



Quarter 1 Report

Year 2

Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety

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February 28, 2018

For More Information

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Suggested Citation

Mitchell, R.C., Irani, T., Kane, A, Glass, G., Flocks, J.D., Telg, R.W., ...Trejo, M., (2018). Quarter 1 Report, Year 2. SCCAHS2018-01. Gainesville, FL: University of Florida/Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety.

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Acknowledgments

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Funding

This document was supported by the Grant 1 U54 OH 011230 - 01, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services. The entire cost of the development and publication of this document was financed with federal funds. This document was prepared with support from the \$10 million CDC/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) grant, which funds the Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (<http://sccaahs.org/>).

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Background

The occupational risks for farmworkers, fishers and forestry workers in the coastal southeast are numerous. Farmworkers who harvest fruit, vegetables, and ornamental plants by hand frequently bend, crouch, and lift to carry crops and tools weighing as much as 90 pounds. They can be exposed to pesticides sprayed on crops and are at risk for injuries caused by farm machinery. Fishers also labor under hazardous conditions, and transportation to medical facilities can be difficult if they are injured while on the water. Most fatalities for fishing industry workers are from drowning, but injuries can also be caused by malfunctioning fishing gear, entanglement in fishing gear, slippery decks, strong currents, tidal surges and waves washing over the deck, and collisions. Forestry workers face risks using heavy logging equipment, as well as risk of injury from the massive weights of falling, rolling and sliding trees and logs. Transporting logs from harvesting sites to processing sites can also lead to injuries in forestry workers. Farmworkers, fishers and forestry workers generally work outdoors in all kinds of weather, leading to major concerns in Florida, other southern states and the Caribbean about the impact of heat stress on workers, particularly in the setting of recent increases in number of days with temperatures above 90 degrees F.

In response to these issues, the Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (SCCAHS) was established in 2016 as part of a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) / National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Agricultural Health and Safety Initiative. SCCAHS explores and addresses the occupational safety and health needs of people working in agriculture, fishing, and forestry in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. SCCAHS focuses specifically on the unique environments and occupational communities of this region (e.g., hot, humid climate and coastal/coastal plains with farming and fishing and timber). SCCAHS is a multidisciplinary partnership of academic institutions, community organizations, and industry representatives that brings together individuals and organizations that are already pursuing academic and applied basic research, intervention, translational, and outreach solutions for occupational illness and injuries. SCCAHS provides centralized regional infrastructure where these individuals, organizations and companies can engage in mutual learning, leverage resources, build on previous efforts of colleagues, and promote new research.

The SCCAHS Evaluation Program is tasked with collecting relevant monitoring and evaluation (M&E) data from the Center's projects and Cores to document program progress and assess the extent to which the SCCAHS meets its intended goals. The Evaluation Program analyzes and interprets data to establish the quality, effectiveness, and impact of the Center and its disparate parts, and reports and shares evaluation findings and recommendations with key stakeholders.

Research Projects

Research Project 1- Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance of Gulf Seafood Workers

Project PI: Andrew Kane, PhD

Project Description

This project has two specific aims focusing on surveillance and hazard intervention. Surveillance will be conducted using in-person survey interviews, and by making direct field observations to discern workplace hazards and risk factors associated with the dominant Gulf coast fisher subsectors. Surveillance data will be used to identify and support relevant points of intervention for hazards in the different fishery subsectors throughout the study region.

Specific Aim 1A

“Establish project-specific working relationships with community partners and seafood workers in the five port cities within the study area to facilitate participant recruitment, survey piloting and implementation, collection of workplace observational data, and engaging with the seafood worker community to provide project-related feedback and support.”

Activity Indicator: Community Engagement Meetings

Grant Proposal Text

“We will initiate project-related meetings with community partners and liaisons to reiterate and review project aims, and recruit additional assistance from seafood workers representing the different fishery sections in the region, and to assist with the academic-community partnerships that will be foundational to the successful implementation of this project.”

Description of Progress

Follow up in-person meetings in Cedar Key (with community partners, stakeholders and Cedar Key Aquaculture Association), Apalachicola (community partner Franklin’s Promise Coalition, and stakeholders through the Seafood Management and Resource Restoration Team (SMARRT), and Apalachicola Bay Oyster Management Group (ABOMG), and Pensacola by teleconference with a community partner from Escambia County Marine Resources.

