Safeguarding Children in Agriculture: A National Action Plan

Research

5. RESEARCH: Guide optimal childhood agricultural health and safety initiatives at local, state, regional, and national levels.

Strategies	Outcomes
1. Conduct multidisciplinary research to understand the complex and interrelated factors associated with youth and adolescent agricultural health and safety.	A. Funding will be increased and diversified for the support of rigorous interdisciplinary research validated through peer review and publication. B. Research findings will expand knowledge regarding factors that predispose youth to various injury and disease risks and vulnerabilities. C. Research priorities will be set based on expressed needs from the agricultural industry.
2. Use valid injury and disease data, in conjunction with community partners, to develop, test, and evaluate initiatives inclusive of populations most affected by injury and diseases.	A. Research will determine the most viable targets and strategies for protecting working and non-working youth across all levels of the Socio-Ecological Model. B. Research results will identify initiatives with a holistic return on investment, including adoption of effective safety practices, cultural acceptability, and financial viability. C. Evaluation results will document and prioritize facilitating and obstructing factors and unintended consequences that impact broad-scale adoption of initiatives.
3. Investigate the origins, progressions, transmissions, and outcomes of illnesses that contribute to the burden of disease for agricultural youth.	A. Research will underscore prevention and treatment of conditions including, but not limited to, mental wellbeing, infectious diseases, respiratory illnesses, and vector-borne diseases. B. Research will describe the impact of social determinants of health on vital conditions for health and well-being.
4. Innovate and adopt emerging methodologies which could be incorporated into the field of youth agricultural health and safety research.	A. New methodologies will employ machine learning, artificial intelligence, and other emergent technologies. B. Scholars from different disciplines will collaborate in pursuit of novel research methodologies to enrich and inform new safety and health interventions.

National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety