2022
ANNUAL REPORT
Planting Seeds of Wellness

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Our Mission

Our mission is to support a growing network of trained agricultural health and safety professionals that ensure access to preventative services for farm families and agricultural communities.

AgriSafe Network is dedicated to teaching and supporting individuals who work in the agriculture, fishing, forestry, and logging industries. By providing health and safety training and resources to these communities, we are helping to improve the quality of their lives and those of future generations.
A Message from Our CEO

2022 was a year of significant growth for AgriSafe both in our programming and our community impact. To some, this growth may appear too fast. However, I believe that progressive funders want NPOs to take risks on new social programs, ones that reflect the needs of those being served. That is why in February 2022, AgriSafe launched the first of its kind - a 24/7 crisis helpline for the agricultural community.

"AgriSafe recognized the unmet need and spent years developing the AgriStress Helpline before it was funded. In other words, we didn’t follow the money trail. We created the innovation and the funds followed."

David Wertheimer, deputy director for the Pacific Northwest Initiative at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, once stated that “private philanthropic sector dollars should be the catalytic agent that promotes change in the system.” AgriSafe’s Corporate Changemaker initiatives are customized partnerships carefully crafted to meet the expectation of each partner. In 2022, philanthropic contributions to AgriSafe increased because charitable companies recognized the social return on their investment and our passion to serve.

At AgriSafe we believe that we can be entrepreneurial while meaningful, responsive while impactful, and courageous while adhering to public health standards. Our approach is to put the needs of those we serve (farmers and ranchers) before the needs of our organization. "Protecting the People who Feed the World" is not done by just one individual - it takes all of us acting as agents of change. As always, we encourage you to reach out and contact us, especially if we can provide assistance.

Sincerely,

Natalie Roy
AgriSafe's impact would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of our Board of Directors and interns!

### 2022 Board of Directors

- **Amanda Wickman, MBA** – Board Chair, Program Director, SW Ag Center, University of Texas at Tyler Health Science Center
- **Mary Kay Nissen, DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC** – Board Vice Chair, Shenandoah Medical Center
- **Sebastian Galindo, PhD** – Board Secretary, University of Florida
- **Tim Higgins** – Board Treasurer, Farm Credit Services of America
- **Ann K. Carruth, DNS, RN**, Southeastern Louisiana University
- **Andrew Esposito, B.S., C.E.S.O.**, U.S. Sugar Corporation
- **Ronald Ford**, Retired Bank Chairman and CEO, Retired County Commission Chairperson, Retired Founder of a Veterans Non-Profit
- **Brian Hammer, MPA, CDS**, Nationwide Insurance - Agribusiness
- **Wendell G. Miley**, Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation
- **Kay Miller Temple, MD**, Rural Health Information Hub
- **Nicholas Rutledge, MSW, LCSW**, Supervisory Social Worker, Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Biloxi, MS
- **Shirley W. Liles, MS, Ed**, North Carolina Department of Adult Corrections

### 2022 Interns

- **Lobna Ali, MD, CMD, AGSF**
  - Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at LSU HSC, with a focus in geriatrics
- **Devon Armer**
  - Pursuing a degree in Biology with a pre-med concentration; aspires to become a physician
- **Angelle Baiamonte, OTS**
  - Pursuing doctorate of Occupational Therapy with interest in hand therapy
- **Adam Broussard**
  - Pursuing a master's degree in epidemiology at LSU HSC
- **Kate Vogel**
  - Pursuing a master's degree in public health, with an interest in mental health of young producers
- **James Strebeck**
  - Pursuing two bachelors: Technical Writing and Sustainable Supply Chain Management
OSHA Trainings

Women's Health

Females are increasingly more present in the agricultural workforce, yet they are still underserved in regard to healthcare. That is why AgriSafe spent the last four years building capacity for women's health, on topics including reproductive health, ergonomics, osteoporosis, zoonosis, and more. During this time, we trained 3,102 employees and employers for a total of 3,614.75 contact hours.

- In 2022, AgriSafe hosted the very first "Protecting the Safety of Women in Ag Week" from June 27th - July 1st, where over 500 registrations occurred across all trainings, and 218 unique attendees were trained.
- We also developed and trained on new topics in 2022, including:
  - Safety Measures for Aging Women in Agriculture
  - Women and Heat Stress
  - ATV/UTV Safety for Women

Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases are preventable with awareness and education. People who work with animals and anyone spending time outdoors have exposures that can put them at higher risk for infection.

Since fall 2021, we have been working to build our capacity on infectious disease topics including:
- Talking About Ticks: Lyme Disease
- Zoonotic Disease and Pregnancy
- Protecting Ag Employees from Infectious Disease Including New COVID-19 Variants
- Ag Worker Health and Avian Influenza
Two new products were developed in Articulate for a streamlined student experience: "Cultivating a Healthy Mind" and "Heat-Related Illness."

