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### **Iowa Nurse Recognized for Dedication to Agricultural Health and Safety**

COVINGTON, LA – AgriSafe Network is proud to announce that Charlotte Halverson BSN, RN, COHN-S received the 2023 Maynard Coe Professional Award from the International Society of Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) at the ISASH Conference in Tampa, FL on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Mrs. Halverson recently retired as the Clinical Director of AgriSafe in December 2022 but is still very active in the agricultural health and safety realm. When she's not spending time with her family, she continues her outreach in Dubuque, Iowa, as one of AgriSafe's Total Farmer Health coaches. We would like to recognize her achievements throughout the years in honor of her award.

Her journey began on a small farm in rural Iowa, milking dairy cows from a young age. As she grew, her sights turned toward a rural and agricultural health career. She graduated from the University of Iowa's agricultural occupational medicine course, pursued her RN with the Mercy School of Nursing, and received her BSN from the University of Dubuque.

Prior to her time with AgriSafe, Mrs. Halverson worked in acute care hospital settings and community outreach education. She managed crisis outreach program development for rural areas and served 20 years with a tri-state Parish Health Ministry program. Mrs. Halverson went on to help establish the National Education Center for Agriculture Safety (NECAS), where she served as the Clinical Services Manager for 17 years.

Over 23 years ago, Mrs. Halverson and her peers established what would grow into AgriSafe Network. Their initiative to educate Iowa health professionals on agricultural health hazards expanded into an educational non-profit that teaches healthcare professionals, farmers, and ranchers nationwide about important agricultural health and safety topics.

Mrs. Halverson leaves her legacy in occupational nursing with several lasting initiatives. The two most noteworthy include the AgriSafe **Nurse Scholar** program and the **Total Farmer Health®** (TFH) model. With Charlotte's guidance, in 2016 AgriSafe was recognized as a NIOSH Total Worker Health Affiliate, and the TFH model was established. TFH recognizes the unique challenges that producers and ranchers face, incorporating occupational hazards and the social, economic, spiritual, cognitive, and mental health components that might impact their health and well-being.

Nurse Scholar is Mrs. Halverson's signature product – a 20+ hour, digital, asynchronous continuing education program for nurses across the United States. This program increases nurses' knowledge base in identifying and assessing diseases related to agricultural work exposures and beyond. In the program's sixth year (2022), over 70 nurses from more than 40 states participated!

We are grateful for Mrs. Halverson's passion and commitment to ensuring positive health outcomes among our agricultural communities. Her innovative approaches will live on through sustainable health and wellness programming.

For media inquiries, please contact Laura Siegel, AgriSafe's Health Communications Officer, at [lsiegel@agrisafe.org](mailto:lsiegel@agrisafe.org).

#### ***About AgriSafe Network***

AgriSafe Network is a national 501©3 non-profit that educates healthcare professionals and agricultural communities about important health and safety information for agriculture, fishing, and forestry workers. Our mission is to protect the people who feed the world. For more information, visit <https://www.agrisafe.org>.