

I-CASH **2014** ANNUAL REPORT

Director's Message

I-CASH's 24th year has been one of transition with the retirement of longtime director Kelley Donham in October of 2013. We are indebted to Drs Fred Gerr, Matt Nonnenmann, Diane Rohlman and Peter Thorne for ably leading I-CASH during the interim period. In May of 2014, I was hired as the new director of I-CASH and I look forward to working with our statewide partners and Iowa's farmers to continue the I-CASH mission.

I grew up on a 300-acre cattle farm in Missouri and clearly remember the incidents and near misses that occurred on our farm and on those of our neighbors. My uncle survived a tractor roll-over, not because of any protective structure on the tractor, but because he tipped into a ravine in the craggy Ozark landscape that held the tractor aloft as he dropped below. I've spent most of my adult life in Iowa, earning a BA in anthropology from Grinnell College and an MA and PhD in anthropology from the University of Iowa where my research examined the changing production strategies of direct market producers in the state.

This annual report highlights some of I-CASH's greatest assets; namely, the statewide network of partners from both the private and public sectors. I have been amazed at the energy and passion that these individuals bring to our work. Immediately following my arrival, we started a Strategic Planning process that will guide I-CASH through the next three years. We will build on the remarkable successes of this one-of-a-kind organization, continuing to engage with farmers, health care providers, and agribusiness to improve the health and safety of producers and their families. We will especially improve our outreach to beginning and alternative farmers. In addition, we intend to raise awareness throughout Iowa's communities and will work to engage even more diverse partners, recognizing that a culture of safety must be cultivated at all levels in our rural neighborhoods.

Even in this transitional year, I-CASH accomplished many things. A project with the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau resulted in a statewide billboard campaign reminding rural auto drivers to *Be Patient. Slow Down. Buckle Up.* Our longstanding Agricultural Youth Injury Prevention Grants resulted in nine excellent projects across the state. The 12th annual Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health (MRASH) conference brought together farmers, researchers and safety professionals.

I am honored to be at the helm of I-CASH, which has been a leader in agricultural safety and health for nearly a quarter of a century. I anticipate that we will continue to be the forerunner and make the nation's most productive agricultural state also the safest.

Brandi Janssen

Director Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health



I-CASH Partners

As designated by the founding legislation, I-CASH is collaboratively led by four core state institutions: the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, the Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa State University, and the University of Iowa. Representatives from the four core institutions meet regularly to drive I-CASH's programming; additionally, each entity also works individually to improve rural and agricultural health and safety. The engagement of the core institutions is critical in that it allows I-CASH to leverage the knowledge, expertise, and resources of four organizations that make important contributions to our rural communities.

The Mission of I-CASH is to enhance the health and safety of Iowa's agricultural community by establishing and coordinating prevention and education programs.

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

www.iowaAgriculture.gov

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) in cooperation with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conduct the pesticide applicator certification program, which establishes applicator standards and provides training to a wide network of professionals working in Iowa agriculture. Private pesticide applicators are certified to apply Restricted Use Pesticides and commercial pesticide applicators are certified to apply General and Restricted Use Pesticides. Current figures from the pesticide applicator certification program are listed below:

- As of June 30, 2014, Iowa had 36,280 certified applicators, including 14,241 certified commercial applicators, 801 certified commercial handlers, and 21,238 certified private applicators.
- Certification testing was held at about 4,150 sites in fiscal year 2014.
- Approximately 289 private and 1,771 commercial continuing instruction certification training sessions (including pre-recorded sessions held at county offices) were offered by ISU Extension and Outreach in fiscal year 2014.

THE WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD

The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) for agricultural pesticides is a regulation issued by the EPA. The WPS emphasizes educating agricultural employers on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses of the need to train their workers and pesticide handlers regarding the safe use of pesticides. IDALS cooperates with the Iowa Department of Public Health, Proteus Inc., I-CASH, EPA, and ISUEO to promote WPS compliance. Highlights this year include the following activities:

