

NIOSH AGRICULTURAL CENTERS

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2004

WISCONSIN

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

I. INTRODUCTION & EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAM

With the updated action plan from the 2001 Summit on Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention as the guiding framework, our Center's theme is *Building Partnerships to Protect Children at Work and Children at Play on our Nation's Farms and Ranches*. Through public-private sector partners, we conduct outreach, prevention, education, and research projects that reflect geographic, ethnic, and cultural diversity of American agriculture.

Our Center is comprised of eight projects that seek to prevent childhood agricultural injuries. Using novel approaches for interventions, policy-relevant research, and targeted communications strategies the National Children's Center has become a leading resource for professionals and agricultural producers to obtain guidance regarding childhood agricultural injury prevention. This first year of a renewed five-year award saw our Center continuously improve stakeholder communications via our website, newsletter, and technical assistance. We reached out to new partnering organizations via our external advisory board and the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network. The expanded efforts of our Center in disseminating the *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms* document has given thousands of farm families access to this important information. Also this year we surveyed health and safety practices of more than 250 agricultural producers that do and do not employ adolescents in their operation. Results will be shared with members of national farm organizations early in our next fiscal grant cycle as well as with professional health and safety audiences. Our continued efforts to maintain a Childhood Agricultural Safety Network have allowed other groups working in related areas to collaborate on projects, thus saving precious time and resources of the Network members. Other highlights of this first year of continued funding involved hosting a Journalists Workshop, funding six feasibility studies (mini-grants), and initiating a comprehensive review of child-relevant safety resources on the National Agricultural Safety Database (NASD). Our Center's pilot research project, investigating the impact of laws on youth tractor crashes, is well underway with results being published in our next fiscal year. In a related project, we collected and summarized state laws regulating youth who operate farm tractors on highways.

Our activities are consistent with NIOSH's goal to translate research to practice and they are yielding measurable and tangible outcomes. We have an unwavering commitment to address the national objectives for childhood agricultural injury prevention. Our fiscal year 2004 activities have been largely successful and we look forward to bringing our projects to meaningful conclusions in the upcoming years.

A. CENTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY 2004

1. Funded six mini-grants to external organizations

In fiscal year 2004 we funded six feasibility studies (mini-grants) to external organizations ranging from \$10,000 - \$15,000 each. Three of these mini-grant projects addressed childhood agricultural safety within underserved populations and three projects focused on creating Safe Play Areas on farms. Final reports of these projects are available upon request.

2. Handled over 480 technical assistance requests and more than 232,000 web site visits annually

The National Children's Center continues to be a national resource for anyone seeking information regarding childhood agricultural injuries and fatalities. The frequency of website visits shows we are responding to the rapidly growing demand for web-based resources. In fiscal year 2004, considerable time was devoted to upgrading our web system capabilities and making plans to make our website an even greater resource of timely, in-depth information. Our ability to respond quickly to media requests is demonstrated by the large number of media requests we handle each year. A small sampling of the outcome of the media interviews our staff provides can be found in Appendix B.

3. Collaborated with the National Council of Agricultural Employers (NCAE) and Washington Growers League for the Safety Training for Employers and Supervisors of Adolescent Farmworkers (STESAF) project

The first phase of the STESAF project involved an assessment to gauge needs for a subsequent intervention to protect adolescent farmworkers. Of 878 surveys mailed to agricultural producers, 333 (38%) were returned. Survey results are being used to guide an intervention taking place in fiscal year 2005. A 12-page Bench Marking report of results has been prepared and will be given to study participants. Results will be formally presented at the NCAE national conference. Findings will also be shared at the 2005 National Institute of Farm Safety conference.

4. Conducted two in-person meetings and two teleconference meetings of the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network

In its fourth year, the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network continues to be a productive mechanism for the nine member organizations to share recent successes and failures in their child-related project work. The Network utilized one of the phone meetings to provide an education experience about emerging All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) issues. Members continue to offer affirmation of their belief in the Network's value and its collective, collaborative activities.

5. **Disseminated *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms* document**
We distributed over 5,000 copies of the first Safe Play document; then developed a second edition and distributed about 6,000 copies. We continue to receive numerous inquiries for the full document or the information contained within it. Bookmarks promoting web access to the document have been shared at national conferences. A 2005 calendar depicting Safe Play on Farms guidelines was widely distributed, in collaboration with five other NIOSH Agricultural Centers.
6. **Conducted inaugural Journalists Workshop**
Our Center conducted its first Journalists Workshop in June 2004. Attended by eleven journalists, this workshop gave participants an in-depth look at how their reporting can affect public perception of injury events and helped to increase their knowledge of childhood agricultural injury prevention strategies.

Several stories have been published based on the workshop experience, including a full-page article in *Hoard's Dairyman* (Aug. 2004) regarding teens working on farms; a package of stories in *Youth Today* (Nov. 2004) that featured child safety efforts of Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, Progressive Agriculture Foundation, National 4-H Council and FFA; and a column in *Successful Farming* (Nov. 2004) discussing NAGCAT and Safe Play Areas on Farms.

B. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. **States Served by Center: 50**
2. **States with Center Activity for FY 2004: 50**

II. REPORT ON THE OUTREACH PROGRAM

The National Children's Center incorporates outreach activities into nearly every project of the Center. In order to have research convert to practice, information on outcomes and applicability must be provided to the individuals or organizations that will ultimately use the information. We use traditional outreach mechanisms in our Stakeholder Communications project; including our *Nurture* newsletter, website, and providing technical assistance to people who contact us (specifics on number of contacts can be found in the project summary below). With additional funding for NIOSH outreach and education programs in fiscal year 2005, our initiatives will expand beyond the efforts proposed in our original application.

Enhancing collaboration is one of the cornerstones of our Center. We have practiced the outreach philosophy that collaboration is imperative in reducing the burden of childhood agricultural injury. To strengthen these collaborations the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) links nine organizations that are working in agriculture education, child safety, or migrant health. Having these nine organizations collaborate with us allows us

to disseminate important messages exponentially. The collaboration that enhances our outreach program does not end with the CASN. In the Administrative Core we rely heavily on our external advisory group to be our troubadours in diffusing information generated from our Center. With a blend of agri-business organizations and academic professionals our external advisors allow us to outreach to a vast array of audiences. While these are two examples of how collaboration affects our outreach activities, the theme of collaboration that enhances our outreach efforts weaves in and out of every project in the Center, as described in the project summaries below.

