Safeguarding Children in Agriculture: A National Action Plan

Emerging Threats

7. EMERGING THREATS: Monitor, identify, and address new and emerging threats to the well-being of youth living, working, and visiting in agricultural environments.

Strategies	Outcomes
1. Promote interaction across major public agencies and private entities to monitor and address issues impacting agricultural health and safety as they emerge.	A. Hazardous agricultural issues will be identified and widely communicated to various audiences as they emerge. B. Public and private agencies will work together to implement interventions aimed to safeguard youth.
2. Identify and address issues relating to exploitative child labor, including immigrant, seasonal, and temporary labor settings.	A. Proposed legislation will be assessed at the state and national level for actions impacting the educational, social, and environmental settings of youth working in agriculture. B. Suspected violations of child labor laws will be reported to relevant authorities to enforce labor protections. C. Suspected human trafficking in agricultural worksites will be reported to relevant authorities to enforce child protections.
3. Monitor and address how youth in agricultural environments are impacted by climate and extreme weather events including (but not limited to) heat, wildfire, flooding, and drought.	A. Extreme weather-related events impacting agricultural work and rural environments will be monitored for impacts on youth. B. Disaster response programming will include agricultural topics, including emphasis on youth. C. Employers and supervisors will institute safety practices for young workers in response to agricultural work hazards associated with extreme weather events.
4. Monitor and address how youth in agricultural environments are impacted by virus and zoonotic disease transmission and airborne pollutants.	A. Public health agencies will include the population of agricultural youth when monitoring and addressing emerging diseases. B. Healthcare providers who treat agricultural populations will be prepared to provide appropriate care for youth impacted by these conditions. C. Industrial hygienists and farm safety professionals will monitor for impacts on youth exposed to increased airborne gasses associated with large-scale grain and livestock operations.
5. Encourage the development of evidence-informed industry standards regarding safety of working and bystander youth associated with autonomous vehicles, robotic equipment, and AI-based technology.	A. Organizations and industry groups will incorporate unique factors related to youth into new product standards.

1. Leadership
2. Injury, Disease, and Exposure Data
3. Public Policy
4. Organizational Policy
5. Research
6. Dissemination and Implementation
7. **Emerging Threats**

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