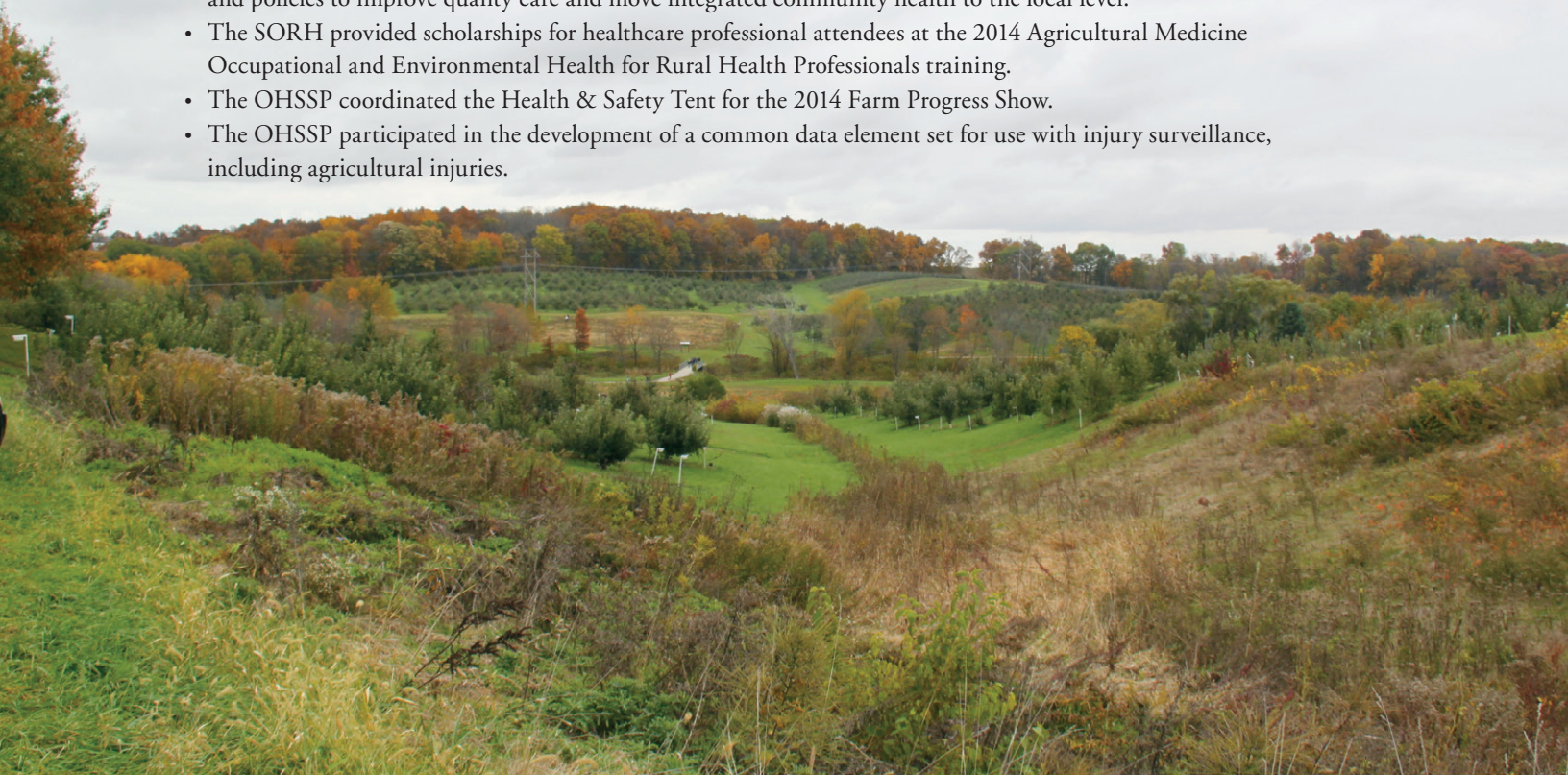
- The WPS regulation is currently being revised and in July 2014, IDALS hosted a stakeholder meeting to facilitate communication between regulatory officials and those working in Iowa agriculture. Information provided by stakeholders will be used by ISUEO and IDALS to improve educational outreach activities concerning the revised WPS regulations to those needing the information.
- ISUEO updated the online WPS Train-the-Trainer course used by Ag employers and supervisors.
- With matching funds from EPA Region 7 and IDALS, ISUEO will investigate ways in which people look for and receive information concerning the WPS.