A major outreach activity of our Center for fiscal year 2004 has been the Safe Play on Farms project. Using electronic communication, traditional media outlets, and novel print techniques, the Center is continually working to diffuse Safe Play principles, developed from research outcomes and professional consensus, to the public. Collaboration is again essential to the Safe Play project as we rely on media partners, CASN organizations, and Safe Play external advisors to facilitate information dissemination and social marketing. The Center is planning several phases of evaluation in the upcoming fiscal year to learn the effectiveness of this multi-phased outreach effort. Our Center also sought to diffuse key messages of Safe Play by printing essential components of the document in a 2005 calendar format. The distribution of 9000 of these calendars was the collaborative effort of five NIOSH Ag Centers and 13 other partnering organizations.

In an additional effort to outreach to our stakeholders, our Center is developing “best practice” recommendations for agricultural safety professionals. Fiscal year 2004 saw near finalization of a database of state laws pertaining to youth operating tractors on public roads. The information obtained from this project will be disseminated on our website in the near future. Planning activities are also well underway for best practice recommendations for children in agri-tourism and future modifications of the North American Guidelines for Children’s Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT).

We will continue to incorporate outreach into relevant Center projects. Our goal is to support NIOSH’s mission to transition research results into practical applications for agricultural families, employers, safety professionals and others.

III. CENTER PROJECT REPORT BY CORE/TYPE

PROJECT #1:

A. PROJECT TITLE: Stakeholder Communications

B. PROJECT OFFICER: Scott Heiberger, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 6), heiberger.scott@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goal of this project is to facilitate timely and effective communications among key stakeholder groups including federal, state, and local health and safety

agencies; healthcare providers; the scientific community; media; agricultural workers and their families; management and union representatives; the CDC/NIOSH regional Centers for Agricultural Disease and Injury Research, Education, and Prevention; and the NIOSH Education and Research Centers that have an agricultural training component. Specific aims are related to five highly integrated communication strategies: technical assistance, newsletters, Internet, seminar-type presentations, and public education campaign support. An important element of our communication efforts will be its evaluation through measurable outcomes.

Five primary aims are proposed for Stakeholder Communications:

- Aim 1:** Provide a minimum of 50 timely, relevant, and high quality technical assistance responses per month upon request.
- Aim 2:** Prepare and disseminate four newsletters including one annual special edition for stakeholders.
- Aim 3:** Maintain two dynamic web sites (NCCRAHS and NAGCAT) that provide a minimum of 10,000 monthly visits.
- Aim 4:** Respond to a minimum of six requests for professional seminars and/or presentations.
- Aim 5:** Provide support for the development of local, state, regional, and public education campaign efforts.

The overall theme for the National Children's Center is *building partnerships to protect children at work and children at play on our nation's farms and ranches*. The stakeholder communications are critical to effective partnerships built on trust and understanding of each other's perspectives.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2008.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Technical assistance requests continue to be logged into an Access database. Quality assurance is conducted monthly. We are averaging 40 technical assistance requests per month.
2. The NCCRAHS newsletter was given a name, *Nurture*, and redesigned for the first time since its inception in 1998. The *Nurture* newsletter aims to share information regarding activities and research results of all NIOSH agricultural centers, non-government organizations, youth-serving groups and other stakeholders. The Winter 2003-2004 issue led with a story about the systematic review of prevention strategies for childhood farm injuries, commissioned by Safe Kids Canada. The Spring 2004 issue featured a home intervention effort in Texas based on a Spanish-language comic book co-developed by Migrant Clinicians Network and Farm Safety 4 Just Kids. The Summer 2004 issue featured the Journalists Workshop

held in June. The Fall 2004 issue featured a Progressive Farm Safety Day Camp conducted by a Canadian Hutterite colony.

3. The NCCRAHS Web sites had over 232,000 visits in fiscal year 2004.
4. Between Oct. 1, 2003 and September 30, 2004, we responded to 19 requests for professional seminars and/or general presentations.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS

1. Presentations

- a. Lecture with PowerPoint handout to University of Iowa Graduate Students, Sept. 2003, Barbara Lee.
- b. Lecture with PowerPoint handout to Medical College of Wisconsin Epidemiology Graduate Students, Dec. 2003, Barbara Lee.
- c. Ongoing presentations to medical residents at Marshfield Clinic. by Steven Kirkhorn and Mark Purschwitz.
- d. Wisconsin Child Fatality Review Team
February 4, 2004, Madison, WI
“Kids in the Country: Risks, Hazards, and Injury,” Christian Hanna
- e. Agricultural Health and Safety Forum, Wisconsin Office of Rural Health
February 18, 2004, Sauk City, WI.
“Cardiovascular Risks and other Chronic Health Conditions and the Farm Population,” Steven Kirkhorn
- f. Lorman Educational Services
February 25, 2004, Wausau WI
“Workers Compensation Issues in Common Work-Related Upper Extremity Disorders -- Five Most Common Injuries in Workers Compensation in Wisconsin,” Steven Kirkhorn
- g. Young Farmer Getaway Conference
February 28, 2004, Wisconsin Dells, WI
“Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms for Children,” Nancy Esser
- h. Improving Agricultural Health and Safety Programs Through Evaluation: Rigorous and Practical Strategies
March 15-16, 2004, Columbus, OH
“Effective Childhood Agricultural Interventions: What We Know and What We Don’t Know,” Barbara Lee

- i.** National Farmworkers Health Conference
April 30, 2004, Miami, FL
“Prevention of Agricultural Related Occupational Disabilities,”
Steven Kirkhorn
- j.** Epilepsy Foundation Seminar
May 14, 2004, Appleton, WI
“Epilepsy and Work: Occupational Challenges,” Steven Kirkhorn
- k.** Environmental Health Clinical Assessment Tools
June 4, 2004, Madison, Wisconsin
“Making the Connection: Human Health and Environmental
Exposures,” Steven Kirkhorn
- l.** National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education
Association
June 7, 2004, Wisconsin Dells, WI
“Agricultural Safety and Health: Current Issues, Controversies and
Research,” Michael Peters
- m.** National Symposium on Agricultural Health and Safety
June 22, 2004, Keystone, CO
“Monkeypox in Rural America: Lessons Learned from a Potential
Emerging Disease,” Steven Kirkhorn
- n.** National Symposium on Agricultural Health and Safety
June 23, 2004, Keystone, CO
“Asthma and Farm Children: A Pilot Study Looking at Early
Childhood Residence on Dairy Farms and the Prevalence of
Asthma,” Steven Kirkhorn
- o.** 5th National Farm Safety Conference
August 4-6, 2004, Bondi Beach, New South Wales, Australia
“Agricultural Safety and Health in the USA,” Barbara Lee
“Key Issues Associated with Child Safety on Farms in the USA,”
Barbara Lee
“Farm Health and Safety in The United States of America,”
Barbara Lee
- p.** Louisiana Area Health Education Center Conference
August 6, 2004, Shreveport, LA
“Youth on Farms: Safe Work and Safe Play,” Nancy Esser