Agricultural educators are busy professionals who are expected to educate youth on a wide range of topics. Our goal is to make their jobs easier by providing six ready-to-go Invest in Your Health curriculums for them to implement in their classrooms. Our work directly builds the capacity of local agricultural educators, rural health professionals, and rural leaders to train young workers.

2022 Invest in Your Health (IYH) work

- Two new products were developed in Articulate for a streamlined student experience: "Cultivating a Healthy Mind" and "Heat-Related Illness."
- Mental health activities were conducted with over 3,000 students at the National FFA Convention & Expo.
- AgriSafe hosted the first IYH week (October 17th - 21st), where we presented five IYH lessons and trained 108 people.
- AgriSafe partnered with National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety on “2022 Workshop Enhancing the Safety and Health of Youth Working in Ag-Protecting the Future of Agriculture” on September 28th, where we trained 36 professionals, and hosted two interactive IYH lessons.

Rapid Program Expansion

The "Cultivating a Healthy Mind" lesson has been used to train youth and ag educators in Connecticut, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Wyoming, with over 1,787 students trained.

1,895 people were trained on IYH modules during 2022
In 2022, 78 nurses across the nation participated in the 20 credit hour continuing nursing education program. AgriSafe’s Nurse Scholar program launched in 2018, and since then has provided over 245 nurses in 41 states with education specific to the health and safety needs of the agricultural industry. Most of these nurses serve rural and farming communities. As nurse scholars, they can now expand their services to include agricultural occupational care!

See what the 2022 graduates had to say about the Nurse Scholar program here.

Look at where the 2022 AgriSafe Nurse Scholar graduates are located across the nation!

The Talking Total Farmer Health® Podcast

The Talking Total Farmer Health podcast is for producers and farmworkers to listen to while they’re working or relaxing! Episodes are short, around 15-30 minutes each, surrounding important health and safety information that affects their work and well-being. Each episode includes show notes with resources for further exploration of each topic.

Here are the top five states that listened to our podcast:
- Minnesota
- Texas
- Louisiana
- Illinois
- Missouri

Here are our top five episodes:
- "Mental Health"
- "Tick Borne Diseases"
- "Heirs' Property"
- "Grain Bin Safety"
- "Mental Health Resources"
The AgriSafe Health Hub

The AgriSafe Health Hub is a free, searchable digital library full of agricultural health and safety content, including documents, videos, audio, and more! Content was produced by AgriSafe and our trusted partners/collaborators!

Farmers and ranchers are constantly navigating a variety of occupational risks including respiratory diseases, zoonoses, skin cancer, musculoskeletal disorders, hearing loss, depression, anxiety, suicide, disabling injuries, and occupational fatalities. The Health Hub serves as the home base for reliable information on the health and safety issues impacting people working in agriculture and related industries, as well as their families.

Documents available: 129
Document downloads: 1846

National Farm Safety and Health Week

National Farm Safety and Health week has been around since 1944 to bring awareness to the high rates of injuries and fatalities in agriculture. In addition to public awareness, we like to use this time to educate! In 2022, from September 18th - 24th, AgriSafe hosted 10 webinars (two per day!) for National Farm Safety and Health week (NFSHW). View the summary report here.

NFSHW Highlights:
- Three of the webinars had live Spanish translation available.
- 81 attendees participated in three or more sessions and received a digital badge!
- We had registrants from across the US, including 43 US states and Washington, DC.
- We also had registrants from Australia, Argentina, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, the Philippines, Nigeria, Canada, Brazil, and Egypt.
- NFSHW was mentioned on social media over 1,550 times with a potential reach of 3,137,158 people!
AgriSafe is committed to advancing and integrating equity in all that we do. Our long term goal is to provide health and safety education that is inclusive across language barriers and takes into consideration cultural, ethnic, racial, political, economic, geographic barriers, and more.

We are investing in personal and professional growth to address multidimensional aspects of racism, seeking diversity in our partnerships, board leadership, staffing, and programs. We have monthly DEIA meetings, where we have participatory learning, discussing topics regarding the healthcare and well-being of minorities and underserved populations, while also examining our own biases. We recognize the need for critical changes in policy and action towards racial justice and call on our partners to join us in creating this transformation.

We have also dedicated time and effort to ensure that our resources, website, and communications are accessible. This work includes adding closed captions to videos in our Learning Lab, adding alt text to images, making PDFs screenreader friendly, and selecting color palettes that are accessible for individuals with low vision or color blindness.

Increasing Capacity: Public Health and Equity Director

In 2022, AgriSafe increased the capacity for DEIA work by promoting staff member Knesha Rose-Davison to the role of Public Health and Equity Director. This shift in responsibility will allow AgriSafe to focus on concerns of BIPOC communities with an external advisory council; find solutions for funding, resource development, and collaborations; and identify partners to support growing research needs for communities across the agricultural sector.