Iowa Department of Public Health

www.idph.state.ia.us

The Iowa Department of Public Health Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance Program (OHSSP) and State Office of Rural Health (SORH) continue active collaboration with I-CASH and its partners to promote health, wellness and safe workplaces for all Iowans, including those living and working in agricultural settings. Highlights this year include the following activities:

- The SORH played a key role assisting health organizations and healthcare professionals execute vital programs and policies to improve quality care and move integrated community health to the local level.
- The SORH provided scholarships for healthcare professional attendees at the 2014 Agricultural Medicine Occupational and Environmental Health for Rural Health Professionals training.
- The OHSSP coordinated the Health & Safety Tent for the 2014 Farm Progress Show.
- The OHSSP participated in the development of a common data element set for use with injury surveillance, including agricultural injuries.



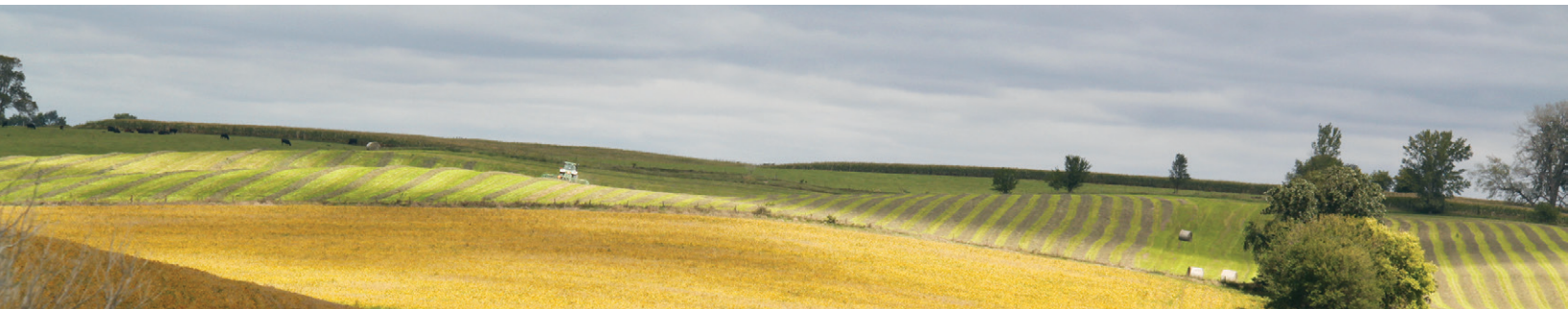
Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

www.iastate.edu

FARM SAFETY PROGRAM

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach farm safety program and activities that are directed towards I-CASH goals include the following events:

- ISU Extension and Outreach organized articles on farm safety issues by involved partners and distributed them to Iowa's newspapers during the 70th annual National Farm Safety and Health Week, held September 15-21, 2013.
- A total of 15 safety days or farm safety camps, conducted by extension staff, were held throughout the state, reaching 2,582 youth and providing more than 14,000 participant safety education contact hours.
- ISU Extension and Outreach continued to support the Ag Safety and Health eXtension website hosted by the Farm & Ranch eXtension in the Safety and Health (FReSH) Community of Practice (CoP) (www.extension.org/farm_safety_and_health). The FReSH CoP, with 107 members, is dedicated to providing accurate and timely information to individuals involved with agriculture.
- The Tug-of-War with grain safety display educated participants at the 2013 Farm Progress Show.



University of Iowa Centers and faculty continue to engage in research and teaching that addresses agricultural injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. Highlights this year include the following activities:

- The Iowa Agricultural Medicine Course, held in June 2014, provided 38 participants (UI graduate students, physicians, nurses, veterinarians, and health and safety specialists) with foundational knowledge about the principles of agricultural safety and health. In addition to presenters from the University of Iowa, the course included speakers from Iowa State University, the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS), the AgriSafe Network, Proteus, Inc., Farm Safety for Just Kids, and the Rural Health and Safety Clinic of Greater Johnson County.
- The Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) supported research aimed at reducing respiratory exposures in livestock confinements, analyzing rural roadway crashes involving farm implements, and developing surveillance mechanisms for agricultural injuries.
- The Iowa FACE (Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation) program identified 26 agricultural fatalities statewide between June 30, 2013 and July 1, 2014; this constitutes one-third of all occupational deaths during that period.
- The Farm Families Alive and Well Newsletter, a joint initiative of I-CASH and the Great Plains Center, is distributed quarterly to more than 1,100 readers.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN CHOATE