- q. National Suicide Prevention Resource Center and Children's Safety Network staff (teleconference)
September 14, 2004, Marshfield, WI
"The Clock Is Ticking: Rural Adolescent Suicide," Christian Hanna
- r. Iowa Child and Youth Injury Prevention Conference
September 15, 2004, Des Moines, IA
"ATVs in Iowa: Unlicensed to Kill," Christian Hanna
- s. Wisconsin Farm Technology Days
September 21, 2004, Bloomer, WI
"A Farm is a Great Place to Grow Up...But is it a Safe Place to Play?" Nancy Esser

2. Publications

- a. Fact Sheets/Brochures/Technical Publications:
 - i. Childhood Agricultural Injuries Fact Sheet: 2004 Update.
 - ii. Other Publications: Numerous news references to NCCRAHS.

3. Education/Training/Outreach

- a. Training Seminars: Listed above in presentations.
- b. Hazard Surveys/Consultations: Handled over 480 technical assistance requests.
- c. Newsletters:
 - i. Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall issues of *Nurture* were published and sent to a mailing list of over 2000 individuals and posted on the internet.
 - ii. Contributed to the Fall 2004 issue of *Ag Connections*.

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

As a National Center the Stakeholder Communication project reached individuals in all 50 states.

PROJECT #2:

- A. PROJECT TITLE: Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN)**
- B. PROJECT OFFICER:** Michael Peters, MS, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 5), peters.michael@mcrf.mfldclin.edu
- C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The overall goal of this project is to strengthen partnerships and collaborative initiatives involving the agricultural community, child injury prevention organizations, and minority-serving associations through an effective Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) in order to improve and expand childhood agricultural injury prevention efforts. This project is derived from the updated national action plan developed at the 2001 Summit on Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention. The mission of the CASN is to “*set a vision and provide leadership and coordination of childhood agricultural injury prevention efforts in a manner that is both geographically and ethnically diverse.*”

There are three primary aims for this ongoing initiative:

- Aim 1:** Enhance the individual knowledge and organizational capacity of CASN members to effectively address childhood agricultural injury prevention.
- Aim 2:** Build stronger partnerships by improving the quality of communications and collaborative efforts among CASN members.
- Aim 3:** Expand the CASN composition and gradually transition it into the private sector to be independent of NIOSH funding.

The CASN is a major component of our Center because of its ability to link together the key national organizations committed to children, agriculture, and special population health and safety. The initial years of CASN have provided valuable insights and inspired genuine commitment among participants and their respective organizations, enabling full implementation of proposed activities.

CASN includes representatives from the following organizations:

- National Center for Farmworker Health, Buda, TX.
- Migrant Clinicians Network, Austin, TX.
- Progressive Agriculture Foundation, Birmingham, AL.
- Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, Earlham, IA.
- National Safety Council, Chicago, IL - National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, Peosta, IA.
- National FFA, Indianapolis, IN.
- National 4-H Foundation, Chevy Chase, MD.
- SAFE KIDS Campaign, Washington, DC.
- National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, Marshfield, WI.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2008.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Convened two in-person meetings (at National FFA convention in October 2003 and NIFS meeting in June 2004).
2. Held tele-seminar discussing ATV issues pertinent to child protection.
3. Three mini-grants were awarded to Network members.
4. Network members continue to report satisfaction with Network activities and remain interested in seeing the Network grow.
5. Provided funding to five Network organizations to receive additional training to build the capacity of their organization in preventing childhood agricultural injuries.
6. By way of email communications, Network members maintain contact with each other to keep other members aware of project activities, accomplishments, and pertinent news happenings.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS

1. Education/Training/Outreach

- a. Training Seminars: Tele-seminar in emerging ATV issues made available to all members.

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

Members in CASN reside in the states of Iowa, Maryland, Illinois, Texas, Alabama, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and Indiana. Since the Network involves nine organizations that have national initiatives, the CASN project easily has effects in all 50 states.

PROJECT #3:

A. PROJECT TITLE: Safety Training for Employers and Supervisors of Adolescent Farmworkers

B. PROJECT OFFICER: Barbara C. Lee, PhD, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 1), lee.barbara@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The ultimate goal of this initiative is to improve the agricultural health and safety conditions for hired adolescent workers (ages 14-17 years) by improving knowledge and practices of their employers and supervisors. With full cooperation and endorsement of the agricultural industry and agricultural safety specialists, we will plan, implement and evaluate Safety Training for Employers and Supervisors of Adolescent Farmworkers (STESAF), a system for providing agricultural employers and their work supervisors with timely, high quality information and technical assistance. Through this initiative, we will ensure that individuals responsible for hiring, training, and supervising adolescent farm workers have ready access to information regarding: 1) proactive strategies for regulatory compliance; 2) principles of child development; 3) agricultural diseases and injuries; 4) adolescent worker health and safety recommendations; and 5) technical assistance.

Three primary aims for this project are:

Aim 1: Assess employers'/supervisors' current safety training practices, motivations, and future needs concerning their use of occupational safety and health training for teen workers.

Aim 2: Pilot the implementation of STESAF with Washington State agricultural producers who employ adolescent farmworkers.

Aim 3: Propose modifications of the STESAF intervention based on the pilot demonstration.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2008.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. We conducted focus groups with 22 National Council of Agricultural Employers (NCAE) members in Washington, DC in January 2004.