Knesha has dedicated her career to advocating for underserved and vulnerable populations and looks forward to expanding efforts in agriculture, forestry, and commercial fishing to serve all workers.
AgriStress Response®

AgriSafe launched a national initiative, AgriStress Response, to increase positive mental health outcomes among individuals in agriculture, forestry, logging, and fishing. Our goal is to eliminate the stigma surrounding mental health and to increase awareness and access to support for mental health, stress, depression, anxiety, and suicide in agricultural communities.

Check out our AgriStress Response projects:
- The AgriStress Response Network on Facebook
- The AgriStress Helpline
- The Mental Health Innovations Exchange
- The AgriStress Response Partner Campaign

The AgriStress Helpline℠

In 2022, five state departments of agriculture (CT, MO, PA, TX, VA, and WY) partnered with AgriSafe to launch a suicide and crisis response helpline for agricultural communities. The AgriStress Helpline is toll-free, 24/7, and available by call or text in up to 160 languages. Our goal is to make it available across all states and territories!

FarmResponse®

FarmResponse, launched in February of 2022, is a 3.5-hour on-demand continuing education module that provides the full range of competencies necessary to provide appropriate mental healthcare for agricultural producers and their families. This knowledge is critical for healthcare professionals across all disciplines who serve rural communities.

QPR

QPR training teaches laypeople to recognize and respond to mental health crises using the approach of Question, Persuade, and Refer. In addition to the QPR portion, AgriSafe also presents on the stressors and barriers to care that individuals in agricultural communities experience that impact their mental health and well-being.
Mental Health Work

In December of 2021 the American Farm Bureau Federation conducted a national poll on a sample of 2,000 rural adults. The findings concluded that:

- A majority of rural adults (52%) and farmers/farmworkers (61%) are experiencing more stress and mental health challenges compared to a year ago.
- Stigma around seeking help or treatment for mental health has decreased but is still a factor, particularly in agriculture.
- Farmers/farmworkers are more comfortable talking to friends, family and their doctors about stress and mental health than they were in 2019.

The full survey results are available [here](https://www.agrisafe.org).

The **Total Farmer Health® Model**

AgriSafe's Total Farmer Health model illustrates how health is not just physical, it is holistic and affected by each piece of our lives, including our jobs. That is why we have focused so much of our work for 2022 on the health of the mind because it impacts our overall well-being.

**Total Farmer Health® Coaches**

The Total Farmer Health (TFH) Coach initiative is a grassroots, boots-on-the-ground method of connecting producers and rural healthcare providers to mental health resources.

The TFH Coach program addresses the needs of agricultural communities by employing a holistic approach, utilizing professional healthcare practitioners and those with a public health background to deliver evidence-based mental health education to producers, agricultural businesses, and rural healthcare providers.

These coaches work to increase the agricultural competencies of rural health professionals so that they can best screen and refer patients for anxiety, depression, and suicidal risk.

TFH coaches provide a variety of trainings including: FarmResponse®, QPR, "Cultivating a Healthy Mind," and more.
Financial Review

Non-profit excellence is reflected in an organization’s ability to direct contributions to program needs rather than operations.

AgriSafe's operational costs consistently fall under 20% of the total budget, with the most recent year operating at only **17% of the total budget**.

### Financials for 2022

**Support & Revenue**
- Grant Income: $1,594,820.59
- Training Income: $79,630.00
- Membership Dues: $6,040.00
- Event Sponsors: $16,000.00
- Misc. Income: $13,354.72

**Total Income**: $1,709,845.31

**Net Assets**
- Change in net assets: $243,673.91
- Net assets at beginning of the year: $525,428.82
- Net assets at end of year: $769,102.73

**Expenses**
- Program - Training & Tech: $628,509.91
- Program - Communications & PR: $338,305.23
- Program - Resource Development: $250,394.04
- General Administration: $248,962.22

**Total Expenses**: $1,466,171.40
New Grants, Extensions, and Sponsors

- Seven state departments of agriculture (CT, GA, MO, PA, TX, WY, VA) awarded AgriSafe subcontracts to offer mental health trainings and services. Five of those states subcontracted the work of running a crisis line through AgriSafe.
- Four AgriSafe staff (Natalie Roy, Charlotte Halverson, Tara Haskins, and Stacey Jenkins) were contracted through IPA work to assist NIOSH in pandemic related work.
- National Library of Medicine Region 3 awarded AgriSafe funds to launch the Talking Total Farmer Health® podcast.
- AgriSafe also received OSHA grant funding for Forestry and Infectious Disease work.
- TX AgrAbility partnered with AgriSafe to provide technical assistance to their Total Farmer Health coach.
We would like to extend a special thanks to our year-to-year sponsors and partners, who make our work possible through their dedication and funding:

We would also like to thank all of our collaborators for their continued support in our efforts to Protect the People Who Feed the World.

Contact Us:
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