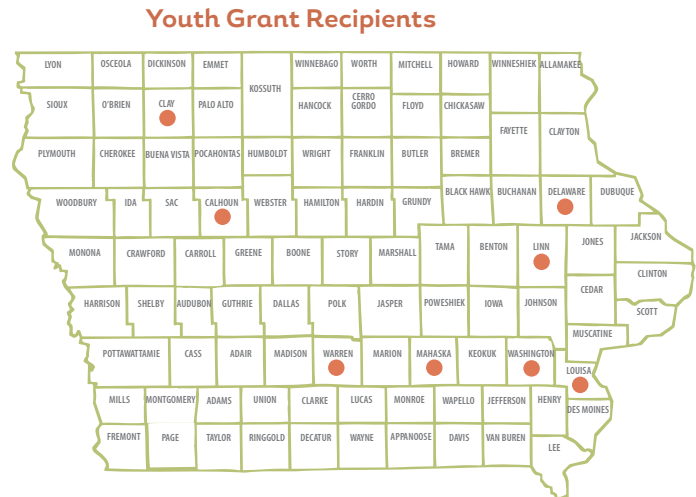
I-CASH sponsored the Networking Reception at the UI Agricultural Medicine Course, which included a grain demonstration by Dan Neenan, I-CASH Board Member and director of NECAS.

I-CASH in Action

Agricultural Youth Injury Prevention Grants

Each year I-CASH designates funds for community grants addressing farm-related injuries in young people and their families. The Agricultural Youth Injury Prevention Grant program typically provides grants of up to \$500 each for projects designed to raise awareness and decrease the risk of illness and injury from agricultural exposures to youth living on Iowa farms, or otherwise involved in production agriculture. Since 1998, one hundred twenty-six grants have been awarded across the state, totaling over \$70,000. I-CASH awarded funds to nine farm safety projects this year.

- **Clay Central/Everly Middle School FFA** - Middle school FFA students presented interactive workshops on hearing protection.
- **Clay County Countrymen 4-H** - Fire extinguisher demonstrations and inspection recommendations.
- **Delaware County Extension** - Three FFA chapters collaborated to provide Safety Day events.
- **Logan Larks 4-H Club** - Smoke detector presentations were provided to K-3rd graders.
- **Louisa County 4-H Youth Council** - A Farm Safety Day for 5th graders was held.
- **Mahaska County 4-H** - The 4-H Teen Council addressed healthy hand washing at the county fair.
- **Shooting Stars 4-H Club** - Animal and tractor safety programs were presented during the county fair.
- **Washington Busy Beavers 4-H Club** - Farm Day participants learned about animals, tractors, and ATVs.
- **Washington County 4-H & Extension** - The *Stay Safe, Take a Break* project addressed harvest season fatigue.





Washington Busy Beavers 4-H Club



Louisa County Farm Safety Day



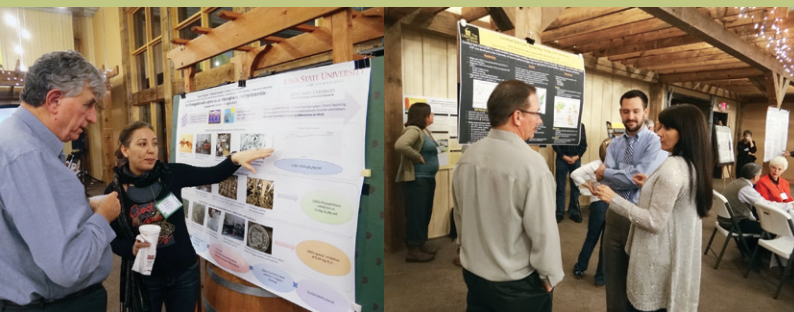
LaMar Grafft (at left) receives the I-CASH Hall of Fame Award from Kelley Donham.

Hall of Fame Award

I-CASH named LaMar Grafft of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as the 2013 recipient of its Agricultural Safety and Health Hall of Fame Award. Grafft was recognized during the Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH) in Ames, Iowa on November 20, 2013.

Following graduation from Iowa State University, Grafft operated his family's farm and later worked as an ISU Extension livestock specialist. He started work as the I-CASH "farm safety educator" in 1993. In addition to working for I-CASH, Grafft served many years as an ambulance crew member and as a flight paramedic. He completed the Farm Medic training and later became a Farm Medic Trainer, educating paramedics and first responders in the specific details of farm injury rescues and on-site paramedic treatment of persons injured on the farm. As an assistant in the University of Iowa's MS/PhD program in Agricultural Safety and Health, Grafft took students on farm tours to increase their understanding of the equipment, processes, and exposures on farms. He also provided numerous continuing education presentations each year, made significant contributions to the Certified Safe Farm Program (CSF), helping to design the audit tool, and acted as principal trainer for CSF auditors in Iowa, Nebraska, and North Carolina.