2. We pilot tested, then refined, a mail survey instrument and survey protocols.

3. In April 2004, we conducted a mail survey of NCAE & Washington Growers League members with a 37.7% response rate.

4. Results from 283 survey respondents are being compiled into a “benchmarking” report and a journal manuscript.
5. Survey results will guide the Aim 2 intervention.
6. Conducted planning meeting for Aim 2 intervention with Michael Gempler of the Washington Growers League and Mary Miller of the Washington Department of Labor and Industries in Portland, OR in September 2004.
7. Submitted abstract for presentation and technical paper at the National Institute for Farm Safety (NIFS) 2005 Annual Conference.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS

1. Presentations

- a. Training Seminars:
 - i. Seminar to NCAE membership to explain purpose of project and survey.
- b. Presentation at Cultivating a Sustainable Agricultural Workplace Conference regarding preliminary outcomes.

2. Publications

- a. Fact Sheets/Brochures/Technical Publications: Lee, B., Westaby, J., Benetti, L., Chyou, P., Peters, M., & Purschwitz, M. (2004). Benchmarking report; Hiring and safety practices for adolescent workers in agriculture, Marshfield, WI: Marshfield Clinic.
- b. Trade Journals: Project was covered in August, 2004 *Hoard's Dairyman* and the April, 2004 *Gempler's Ag/Hort ALERT*.

3. Conferences/Meetings Sponsored

Focus Groups at the 2004 National Council of Agricultural Employers Conference.

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

Project was highly active in the states of Wisconsin (pilot test survey) and Washington (conduct full survey). The project was also active in many of the US mainland states since the National Council of Agricultural Employers has membership in most states.

PROJECT #4:

A. **PROJECT TITLE:** *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms* dissemination

B. **PROJECT OFFICER:** Nancy Esser, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 0), esser.nancy@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

A Best Practices approach was used for developing principles of safe play areas on farms where children might be exposed to agricultural hazards. In addition to development of the *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms* document, the project includes development of recommendations for stakeholders (agricultural businesses, farm organizations, youth-serving groups, media and others) to encourage agricultural producers to adopt Safe Play areas on their agricultural sites.

The Best Practice suggestions will be discussed with leaders of key stakeholder groups (e.g. National FFA, American Farm Bureau, Migrant Clinicians Network, National AgriMarketing Association), widely distributed through various mechanisms to selected groups, and posted on the website.

Five primary aims proposed for this project are:

Aim 1: Ensure the public has ready access to core content of *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms*.

Aim 2: Ensure professionals have ready access and training opportunities to *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms*.

Aim 3: Identify key strategies for stakeholders to encourage adoption and development of Safe Play Areas on Farms by farm owners.

Aim 4: Work with agribusiness, farm media, Childhood Agricultural Safety Network members, international leaders, and others to implement selected strategies that motivate adoption of Safe Play concepts and principles on farms.

Aim 5: Track the process and outcome of key aspects of this project.

D. **PROJECT START AND END DATES:** October 2003 to September 2008.

E. **PROJECT ACTIVITIES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. An in-person meeting was held in Minneapolis, March 3 - 4, 2004 with 14 advisors in attendance, including two from Canada and one from Australia.
2. A draft of stakeholder recommendations was developed and tailored to seven diverse organizational groups.

3. Three of the six NCCRAHS special project mini-grants were awarded to Safe Play related projects. We have facilitated discussions across the three organizations to avoid duplication of funded projects. Further, we facilitated a teleconference to consider “lessons learned” collectively across the three projects.
4. Four presentations have been given to professional audiences. Three abstracts have been published on the Safe Play project.
5. A second edition (full color with minor revisions) of the booklet was printed.
6. Submitted abstract for panel presentation at the National Institute for Farm Safety (NIFS) 2005 Annual Conference.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS

1. Presentations

- a. 7th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion
Vienna, Austria, June 2004
Development of Safe Play Areas on Farms, Esser N, Lee BC
- b. Young Farmer Getaway Conference, Louisiana Area Health
Education Center Conference
February 28, 2004, Wisconsin Dells, WI
“Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms for Children,” Nancy Esser
- c. Louisiana Area Health Education Center Conference
August 6, 2004, Shreveport, LA
“Youth on Farms: Safe Work and Safe Play,” Nancy Esser
- d. Wisconsin Farm Technology Days
September 21, 2004, Bloomer, WI
“A Farm is a Great Place to Grow Up...But is it a Safe Place to
Play?” Nancy Esser

2. Publications

- a. Esser, N., Heiberger, S. and Lee, B. (Eds.) (2003). *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms*. Marshfield, WI: Marshfield Clinic; 32 page document.
- b. Fact Sheets: Stakeholder recommendations for using *Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms*. A listing of ways for seven different stakeholder groups to motivate farm owners and parents to adopt

safe play areas on farms. Recommendations develop for the following groups:

- i. Agribusiness
- ii. Youth serving organizations/community groups
- iii. Media
- iv. Agricultural organizations
- v. Health and safety professional organizations
- vi. Migrant and immigrant organizations
- vii. Parents and farm owners

3. Education/Training/Outreach

- a. Training Seminars: Interactive tele-video - Louisiana Area Health Education Center Training. Sponsored in part by the Southwest Center for Agricultural Health. (Aug. 2004).
- b. Hazard Surveys/Consultations:
 - i. Numerous consultation requests on this topic are received. They are counted as part of the consultations under stakeholder communications.

4. Conferences/Meetings Sponsored

- a. Safe Play meeting March 2004 with 16 external advisors.

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

This project is active in all 50 states.

PROJECT #5:

A. PROJECT TITLE: Best Practices – State Regulations for Youth Operating Tractors on Public Roads

B. PROJECT OFFICER: Barbara L. Marlenga, PhD, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 2)
marlenga.barbara@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this project is to collect and summarize state laws regarding youth who operate farm tractors on public roadways in the United States.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: May 2004 to April 2005.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Collected and synthesized state laws addressing youth tractor operator requirements, using a systematic method that included an initial Lexus database search, combined with follow up email and telephone communications.
2. Created database of all state laws regarding youth and adult tractor operators.
3. Submitted abstract for presentation at National Institute of Farm Safety 2005 Annual Conference.
4. Drafting manuscript describing state laws pertaining to youth tractor operators.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS: None

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

Statutes detailing requirements of youth tractor operators collected and synthesized for all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

PROJECT #6:

A. PROJECT TITLE: Upgrade of the National Agricultural Safety Database Child (NASD) Safety Resources

B. PROJECT OFFICER: Nancy Esser, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 0), esser.nancy@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The goal of this project is to establish the “child safety” section of National Agricultural Safety Database (NASD) as the most comprehensive repository for public and professional education materials related to prevention of childhood agricultural diseases and injury. NASD is a central repository of agricultural health, safety, and injury prevention materials for agricultural health and safety professionals and the agricultural community. The National Children’s Center staff is working closely with the NASD Coordinator, Carol Lehtola, PhD, to augment the ongoing efforts of the University of Florida NASD project team and their Editorial Review Board.

