering child care in agricultural communities," can help ensure that children of workers are kept safely away from dangers on the farm. The resource, developed with input from agricultural business owners, human resources directors, insurance providers, Head Start child care specialists and farm worker parents, is part of the, "Protecting Children While Parents Work in Agriculture" project, an initiative of the National Children's Center and Migrant Clinicians Network. Funding is provided by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Two mini-grants awarded

The National Children's Center's federal award provides annual funding for mini-grants that support small-scale projects and pilot studies addressing prevention of childhood agricultural injury and disease. Since 2002, 61 projects have been funded from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Grants awarded for fiscal 2020:

- "Digital stories for ag worker youth safety and health education," Alicia Gonzales, M.S., National Center for Farmworker Health, Buda, TX.
- "Kids' guide to safe farming, safe living: increasing awareness to reduce farm injuries involving children at Hutterite colonies," Kerri Lutjens, R.N., Avera St. Benedict Health Center, SD.

Children's Center publishes 2019 report



The National Children's Center 2019 annual report is now online! It features a story-of-impact for each project and a full listing of Center outputs, all united by the theme of "strengthening public-private partnerships to address childhood agricultural injury prevention."

AnnualReport2019

Furthermore

- The National Children's Center will join safety and health colleagues from across the country October 30 - November 2 at the 92nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. Staff will play "Safety Jeopardy!" to test the farm safety knowledge of hundreds of career and technical education students and educators.
- Marsha Salzwedel has been voted to the board of directors of the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health, joining the National Children's Center's Scott Heiberger who is the current president.
- Congratulations to Marsha Salzwedel, Ed.D., who recently received her doctoral degree in educational leadership from Edgewood College in Madison, Wis.