I-CASH created the Hall of Fame Award as a lifetime achievement award for individuals or organizations that have made significant and lasting contributions to agricultural safety and health in Iowa.



MRASH poster session held at Prairie Moon Winery, November 19, 2013

Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH)

The Many Faces of Agriculture was the theme of the Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH) held on November 19-20 in Ames, Iowa. Kelley Donham, Professor Emeritus at the University of Iowa, kicked-off the conference with a retrospective look at agricultural safety and health in the past 40 years. He received a standing ovation after his presentation, in recognition of his lifetime of service to promote agricultural safety and health research, education, and policy change over his career.

Throughout the conference, participants were engaged in a variety of activities. Mike Duffy, well-known agricultural economist from Iowa State University keynoted the opening session with an overview of the major economic and sociological drivers of the changes in agriculture. Duffy highlighted trends that are likely, and emphasized audiences and risks that might be emerging concerns in agricultural safety and health. Paul Gunderson highlighted some of the technological changes in agriculture and the impacts they have on agricultural safety and health issues. The conference also included professional development sessions, and over 20 breakout sessions with presenters discussing their research and outreach efforts.

Purdue University faculty and staff ran a concurrent training for emergency rescue personnel on basic awareness and rescue in grain and confined spaces. Farm visits included the ISU Dairy Farm, the ISU Horticulture Farm and Prairie Moon Winery, where a poster session was held. The closing session, led by Risto Rautiainen, Director of the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, projected what the next 40 years might bring. The conference provided networking opportunities and collaboration among the NIOSH Agricultural Health and Safety Centers of the upper Midwest states and many other organizations interested in agricultural safety and rural health.



PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL BARKER

Rural Roadway Safety



In 2009, the I-CASH Board identified rural roadway safety as a key issue for farmers, new Iowa drivers, and other motorists who use Iowa's rural roadways. I-CASH has since worked with the Iowa Department of Transportation, the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau, and Farm Safety for Just Kids to create a video, posters and billboards that educate drivers about sharing the roadway with farm equipment on rural roads. As part of the *It's Preventable!* campaign, the video was distributed to all drivers'

education instructors in the state and is available on the IDOT website and Vimeo. Tip cards were also created to compliment the information, and to distribute at public events such as county fairs, conferences and meetings. The artwork originally designed for the poster was adapted into billboards that are being displayed around the state in collaboration with four billboard companies.

I-CASH Statewide Collaborations

In addition to the four core institutions, I-CASH partners with organizations around the state to promote agricultural safety and health.

- The Iowa Agricultural Medicine Course continues to be a point of collaboration between I-CASH and GPCAH partners. Course guest speakers included representatives from Iowa State University, AgriSafe Network, Amana Farms, Inc., Proteus, Inc., Farm Safety for Just Kids, and the Rural Health and Safety Clinic of Greater Johnson County. Dan Neenan, director of the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) presented a grain bin rescue demonstration during the course and at an evening reception sponsored by I-CASH. The Networking Reception included a poster session featuring University of Iowa research; course participants enjoyed refreshments and had the opportunity to network with university faculty and students, as well as local ag safety and health specialists.
- Farm Safety for Just Kids works with I-CASH to administer the annual Youth Injury Prevention Grant program.
- The University of Iowa Department of Emergency Medicine partnered with the Rural Health and Safety Clinic of Greater Johnson County in a project funded by GPCAH to promote safe ATV use on Iowa farms.



State of Agricultural Safety and Health in Iowa



Agriculture is one the most important industries in Iowa, yet one of the most hazardous. Advancing measures to protect the health and safety of Iowans working in agriculture ensures a better quality of life for these workers and our entire state. Collaboration among state groups provides an infrastructure to help support ag safety and health efforts.

-Mark Hanna, PhD;
ISU Extension Agricultural Engineer

Iowa has much to be proud of, especially with regard to rural hospitals and clinics. However, there is more to be done. Improving agricultural injury surveillance, attending to mental health needs, and improving health care technology would contribute to making Iowa's agriculture the healthiest and safest in the nation.