Five primary aims proposed for this project are:

Aim 1: Establish reference criteria for assessing the suitability of resources for the child safety section of NASD.

Aim 2: Apply the new inclusion/exclusion criteria to the child safety resources currently on NASD; removing resources that do not meet acceptable criteria.

Aim 3: Actively seek out new and revised resources that meet inclusion criteria.

Aim 4: Conduct regularly scheduled upgrades to the NASD child safety topic section including modifications based on industry trends, customer requests and feedback, and relevant emerging issues bearing implications for children in agriculture.

Aim 5: Provide recommendations for modifying other NASD topic sections based on our experience with this project.

This improvement service is expected to benefit national and international audiences that frequently access NASD in search of childhood agricultural disease and injury prevention resources.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2008.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Development of reference criteria to guide resource reviews.
2. Assessment form finalized.
3. Meeting in Keystone, CO with six external advisors, June 2004.
4. Electronic review process of NASD resources developed and underway. Seven advisors each assigned to review 39 resources. Each resource is undergoing three separate reviews.
5. Amy Liebman, MPA, of Migrant Clinicians Network conducted work acting as a task force member with a unique role as a Hispanic specialist.
6. Discussed overall NASD quality control and long-term maintenance issues with NIOSH Agricultural Center Directors.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS

1. Conferences/Meetings Sponsored

- a. Advisory Team meeting June 2004 in Keystone, CO, with six external advisors.

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

Project is currently only active in Wisconsin and states with advisory team members present. Once complete project will have national implications since it will upgrade a well-known web based resource.

PROJECT #7:

A. PROJECT TITLE: Journalists Workshop

B. PROJECT OFFICER: Christian Hanna, MPH, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 3), hanna.chris@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The overall goal of this project is to increase the quantity and improve the quality of media coverage regarding children and agriculture. Journalists compete for selection to the workshop by submitting samples of their work. The annual two-day immersion is designed to help journalists become knowledgeable about the issues and opportunities related to children's work and play on our nation's farms and ranches. Journalists develop local and regional stories in agricultural health and safety topics of importance for all children and families in agriculture regardless of farm ownership. Ultimately, we hope to see a notable increase in the type, number, and accuracy of media coverage in print, radio, and television of children's issues in agriculture.

There are two primary aims:

Aim 1: Plan, implement, and evaluate an annual two-day regional "hands-on" workshop for a minimum of ten journalists (sites will rotate to all regions of the United States over five years).

Aim 2: Develop and refine the training model and materials for distribution and integration into ongoing media training.

This project will develop a cadre of journalists who understand the scope of the childhood agricultural injury problem, high-impact interventions, socially acceptable practices, and common misconceptions about safety. These journalists will, in the short term, develop stories, and in the long term be media advocates for children. Just as social norms regarding child passenger safety seat practices have evolved, it is conceivable that unsafe traditions and hazardous exposures to children in agriculture would gradually be minimized through increased media scrutiny.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2008.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. We conducted training for 11 journalists on June 18-19, 2004 in Marshfield. The course involved nine activities, 19 faculty, and four farm sites.
2. Evaluation results with a six-month follow-up are pending.
3. Initial written evaluations by journalists gave the workshop an overall rating of 6.5 on a 7-point scale.
4. Several newspaper stories have been published as a result of the workshop, including a full-page article in *Hoard's Dairyman* (Aug. 2004) regarding teens working on farms.
5. We established objectives, modules and curriculums for replicating the course in other geographic regions.
6. Workshop Advisor/Facilitator, Carol Guensburg of the University of Maryland, indicated the first workshop was well organized and effective.
7. Advisor Gene Johnston, managing editor, *Successful Farming* magazine, said the Workshop was a, "powerful learning opportunity. For journalists to accurately and effectively report on a topic, they need to see it up close, with their own eyes. That's the value in the Journalists Workshop."
8. Began planning for 2005 workshop to be held in collaboration with the Northeast Center for Agricultural and Occupational Health, in Cooperstown, NY.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS

1. **Education/Training/Outreach**
 - a. Short Courses:
 - i. First Annual Journalists Workshop in Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention - June 18 - 19, 2004.
2. **Conferences/Meetings Sponsored**
 - a. Workshop on June 18 - 19, 2004, Marshfield, WI with regional field trips.

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

The first year workshop included journalists residing in New Hampshire, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Advisory team members hail from the states of Iowa and Maryland.

PROJECT #8:

A. PROJECT TITLE: Youth Tractor Crashes on Public Roads: Impact of Wisconsin Law

B. PROJECT OFFICER: Barbara Marlenga, PhD, 1000 North Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI. 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 2), marlenga.barbara@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Wisconsin Act 455, enacted in 1996, prohibits children younger than 16 years from driving farm tractors on public roads until they complete a tractor and machinery certification course. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of Wisconsin Act 455 by examining the patterns of highway farm tractor crashes involving youth operators.

The primary objectives of the project are to:

1. Describe the tractor crashes involving youth operators prior to and following the enactment of Wisconsin Act 455 using Department of Transportation motor vehicle crash data.
2. Describe tractor crashes involving youth by: a) driver factors, b) vehicle factors, and c) highway factors; and relate these factors to the content covered in the *Wisconsin Safe Operation of Tractor and Machinery Certification Program*.
3. Investigate trends in tractor crashes over time and their relationship to Wisconsin Act 455.
4. Provide recommendations regarding the utility of using motor vehicle crash data to evaluate Wisconsin Act 455.

D. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2005.

E. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Obtained Wisconsin Department of Transportation crash reports for 1994 to 2003 including four years of narrative data.
2. Started organizing, analyzing, and summarizing the data.

