

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 12, 2025

## New Mental Health Resource for Farmers and Ranchers – Digital Directory for Finding Counselors Trained on Agricultural Issues

Covington, LA — Farmers and ranchers can now find counselors trained to address stressors impacting agricultural communities. AgriSafe's <u>AgriStress Provider Directory</u> is digital tool that offers access to counselors who provide ag-informed care for farmers. Agricultural producers face unique stressors, putting them at higher risk for depression and thoughts of suicide. In fact, the agriculture industry has some of the highest worker rates of death by suicide compared to other occupations (<u>Aaron Sussell et. al., 2023</u>).

"Every day, America's farmers and ranchers put their health and safety on the line to provide food, fuel, and fiber for our nation," said Dr. Tara Haskins, AgriSafe's Total Farmer Health Director. "They deserve to speak with counselors who understand their work, and can meet them where they are, with realistic and attainable solutions."

Resources for farmers and ranchers are at an all-time low - as of September 2025, over 60% of rural communities have mental health provider shortages (HRSA <u>Bureau of Health Workforce</u>). To respond to this gap, AgriSafe built the provider directory with support from CoBank and Farm Credit Council. The directory has counselors that can serve across 49 states, either inperson or telehealth visits. All counselors listed in the directory have taken AgriSafe's training for healthcare providers, <u>FarmResponse®</u>, to understand the unique factors that impact ag producers.

If you or a loved one are having thoughts of suicide, or need someone to talk to immediately, call or text 988. For agricultural informed suicide crisis help, call the <u>AgriStress Helpline®</u> at 1-833-897-2474 which is available in AZ, CO, CT, MO, MT, PA, OR, TX, VA, WA, and WY.

Do not wait - if you are looking for a counselor who understands agriculture, check out the <u>AgriStress Provider Directory</u> today!

For inquiries about the AgriStress Provider Directory, please contact Tara Haskins at <a href="mailto:thaskins@agrisafe.org">thaskins@agrisafe.org</a> - for media inquiries, please contact Laura Siegel at <a href="mailto:lsiegel@agrisafe.org">lsiegel@agrisafe.org</a>.

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## 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 those working in agriculture, fishing, and forestry. We bring together national experts to develop educational materials that can be delivered both digitally and in-person. Our mission is to protect the people who feed the world – and in addition to education, we are cultivating a network of trained agricultural health and safety professionals that understand and support Total Farmer Health®. For more information, visit our website, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn. Sign up for AgriSafe's newsletter, to stay up to date on their next steps in promoting rural mental health and well-being.