Product Indicator: Study Recruitment Resources

Grant Proposal Text

“Mechanisms within each study area will be established to recruit participants, discern venues to conduct in-person interviews and community meetings, and means to advertise.”

Description of Progress

Community meeting venues for project outreach have been established in Cedar Key, Apalachicola, and Pensacola in Y1. Over Year 1 Quarter 4, a concerted effort was made to bring on stakeholders from Mobile Bay in Alabama. However, the political climate in that area makes it challenging to build trust and relationships with stakeholders who are wary of working with academics and the federal government. Our team is will be attempting other approaches in reaching out to these communities over the coming year, which include working with other partners to reach out to them, and encouraging communities to reach out to us instead of our team reaching out to them.

There are many affected seafood workers in Alabama, and our intention is to make project resources available to coastal communities in that region.

Specific Aim 1B

“Develop, pilot, validate and implement a questionnaire instrument in Gulf coast fishery communities to relate occupational health and safety with environmental and personal risk factors.

Activity Indicator: Questionnaire Instrument Development/Pilot Testing

Grant Proposal Text

“We will develop and validate an in-person questionnaire tool to capture occupational health and safety risk data from the dominant fishery sectors in the different communities within the project study region.”

Description of Progress

In Year 1 Quarter 4, the survey protocol and survey instrument were reviewed without changes by UF IRB and approved for timely renewal. Input from the project team (Myers, Durborow, Brooks, Kane), and *ad hoc* scientific project advisors (Lincoln, Levin and Sorensen), has been incorporated into a revised survey instrument. Conferenced with UF IRB regarding survey format change from in-person paper format to in-person Qualtrics e-format on tablet (with paper format as field back up). The revised survey instrument was programmed into Qualtrics software for implementation on a tablet (and e-review by IRB). The e-format for survey implantation in Qualtrics will support dynamic data accession, allowing for changes in data flow based on specific input from individual participants. Commitment from small group of fishers in Cedar Key and Apalachicola to pilot the revised, electronic survey tool. Submission of revised protocol, and the revised survey instrument in paper and e-formats to IRB, is in preparation for expedited IRB review. We expect IRB approval for the digital instrument in the beginning of Y2.

Activity Indicator: In-person Questionnaire Implementation

Grant Proposal Text

“We expect up to 480 participants contributing to the survey interviews throughout the 5 communities participating in the study.”

Description of Progress

No additional participants were recruited in this last quarter. Internal review of the survey instrument was conducted after external input was incorporated into a revised instrument. The revised survey will be field-piloted following IRB approval next quarter.

Specific Aim 1C

Conduct workplace observations with fishery workers on boats, in processing facilities, and at points of distribution to supplement questionnaire-based health and safety data.

Activity Indicator: Workplace Observation Instrument Development/Pilot Testing

Grant Proposal Text

“Integral with the survey interview process, typically after conducting an interview, a subset of study participants will be asked to provide a workplace tour to make observations of working

conditions, sources of hazards, and possible interventions currently in use, and that may be needed.”

Description of Progress

The workplace observation protocol is still in review by UF IRB. The revised survey will be field-piloted, along with Workplace Observations, following IRB approval next quarter.

Activity Indicator: Workplace Observation Implementation

Grant Proposal Text

“A subset of study participants will be asked to provide a workplace tour to make observations of working conditions”

Description of Progress

No additional participants were recruited in this last quarter.

Other Activities:

- **Participant. SCCAHS Community/Stakeholder Advisory Board Meeting**, October 24th, 2017, Florida Farm Bureau, Gainesville, FL. Engaged in-person with Farm Bureau counterparts, local stakeholders, and by simulcast with two remote sites in the SCCAHS region (approx. 50 stakeholders in attendance).



- **Tallahassee Science Festival**, Tallahassee, FL October 28th, 2017. NIOSH SCCAHS project was featured content as part of a “Healthy Gulf Healthy Communities” outreach installation at the festival. Approximately 2,500 attendees, including local middle and high schools, local and state colleges and universities, and families and residents regional to the state’s capital.
- **APHA National Meeting**, Atlanta, GA November 4-8, 2017. Project team (Kane, Myers, Durborow) attended and contributed a presentation in the Occupational Health session summarizing this fisheries health and safety project [abstract below].