3. Submitted abstract for presentation at National Institute of Farm Safety 2005 Annual Conference.

4. Drafting manuscript based on data analysis results.

F. PROJECT PRODUCTS: None

G. STATES PROJECT WAS ACTIVE IN

Research data used in this project was obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

IV. PROGRESS REPORT ON FEASIBILITY PROJECTS

In fiscal year 2004, the National Children's Center provided \$75,000 in feasibility funding to six external organizations. In a national call for proposals, we received 28 applications. The funded organizations, project leaders, and their project titles are:

- Progressive Agriculture Foundation, Birmingham, AL: Susan Reynolds—Adapting the *Progressive Farmer* Farm Safety Day Camp® Program to Reach Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Children. (\$15,000).
- Carle Clinic Foundation, Urbana, IL: Amy Hunter—The Farm Safety Mobile: A farm safety community based program for rural youth including Amish youth. (\$15,000).
- University of South Florida, Tampa, FL: Karen Liller, PhD—The Pilot Study of Kids and Communities Count. (\$15,000).
- National Safety Council, Itasca, IL: Sam Steel, EdD—Promoting Safe Play Areas on Farms. (\$10,000).
- Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, Earlham, IA: Shari Burgus—Safe Play Area Improvements on Farms. (\$10,000).
- North Dakota Farm Bureau, Fargo, ND: Gail Scherweit—Safe Play Area Model. (\$10,000).

These feasibility projects have offered numerous insights into the Safe Play dissemination project and enhanced our outreach to minority communities. The outcomes of the Safe Play projects will be presented in a panel discussion at the 2005 National Institute for Farm Safety in Wintergreen, VA. The funding provided to the three projects working with minority populations has allowed us to explore new means to reach migrant and Anabaptist children. Findings of these studies have resulted in formation of a Hispanic migrant farmworker children safety day camp curriculum, evaluation of an in-school safety curriculum for migrant farmworker children, and evaluating a new means to reach Amish children with farm safety information. Final reports of these projects are available upon request from the National Children's Center or the respective project director.

The Center has also successfully issued a call for proposals for fiscal year 2005. In this call we received 15 applications and via a review protocol, chose four for funding, totaling \$60,000.

V. REPORT ON SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURAL SAFETY AND HEALTH THAT RESULTED FROM CENTER ACTIVITIES (RESEARCH TO PRACTICE)

The National Children's Center saw affirmation that one of their continuing prevention efforts has demonstrated effectiveness in reducing childhood injuries on family farms. In a separate NIOSH-funded study to Anne Gadowski, MD, MPH (with Bassett Healthcare, Cooperstown, NY), the North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT) was shown to be effective in reducing childhood agricultural injuries to farm youth working on their parents' farms. NAGCAT was a tangible outcome of the Children's Center research efforts in 1999. Since 1999, the Center has continually disseminated NAGCAT and provided technical assistance regarding NAGCAT. From our outreach efforts we knew farm families were finding NAGCAT relevant to their operations, and we now know these guidelines are having an impact in reducing childhood injuries on family farms. In part because of the demonstrated impact of NAGCAT, our Center is now reviewing past and current efforts with NAGCAT, and proposing future applications and priorities for NAGCAT.

The Children's Center has also seen the consensus-developed Safe Play on farms principles put into practice. The Safe Play concepts are being endorsed and promoted by farm organizations throughout the country. We have specific examples of where farm owners have applied the guidance provided in the document and adopted it to their farm to build a play area. While the Safe Play project is still too young to have demonstrated an impact, plans are underway to evaluate impact of our dissemination methods in the next fiscal year.

Our Journalists Workshop project has had an influence on the participants in the Workshop, which subsequently impacts any reader of stories developed by the journalists. The Workshop has yielded published popular press articles that reflect principles learned in the Workshop. We will continue to refine and improve this novel model with future Journalists Workshops, because already this newly funded project has demonstrated a positive change in media reports of child agricultural injuries.

Many of our newly funded projects are still in their early phases. Because of this, these projects are not to the point where they can be adopted into practice as of yet. We foresee our funded projects yielding quality outcomes that will be widely accepted by the agricultural industry to protect children working and playing on our nation's farms and ranches.

VI. COLLABORATION

- A.** Before the quarterly newsletter *Nurture* is drafted, all nine Regional NIOSH Agricultural Research Centers are contacted via email to request story ideas and/or relevant information that they would like incorporated into the newsletter.
- B.** The National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (NCCRAHS) was intimately involved in the development of the NIOSH National

Agricultural Tractor Safety Initiative. Mark Purschwitz represented the Center at meetings and in work groups in the development of the Initiative document, which was published January 2004. He was a member of the workgroup that wrote the Policy and Funding section, reviewed text from other workgroups, and was one of a small cadre of reviewers who worked closely with editor Eric Swenson in developing the entire document. He assisted in planning the “roll-out” session in June 2004, held at the NIFS Annual Meeting in Keystone, CO. He was involved in the invitation process for that session, led the audience feedback portion of the session, and worked with staff to develop an Initiative poster display for the conference.

- C.** The Network project relies heavily on collaboration with all partnering organizations that are stated above.
- D.** The STESAF project relies heavily on supporting collaborations from the industry partners of the National Council of Agricultural Employers and the Washington Growers League. The Washington Department of Labor and Industries has begun playing an active role in forming the phase two intervention of this project. Also, Dr. James Westaby, PhD, of Columbia University, New York, performed a major collaborative role in this project as he developed and refined the survey instrument for Phase one of the project.
- E.** The Safe Play dissemination project has key collaborations with the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health in Iowa as Risto Rautiainen, PhD is an active member of our advisory team. We are also pleased to have collaborating partners on this project from state Farm Bureaus, Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, Extension Service, National Safety Council, Progressive Agriculture Foundation, and the National Program for Playground Safety.
- F.** The National Agriculture Safety Database project relies on key collaborations with the partners that are serving on the NASD overall projects editorial review board, led by Carol Lehtola, PhD, of the University of Florida, who is affiliated with NIOSH’s Southern Coastal Agricultural Center.
- G.** The Journalists Workshop project relied on collaborations with the Philip Merrill College of Journalism at the University of Maryland and *Successful Farming* magazine.
- H.** The Youth Tractor Crashes research project has worked directly with State Government individuals in each of the states listed above.

