

# The **UMASH** Connection Farms and People

A newsletter of the Upper Midwest  
Agricultural Safety and Health Center



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**ONE HEALTH IN  
AGRICULTURAL  
SAFETY AND HEALTH**



## **BUILDING RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES: A WORKING FORUM**

*"There is immense power when people with similar interests get together to work toward the same goals."*

- Idowu Koyenikan

One of the challenges for people working in agriculture is the **multiple potential sources of stress**. Farmers, farm workers, and their families contend with pressures from a myriad of origins including, but not limited to, economic conditions, weather, health of animals and crops, political and policy decisions, financial and agricultural markets, and the overall health and wellbeing of themselves and their families. In recent years there has been increasing concern of the pressures facing agricultural communities and their resilience to adapt to stressful conditions.

**Stress, resilience, and mental health challenges are emerging as one of the most important occupational and public health issues in agricultural communities.** The most effective way to respond to this complex problem is not always clear. A number of efforts have emerged in Minnesota and the Upper Midwest including task forces, help lines, workshops and discussion groups. All these efforts highlight the need for embracing a broad coalition of community members to strengthen and improve the resilience in our agricultural communities to stress and mental health challenges.

UMASH and the MN Dept of Agriculture are hosting a forum, **BUILDING RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES**, to bring stakeholders together from across the state to address this complex topic around four key aspects of mental health outreach and support:

- ✓ **Availability:** The presence or absence of community and health care resources, many of which lack adequate staffing or have limited services or resources.
- ✓ **Accessibility:** Addresses community knowledge and infrastructure regarding where, when, or how to obtain services as well as a lack of coordination across the health and social service system.
- ✓ **Affordability:** The costs associated with receiving and providing care and support (both monetary and opportunity costs).
- ✓ **Acceptability:** Issues of stigma or seeking vs not seeking assistance for stress and mental health needs.

*An important goal of this forum is to identify the need for and to create new partnerships to address this challenging problem.*

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### **BUILDING RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES**

June 20, 2018



#### **WebEx Video Conference**

9:00am - 12:30pm

- » Presentation
- » Panel Discussion
- » Q&A Session
- » Seed Grant Presentation

#### **REGISTER ONLINE:**

[umash.umn.edu/AgResilience](http://umash.umn.edu/AgResilience)

# UMASH HIGHLIGHTS

## MCN Publication on Immigrant Dairy Worker Trainings Wins Paper of the Year Award

UMASH and the Migrant Clinicians Network partnered to develop, train and deliver the *Seguridad en las Lecherías* project from 2011 - 2016. This successful project has been recognized as the **Sarah Mazelis Health Promotion Practice 2017 Paper of the Year** award from the editors of Health Promotion Practice.

The work accomplished with the *Seguridad en las Lecherías* is being expanded to Minnesota to incorporate the training principles with additional health and safety features. The **Promoting Safety and Worker Health Project** was funded in 2017 and seeks to carry on the good work established.



### FACES OF UMASH: MEET CHELA VÁZQUEZ

Hello! My name is Chela Vázquez. I recently joined UMASH as project coordinator for the **Promoting Safety and Health for Immigrant Dairy Workers** program. My experience working with immigrants in California, Southeast Asia, and Minnesota has taught me that agricultural workers face similar challenges around the world. Agricultural occupations are some of the most dangerous in the country, posing environmental and occupational health risks to immigrant agricultural workers and their families. According to the Status of Farm Safety in Minnesota report (MDA 2017), although only 2% of Minnesota's workforce was engaged in agriculture, it accounted for more than 30% of workplace fatalities.

As project coordinator, I will be training Spanish-speaking immigrant workers on dairy farms using a bilingual health and safety training curriculum called *Seguridad en Las Lecherías: Immigrant Dairy Worker Health and Safety*. This curriculum was developed by Migrant Clinicians Network and the National Farm Medicine Center in Wisconsin, both members of UMASH, and has been adapted for workers in Minnesota. The training curriculum addresses health and safety issues in dairy farms, with a special focus on improving the occupational health and safety of Minnesota's immigrant workers on dairy farms.

⇒ Learn about the curriculum at [umash.umn.edu/seguridad](http://umash.umn.edu/seguridad) or call Chela at 612-625-4578

## 2018 NORA SYMPOSIUM

The 2018 National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Symposium was held Thursday, May 3. The topic was "**WORKPLACE HARASSMENT: Ensuring Respect, Combating Harassment and Improving Organizational Performance**" and featured a presentation, Q&A discussion, poster session, and reception.

The NORA symposium was co-sponsored by UMASH and the Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety Education and Research Center.

⇒ View photos and video at [umash.umn.edu/2018-nora-symposium](http://umash.umn.edu/2018-nora-symposium)



## BREAKFAST ON THE FARM

**Breakfast on the Farm** is an annual event that draws people from both rural and urban areas to explore the workings of farm production and educate consumers on where food is grown, produced, processed and eventually ends up in the store.