APHA 2017 Annual Meeting & Expo (Nov. 4 - Nov. 8)		Your abstract submission has been received	
Abstract Control Panel		Seafood worker health and safety in Gulf coast communities Andrew Kane, MS, PhD, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, Robert Durborow, PhD, Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY and Melvin Myers, Emory University Rollins School of Public Health, Flowery Branch, GA	
ID:	389978	Abstract Text:	
Password:	557870		
7 steps to submit an Abstract:			
✓ 1.	Topic		
✓ 2.	Title		
✓ 3.	Learning Area(s)		
✓ 4.	Author(s)		
✓ 5.	Disclosure		
✓ 6.	Abstract Text		
✓ 7.	Confirmation		
		Surveillance studies with Gulf coast fishers, crabbers, shrimpers, and oyster and clam harvesters are underway as part of a new NIOSH Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety at University of Florida. The goal is to identify risk factors associated with fatal and non-fatal injuries, and points of intervention in these seafood worker communities where the majority of workers are self-employed and uninsured, in an industry that represents one of the most dangerous civilian occupations worldwide. Community partnerships are discussed relative to their importance in engaging with, and collecting data from, seafood workers using an in-person questionnaire tool supplemented with workplace observations. Interactions with seafood workers during the initial phase of this project indicates that falls overboard and winch injuries are associated with many of the fatalities and severe injuries reported. Musculoskeletal injuries, cuts and lacerations, bites, spine punctures, secondary infections, and heat and sun exposure are also important concerns to these fishery workforce sectors. Conditions associated with with unstable work platforms in harsh settings, coupled with declining fisheries – related in part to climate and environmental change – increase risk of onboard incidents, drug use and mental health issues. The questionnaire tool uses a Haddon matrix to account for conditions leading up to an injury or death, during an incident, and post-incident, which together will contribute to analyzing incident outcomes. Coupled with workplace observations on harvesting and fishing vessels, survey data will guide the development of interventions and outreach tools to support Gulf coast seafood workers.	

- **Met with Stakeholders in Apalachicola, FL** (Franklin County). November 27th and December 11th, 2017. Met with Apalachicola Bay Oyster Management Group (ABOMG) as invited scientific expert. The ABOMG are seafood industry workers and community leaders who have, through hard times and harder, remained dedicated to the implementation of a functional, adaptive management plan for the well-being of Apalachicola Bay National Estuarine Environmental Reserve, including its harvestable and non-harvestable oyster reefs. While this group is primarily focused on sustainable restoration of oyster resources within Apalachicola Bay, the NIOSH SCCAHS fisheries project is represented by the PI in all discussions, as topically relevant. Meeting took place at the Apalachicola Community Center.
- **Study team teleconference.** October 2nd and 12th, November 9th and December 14th, 2017. Personnel present: Andy Kane, Ross Brooks, Robert Durborow and Melvin Myers. Discussed survey revisions and external feedback to incorporate into revised protocol and questionnaire to be approved by IRB. Reviewed manuscript drafts and assigned duties. Developed abstracts to be submitted to IFISH. Discussed outreach and partnership opportunities for the project to have utility throughout the SCCAHS southeastern coastal region.
- **Participant. NIOSH Ag Center Directors Monthly Call.** October 17th, November 21st and December 19th
- **SCCAHS administrative kick-off meeting** in Environmental and Global Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions. December 15th, 2017. Met with Tara Sabo-Attwood, Mauren Piucco, Conroy Smith.
- **Met with stakeholders in Cedar Key, FL** (Levy County). December 20th, 2017. Made introductions for Dr. Kim Dunleavy (collaborator and Pilot Project PI in UF Department of Physical Therapy) with watermen from three harvesting houses. Dr. Dunleavy is working on lower back pain issues that are common in clam harvesters and processors. Also met with Community Partners Sue Colson and Rose Cantwell (CK Aquaculture Association).

Other Products:

“*Project Happenings*,” video-post from the first year of the study

(<http://www.sccaahs.org/index.php/media/videos>); produced in association with SCCAHS Outreach Core.