APPENDIX A

I. TOTAL CENTER BUDGET FOR FY 2004

1. Total NIOSH Expenditures: \$ 497,510*
2. In-Kind Contributions: \$ 19,539
3. Other Outside Funding: \$ 156,180**

*Several FY 2004 subcontract invoices outstanding as of this report.

**Subcontract with Education Development Center, Inc. for rural youth injury and violence prevention-related efforts (Apr. 2003 to March 2004).

II. CENTER PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2004

1. Ongoing Projects: 8
2. Projects Completed: 0
3. New Projects
 - a. Safety Training for Employers and Supervisors of Adolescent Farmworkers.
 - b. Upgrade of the National Agriculture Safety Database Child Safety Resources.
 - c. Journalists Workshop.
 - d. Youth Tractor Crashes on Public Roads: Impact of Wisconsin Law.
4. Feasibility Projects: The funded organizations, project leaders, and their project titles are:
 - a. Progressive Agriculture Foundation, Susan Reynolds—Adapting the *Progressive Farmer* Farm Safety Day Camp® Program to Reach Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Children.
 - b. Carle Clinic Foundation, Amy Hunter—The Farm Safety Mobile: A farm safety community based program for rural youth including Amish youth.
 - c. University of South Florida, Karen Liller, PhD—The Pilot Study of Kids and Communities Count.

- d. National Safety Council, Sam Steel, EdD—Promoting Safe Play Areas on Farms.
- e. Farm Safety 4 Just Kids, Shari Burgus—Safe Play Area Improvements on Farms.
- f. North Dakota Farm Bureau, Gail Scherweit—Safe Play Area Model.

III. CENTER INVESTIGATORS

- 1. Scientific Investigators: 5**
- 2. Program Support Staff: 10**

IV. CENTER PRODUCTS

1. Presentations

- a. Wisconsin Child Fatality Review Team
February 4, 2004, Madison, WI
“Kids in the Country: Risks, Hazards, and Injury,” Christian Hanna
- b. Agricultural Health and Safety Forum, Wisconsin Office of Rural Health
February 18, 2004, Sauk City, WI.
“Cardiovascular Risks and other Chronic Health Conditions and the Farm Population,” Steven Kirkhorn
- c. Lorman Educational Services
February 25, 2004, Wausau WI
“Workers Compensation Issues in Common Work-Related Upper Extremity Disorders -- Five Most Common Injuries in Workers Compensation in Wisconsin,” Steven Kirkhorn
- d. Young Farmer Getaway Conference
February 28, 2004, Wisconsin Dells, WI
“Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms for Children,” Nancy Esser
- e. Improving Agricultural Health and Safety Programs Through Evaluation: Rigorous and Practical Strategies
March 15-16, 2004, Columbus, OH
“Effective childhood Agricultural Interventions: What We Know and What We Don’t Know,” Barbara Lee
- f. National Farmworkers Health Conference
April 30, 2004, Miami, FL
“Prevention of Agricultural Related Occupational Disabilities,” Steven Kirkhorn

- g.** Epilepsy Foundation Seminar
May 14, 2004, Appleton, WI
“Epilepsy and Work: Occupational Challenges,” Steven Kirkhorn
- h.** 7th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion,
June 2004, Vienna, Austria
Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention in USA: Major
Accomplishments and Persistent Problems, Lee, BC
- i.** 7th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion
June 2004, Vienna, Austria
Development of Safe Play Areas on Farms, Esser N, Lee BC
- j.** Environmental Health Clinical Assessment Tools
June 4, 2004, Madison, Wisconsin
“Making the Connection: Human Health and Environmental Exposures,”
Steven Kirkhorn
- k.** National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association
June 7, 2004, Wisconsin Dells, WI
“Agricultural Safety and Health: Current Issues, Controversies and
Research,” Michael Peters
- l.** National Symposium on Agricultural Health and Safety
June 22, 2004, Keystone, CO
“Monkeypox in Rural America: Lessons Learned from a Potential
Emerging Disease,” Steven Kirkhorn
- m.** National Symposium on Agricultural Health and Safety
June 23, 2004, Keystone, CO
“Asthma and Farm Children: A Pilot Study Looking at Early Childhood
Residence on Dairy Farms and the Prevalence of Asthma,” Steven
Kirkhorn
- n.** Proceedings of the 5th National Farm Safety Conference
August 2004, Bondi, NSW, Australia,
Agricultural Safety and Health in the USA., Lee, BC
- o.** 5th National Farm Safety Conference
August 4-6, 2004, Bondi Beach, New South Wales, Australia
“Agricultural Safety and Health in the USA,” Barbara Lee
“Key Issues Associated with Child Safety on Farms in the USA,” Barbara
Lee
“Farm Health and Safety in The United States of America,” Barbara Lee
“Effective Childhood Agricultural Safety Intervention: What We Know
and What We Don't Know,” Barbara Lee

- p.** Louisiana Area Health Education Center Conference
August 6, 2004, Shreveport, LA
“Youth on Farms: Safe Work and Safe Play,” Nancy Esser
- q.** National Suicide Prevention Resource Center and Children’s Safety
Network staff (teleconference)
September 14, 2004, Marshfield, WI
“The Clock Is Ticking: Rural Adolescent Suicide,” Christian Hanna
- r.** Iowa Child and Youth Injury Prevention Conference
September 15, 2004, Des Moines, IA
“ATVs in Iowa: Unlicensed to Kill,” Christian Hanna
- s.** Wisconsin Farm Technology Days
September 21, 2004, Bloomer, WI
“A Farm is a Great Place to Grow Up...But is it a Safe Place to Play?”
Nancy Esser
- t.** American Public Health Association Meeting
November 2004, Washington, DC
Evaluation of the North American Guidelines for Children’s Agricultural
Tasks: Lessons Learned from a Novel Evaluation, Marlenga B, Brisson RJ,
Berg RL, Zentner J, Linneman J, and Pickett W

2. Publications – Overall Center

- a.** Peer Reviewed Journal: 7
- b.** Trade Journals: none
- c.** Fact Sheets/Brochures/Technical Publications: 3
- d.** Other Publications: 2

3. Education/Training/Outreach

- a.** Training Seminars: 9
- b.** Short Courses: 1
- c.** Hazard Surveys/Consultations: Over 480
- d.** News Letters: 4

4. Conferences/Meetings Sponsored

- a. Fifth International Symposium, Future of Rural Peoples: Rural Economy, Healthy People, Environment, Rural Communities. Saskatoon, SK, Canada. (\$3,000 sponsorship).
- b. 2004 National Symposium on Agricultural Health and Safety—Keystone, CO. (\$1,000 sponsorship).
- c. Cultivating a Sustainable Agricultural Workplace—Portland, OR. (donated door prizes)

5. Other Products: None

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

2. PROJECT TITLE: Administration, Planning, Mini-Grants and Evaluation Activities

3. PROJECT OFFICER: Barbara C. Lee, PhD, 1000 North Oak Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449, 800-662-6900 (ext 1), lee.barbara@mcrf.mfldclin.edu

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- (a) The administration core handles overall management of the Center. Five primary aims are encompassed in this core.