On June 2, the Stearns County Farm Bureau welcomed over 1,500 visitors to the Vogt Dairy Farm. UMASH staff Diane Kampa and Carol Peterson engaged attendees to think about farm safety in a variety of ways - including tractor and ATV safety, sun protection, and handwashing - particularly in animal settings.

# AG HEALTH AND SAFETY RESOURCES

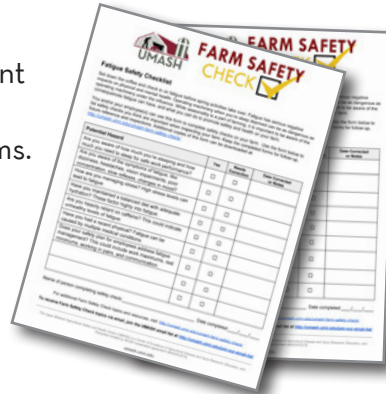
## FARM SAFETY CHECK TOPICS

The **UMASH Farm Safety Check** is a quick monthly review to identify and fix potential hazards before they cause harm to your family and employees – and your bottom line.

Each month, Farm Safety Check focuses on a different topic, offering checklists and tips to help identify hazards, along with resources to remedy any problems.

### RECENT FARM SAFETY CHECK TOPICS:

- ✓ Livestock Handling
- ✓ Fatigue
- ✓ Roadway Safety
- ✓ Safety for Working Youth



⇒ View all Farm Safety Check topics at: [umash.umn.edu/FSC](http://umash.umn.edu/FSC)



## SHARPS DISPOSAL FACT SHEETS

**NEW - AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH!**

Livestock-related sharps are considered medical waste. If not disposed of properly, sharps pose a significant risk of injury and illness to farmers, on site workers and waste handlers.

This fact sheet contains tips for proper storage and disposal of sharps.

⇒ Download pdf in English and Spanish at: [umash.umn.edu/needlestick-prevention](http://umash.umn.edu/needlestick-prevention)

## ORDER LARGE 11x17 SAFETY POSTERS

### SAFETY POSTERS FOR YOUR BARN, WORK AREAS OR HANDWASHING STATIONS

Posters are high quality and ready to hang! Needlestick Prevention and Animal Handling posters have special UV Coating for outdoor use. Handwashing poster is laminated for use at handwashing stations.

### ALL ARE DOUBLE-SIDED ENGLISH AND SPANISH

- “Don’t Get Stuck” Needlestick Prevention
- “Keep Calm” Animal Handling
- 6 Steps to Handwashing

⇒ Email us at [umash@umn.edu](mailto:umash@umn.edu) to place an order.

*Quantities are limited.*





# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) Pilot Grant Program

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 16

The Great Plains Center offers grant funding to both scholarly researchers and community organizations engaged in agricultural safety and health activities. Funding up to \$30,000 per project is available.

*Pilot projects addressing aging workforce, mental health, chemical safety, and machinery and equipment safety are especially encouraged.*

⇒ [public-health.uiowa.edu/gpcah/current-projects/pilot-grant-program](http://public-health.uiowa.edu/gpcah/current-projects/pilot-grant-program)



## Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH) Pilot/Feasibility Projects Program

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE: July 20

APPLICATION DEADLINE: August 24

These projects can lead to the development of new and creative research, prevention, intervention, outreach, education, evaluation, or translation findings and outcomes. Pilot project duration is limited to 18 months and funding is limited to \$20K per project.

*Research conducted in or involving the CS-CASH seven states region will be given priority. These states include: ND, SD, IA, MN, NE, KS, MO.*

⇒ [www.unmc.edu/publichealth/cscash](http://www.unmc.edu/publichealth/cscash)



## High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS) Pilot Grants Program

APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 30

The program funds innovative research projects that promote worker health and safety in the agriculture, forestry, or fishing industries. *Extra consideration is given to projects that directly impact the HICAHS region which includes Colorado, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota.*

⇒ [www.hicahs.colostate.edu/pilot-grants.html](http://www.hicahs.colostate.edu/pilot-grants.html)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Building Resilient Agricultural  
Communities: A Working Forum  
June 20

International Society of Agricultural  
Safety and Health (ISASH) 2018  
June 24-28  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days  
July 10-12  
Marshfield, Wisconsin

Hospital Decontamination Course  
July 31  
Red Wing, Minnesota

MN Farmfest  
August 7-9  
Redwood Falls, Minnesota

Child Agricultural Injury Prevention  
Workshop  
August 14-15  
Marshfield, Wisconsin

Big Iron Farm Show  
September 11-13  
West Fargo, North Dakota

Learn more and view full event list at:  
[umash.umn.edu/upcoming-events](http://umash.umn.edu/upcoming-events)

## GET CONNECTED



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