The Blueprint for Knowledge Translation (B4KT), a project to move state-of-the-art knowledge on childhood agricultural injury prevention into practice, will be featured in the January 2012 issue of the Journal of Agromedicine, 17(1). The Blueprint project is an effort to gather and synthesize findings from childhood agricultural injury research and interventions that have been conducted since the 2001 Summit on Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention. Recommendations will serve as the foundation upon which strategies and priorities will be set for the next decade.

The initiative is being co-directed by Susan Gallagher, M.P.H., of Tufts University, and Barbara Lee, Ph.D., director of the National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, with assistance from deputy director Barbara Marlenga, Ph.D. The Blueprint project is part of the National Children’s Center’s grant, funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The dedicated Journal issue will include an outline of the Blueprint in addition to 15 related papers with topics such as data collection, environmental health, supervision, economic impact of injuries and use of social media to promote safe practices.

Guest editors are Gallagher; Lee; Marlenga; Amy Liebman, M.P.A., M.P.H., Migrant Clinicians Network; Matthew Keifer, M.D., M.P.H., National Farm Medicine Center; Mary Miller, R.N., M.N., Clinical Faculty, University of Washington School of Nursing; and David Hard, Ph.D., NIOSH.

B4KT is the latest in a series of guiding documents from the National Children’s Center that includes the National Action Plan (1996) and Updated National Action Plan from the 2001 Summit.

After publication in the Journal of Agromedicine, plans call for the Blueprint outline to be fleshed out into a full color, 24-page document that
The Migrants Clinicians Network (MCN) and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Research Foundation announce the availability of three pesticide educational comic books in Spanish. These full color publications are available free of charge and can be ordered via http://www.migrantclinician.org/clinical_topics/pesticide-comic-books.html. The comics include:

1) Aun Que Cerca…Sano educates parents about children’s risks to pesticide exposure and ways to minimize these risks. Originated with a mini-grant from the National Children’s Center. Also available in English.

2) Lo Que Bien Empieza…Bien Acaba helps women of reproductive age and pregnant women in rural and urban areas understand the risks associated with pesticide exposure and ways to minimize exposure.

3) Poco Veneno…¿No Mata? offers family-based information on what pesticides are, why one should be concerned about pesticide exposures, how to minimize pesticide exposures and how to respond to a pesticide poisoning.

The comic books were developed by MCN and partners to help educate farmworkers and their families as well as other Spanish speaking populations about pesticides and ways to minimize exposures, said Amy K. Liebman, M.P.A., M.A., director of Environmental and Occupational Health for MCN. “They offer protective concepts through illustration and conversation-style text and are an effective way to disseminate health information to populations with limited formal education.”

The comic books are printed and distributed by the NASDA Research Foundation under Cooperative Agreement X8-83456201, awarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
North American Guidelines featured by NIOSH

Guidelines designed to assist parents and others in assigning appropriate farm tasks to children are featured in a new resource published by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The North American Guidelines for Children’s Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT) are the subject of an Impact Sheet, part of a series of products that are designed to clearly and concisely communicate the relevance and impact of research to industry, labor, academic, government, and non-government stakeholders. Impact Sheets briefly describe an occupational safety or health hazard, the specific NIOSH or NIOSH-funded research activity that was conducted to address the hazard, the resulting impact or recommendations, and certain salient statistics.


CASN to meet June 27 in Boise

The Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN) will hold its annual in-person meeting, 5:30 - 9 p.m., Monday, June 27, 2011, at the Grove Hotel and Conference Center, Boise, Idaho, during the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) conference. Anyone interested in joining the network or learning more about its activities is encouraged to attend. To RSVP or for more information, contact nccrahs@mcrf.mfldclin.edu, or 1-800-662-6900.

News in brief

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Progressive Agriculture deadline July 15

If you or someone you know is interested in conducting a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day for your community, log onto www.progressiveag.org where you will find the application. Return the application form by July 15 for Safety Days being held in 2012.

National Farm Medicine Center celebrates 30th anniversary

Health issues unique to farmers, their families and employees provided the impetus for establishment of the National Farm Medicine Center (NFMC) in 1981. The concept was a natural outgrowth of the ongoing research and clinical expertise that already existed at Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, Wisconsin. Since 1997, the NFMC has been home to the National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety.

Research specialist joins National Children’s Center

Marsha Salzwedel has been hired as the new research specialist at the National Children’s Center. Salzwedel most recently worked as an instructor at Marshfield Labs, Marshfield, Wisconsin. She has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee and recently completed a master’s in human and community resources-adult education from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Salzwedel’s responsibilities will include several aspects of National Children’s Center projects, including facilitation of the Childhood Agricultural Safety Network.
National Children’s Center to make call for mini-grant proposals

The National Children’s Center is offering mini-grants of up to $20,000 to support small-scale projects and pilot studies that address prevention of childhood agricultural disease and injury. A call for proposals is scheduled for mid-June, with a deadline of mid-August, 2011. Check www.marshfieldclinic.org/nccrah for the latest information. This marks the 11th consecutive year that the National Children’s Center has made mini-grants available. Preference is given to proposals that: a) test innovative strategies; b) strengthen partnerships between safety professionals, agricultural organizations, and the media; and c) translate research findings into practical applications. Individuals affiliated with community-based organizations, public or private institutions, units of local or state government, or tribal government throughout the United States are eligible to apply for funds.

Schedule of upcoming events

June 26-30, 2011
International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH)
formerly National Institute for Farm Safety (NIFS)

July 23-27, 2011
Agricultural Media Summit
New Orleans, Louisiana, www.agmediasummit.com

August 7-10, 2011
American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
Louisville, Kentucky, www.asabe.org

October 20-22, 2011
24th Annual East Coast Migrant Stream Forum
Location TBD, www.ncchca.org

November 10-12, 2011
21st Annual Midwest Stream Farmworker Health Forum
Albuquerque, New Mexico, www.ncfh.org

November 16-17, 2011
Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Forum