Aim 1: Foster growth and success of the Center through effective leadership and staff development.

Aim 2: Oversee infrastructure/systems and budgets to meet the needs of Core leaders.

Aim 3: Promote exploratory and creative initiatives (with an emphasis on underserved populations) among new investigators via the Mini-grant program.

Aim 4: Plan, implement and evaluate annual meetings of key stakeholders.

Aim 5: Assess progress and quality of all Center initiatives.

5. PROJECT START AND END DATES: October 2003 to September 2008.

a. Project Activities / Accomplishments

Aim 1: *Leadership and staff development.*

- Center Director devotes at least 50% time to NCCRAHS.
- Core Leaders participate in Center planning and implementation.
- Staff positions have been relatively stable. Staff turnover involved one secretary and one research associate. In their place we added Roxann

Schuld and Brit Doty, MPH. One scientific advisor, Anne Greenlee, PhD, resigned and we added Mark Borchardt, PhD as an environmental health advisor. We have added the Medical Director, Steven Kirkhorn, MD, Agricultural Safety Specialist, Mark Purschwitz, PhD, and Information Specialist, Cathy Mueller, using minimal NIOSH funds. Amy Liebman, MPA, our migrant consultant, has become increasingly more involved in Center work.

- Staff attends multiple internal scientific seminars and external conferences to stay abreast of issues.
- External Advisors held their first in-person meeting July 2004. Nine of ten advisors joined the 1.5-day discussions in Marshfield, WI. In-depth critiques were provided on all Center projects. External Advisors include:
 - Marilyn Adams - Farm Safety 4 Just Kids: Earlham, IA
 - Steve Burdette - CNH Global: Burr Ridge, IL
 - Larry Dauphinais - Indian Health Service: Minot, ND
 - Deborah Reed, PhD - University of Kentucky: Lexington, KY
 - Dan M Hair CSP, MSS - Zenith Insurance Company: Woodland Hills, CA
 - Sharon M Hughes CAE - Nat'l Council of Ag Employers: Washington, DC
 - Gene Johnston - Successful Farming: Des Moines, IA
 - Linda A McCauley PhD, FAAN, RN - University of Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, PA
 - Karen Mountain MBA, RN - Migrant Clinicians Network, Inc.: Austin, TX
 - Dennis J Murphy PhD - Pennsylvania State University: University Park, PA

Aim 2: *Infrastructure/systems and budget.*

- The Department Manager coordinates key systems and budget issues very effectively.
- The technical assistance database is critiqued and upgraded every 18 months. Our newly hired Information Specialist monitors quality and conducts upgrades when needed.

Aim 3: *Exploratory and Creative Initiatives.*

- The fiscal year 2004 mini-grant call for proposals yielded 28 total applications; six of these applications were funded, at total cost of \$75,000.
- The mini-grant solicitation successfully drew out applicants from underserved populations.
- Fiscal year 2005 mini-grant call for proposals was released in June 2004, with 15 applications received in August. The call for proposals indicated preference given to projects that address underserved populations and/or proposals that demonstrated novel collaboration with agricultural organizations or agricultural media. Proposals were received that focus on Hispanic, American Indian, and Hmong populations. Four applications were funded.
- NIOSH Agricultural Research Center Directors were made aware of individuals in their regions that applied for funding. By making the Regional Center Directors attentive to projects submitted from their region, we hoped to stimulate collaboration with people interested in child agricultural safety and the regional Agricultural Centers.

Aim 4: *Annual meeting of Stakeholders.*

- We will convene a NIFS Pre-Conference: Advanced Training for Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention in June of 2005. Planning is well underway.
- Marshfield is slated to host the 2006 NIFS meeting in Sheboygan, WI. We will consider methods to add a focus on children at that event.
- NCCRAHS has exhibited and presented at national conferences (e.g. American Farm Bureau, National FFA, National Association of Farm Broadcasters) to reach farm organizations and youth-serving groups. Our Medical Director participated in the National Farmworker Health Conference.

Aim 5: *Assess progress and quality of Center initiatives.*

- The Benchmark Metrics chart is reviewed monthly at the Center staff meeting. The respective project director monitors his/her project and the full team provides feedback on overall activities. The Benchmark Metrics chart is continuously updated, indicating measurable outcomes that are achieved. Additional, along with the nine regional NIOSH Centers we are participating with the HiCAHS Agricultural Center Evaluation initiative.

b. Project Products

i. Presentations

- (a) Participated in exhibition halls at the National Farm Broadcasters Association and American Farm Bureau Federation conventions.

ii. Conferences/Meetings Sponsored

- (a) Fifth International Symposium, Future of Rural Peoples: Rural Economy, Healthy People, Environment, Rural Communities. Saskatoon, SK, Canada. (\$3,000 sponsorship).
- (b) 2004 National Symposium on Agricultural Health and Safety—Keystone, CO. (\$1,000 sponsorship).
- (c) Cultivating a Sustainable Agricultural Workplace—Troutdale, OR. (donated door prizes)

c. States Project was Active In

- i. As part of our National Center, the Stakeholder Communications project was active in all 50 states of the US. Additionally, collaboration and consultation occurred in Australia, Austria, Canada, Romania and Sweden.

d. Collaboration

- i. The National Children’s Center works with the nine regional NIOSH Agricultural Centers. We rely on the other Centers in assisting us in disseminating information to key stakeholders in their regions. The National Children’s Center also has an ongoing contract with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Under a sub-contract our Center provides content expertise to the Children’s Safety Network of the Education Development Center. The Center also has key collaborations with the ten agencies that provide individuals to serve as our External Advisors.

Appendix B

10 News Clippings

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