Iowa Concern Hotline which is a part of Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is already seeing some concerns affecting our Iowa farmers. Stress, which can lead to mental health issues is increasing within our farm population because of decline in the farm commodity prices and the extreme weather conditions for planting and harvesting this year. When the farm economic picture changes, this may also affect the local small town Ag businesses. Behavioral Health issues may become an issue in the rural areas and change the relationships of farm families. Economics may play a part in how many farm families can afford to actually stay on the farm in rural Iowa.

-Margaret VanGinkel, MS; Iowa Concern Hotline Coordinator

Iowa has some of the best rural hospitals and clinics in the nation. Improving access to quality whole person health, safety and medical care is priority. Robust organizations and dedicated health care professionals strive to improve cost effective systems. Expanding care to include health technology exchange and integrated, coordinated community care, has become a vital part of the health care model.

-Gloria Vermie, RN, MPH; Director, State Office of Rural Health

One of the biggest issues we have in making advances in rural injury prevention and making Iowa agriculture safer is surveillance. We need surveillance not only of deaths, but of injuries seen both at the clinic and hospital level. These non-fatal injuries often have significant morbidity including loss of work time, various degrees of long-term disability, and negative effects on mental health. A robust agricultural injury and health surveillance system will allow us to identify and prioritize the problems that should be addressed by programs, as well as where and to whom those interventions should be targeted. And perhaps more importantly to us trying to help Iowa farmers and their families, it will allow us to measure the effectiveness of our efforts and see what methods work. It seems to me that expenditure of federal or state funds that would adequately support such a surveillance program would be money well spent.

-Chuck Jennissen, MD;
Clinical Associate Professor,
Emergency Medicine, UIHC

I-CASH Presentations, Exhibits, and Sponsorships

- **Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Conference (MRASH)**, November 2013
- **Practical Farmers of Iowa Annual Conference** sponsor and exhibitor, January 2014
- **International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health**, June 2014
- **Iowa Psychological Association Conference**, June 2014
- **University of Iowa Agricultural Medicine Training**, June 2014
- **Practical Farmers of Iowa Field Day** series sponsor, Summer 2014
- **ISU Field Day**, June 2014
- **Rural Health and Primary Care Advising Committee Member**, Ongoing

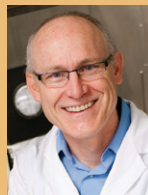


Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)
Department of Occupational and Environmental Health
College of Public Health
UI Research Park #124 IREH
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242-5000
Phone: 319/335-4190
<http://cph.uiowa.edu/icash>

WHO WE ARE



Brandi Janssen, PhD
I-CASH Director



Peter Thorne, MS, PhD
Interim I-CASH Director



Fred Gerr, MD



Matt Nonnenmann, MS, PhD



Diane Rohlman, MA, PhD



Ralph Altmaier, MS
Administrative Services
Coordinator



Kay Mohling, MA
Program Coordinator



Gayle Olson, MS, CHES
Assistant to the Director



Julia Venzke, MA
Information Specialist
& Webmaster

ADVISORY BOARD

Nancy Boettger - State Senator, Senate District 29

Shari Burgus - Farm Safety for Just Kids

Kelley Donham - The University of Iowa

Dawn Driscoll - Producer

Bill Furlong - Producer

Rich Gassman - Amana Farms, Inc.

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Jan Goldsmith - Highway Safety Consultant

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Heather Hora - Producer

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Agricultural Safety

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Ken Sharp - Iowa Department of Public Health

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Jesus Soto - Proteus, Inc.

Roger Stutsman - Producer

Cheryl Tevis - Successful Farming Magazine

Dustin Vande Hoef - Iowa Department of Agriculture
and Land Stewardship

Margaret VanGinkel - Iowa State University Extension

Gloria Vermie - Iowa Department of Public Health

Andy Winborn - Rural Health and Safety Clinic of
Greater Johnson County

There is nothing more important than the safety and health of a farmer or any other person and I-CASH can assist farmers to achieve this goal.

-Bill Furlong, Producer,
Iowa City, IA

Farm safety/education should be a priority for all farm families, as the future of the family could be changed in a moment with an injury or death that could have been prevented.

-Chris Petersen, Producer, Clear
Lake, IA



The University of Iowa ■ Iowa State University
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Iowa Department of Public Health ■ Non-profits for Farm Health

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Editor: Kay Mohling
Landscape photographs: Brandi Janssen, Patti Zwick

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