"Injury Risk Factors among Gulf of Mexico Seafood Harvesters: Literature Review I," manuscript in preparation for submission to Journal of Agromedicine. Myers, Durborow, Kane

Research Project 2- Extent of Agricultural Pesticide Applications in Florida Using Best Practices

Project PI: Gregory Glass, PhD

Project Description

This two-year surveillance project uses an integrated remote sensing (RS) system (time series of high and moderate resolution) to create an analytic framework to establish the levels of various, selected herbicides/pesticides (H/P) on specific, commercially grown crops within the state of Florida. The extent of health risks for agricultural workers depends, as an initial step, on the amounts of H/P that they contact during their work activities. Although acute unintentional exposures are serious risks for individuals, the more extensive, lower dosage exposures of the workers may be a more serious issue. Unfortunately, estimates of amounts of H/P used in the industry were last gathered between 2007-2009. This report aggregated H/P usage by target pests and crops but was insufficiently detailed to establish potential worker exposure from the environment. Given the continued absence of exposure data, the proposed work is essential for subsequent research projects seeking to correlate health impact with H/P exposure.

Activity Indicator: Develop Crop Spectral Signature

Grant Proposal Text

"Develop spectral signatures from high and moderate resolution archived RS imagery of crop phenology."

Description of Progress

Develop spectral signatures of each crop type in order to see distinguishability at different points in growing season. With most distinguishable points in time, images from those date range will be used during classification.

Activity Indicator: Use Weather Data to Estimate Environmental Conditions

Grant Proposal Text

"Generate a temperature-precipitation analysis of local conditions to establish the phenology response of citrus, strawberry and snap bean crop development to meteorological conditions and link these results to applications of H/P."

Description of Progress

Understanding that through best management and practices techniques H/P application is heavily weather dependent. Once, we have weather data for the 2007-2009, we need to verify discrepancies between multiple sources of weather data.

Rather than rely on individual REC sites for continuous meteorological data, we have identified Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) as an integrated ground station framework for ground truth data within the state. FAWN is a weather database facilitated by the Institute of Food

and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida, and maintains archived weather data collected from weather stations throughout Florida.

Satellite imagery for weather data have replaced NOAA with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Daily Surface Weather Data. The Daymet data retain the 1 sq km spatial resolution on a daily time step for the entire region.

We are searching for sources of bias in the Daymet data bases both spatially and seasonally within FL to determine which if any of the spatial or seasonal factors might impact estimates of the growing seasons.

Develop Crop Spectral Signature for Before and After H/P Application

Grant Proposal Text

“Develop spectral signatures from high and moderate resolution archived RS imagery of land cover change in response to H/P applications.”

Description of Progress

We have compared two current strategies for estimating commercial crop coverage within the state of (mainland) FL and found that neither method is accurate. The agencies responsible for generating these area estimates cannot clarify with sufficient details the possible reasons why both methods – which use different approaches – should deviate from one another – and apparently from the ground. We are exploring two possibilities. The first is higher resolution satellite imagery (Rapid Eye) from a commercial vendor, which will provide more spatial resolution of field boundaries and this will resolve the remote sensing challenges. The second is that the previous algorithms used for imagery interpretation are insufficiently sensitive so that newer approaches, including ensemble machine learning methods, are being applied to previous imagery to evaluate whether methods of classification rather than acquisition of proprietary imagery provides sufficient improvement in coverage.

Key Research Findings:

Target audience: Academia, public agencies

Key findings description: Neither current strategies of ground surveys nor classification algorithms are sufficiently accurate in estimating acreage. New methods of imagery classification are being applied to selected commercial crops in FL.

Research Project 3- PISCA: Pesticide & Heat Stress Education for Latino Farmworkers that is Culturally Appropriate

Project PI: Joseph Grzywacz, PhD / Jose Antonio Tovar-Aguilar, PhD

Project Description

The overall goal of this project is to reduce poor health outcomes among Latino farmworkers resulting from exposure to pesticides and extreme heat and humidity. To achieve this goal the proposed project will build a community-advocate-university partnership to accomplish three primary aims. We will:

1. Create reproducible, culturally- and contextually-appropriate appropriate curricula for Latino farmworkers targeting pesticide exposure (suitable for meeting employer requirements under the revised WPS) and heat-related illness (HRI).
2. Determine the effectiveness of the developed pesticide and HRI curricula implemented by professional educators in promoting advocated safety behaviors.
3. Identify the comparative effectiveness of promotora-based implementation of developed pesticide and HRI curricula relative to the use of professional educators.

Activity Indicator: Phase 2 Assessment Development

Grant Proposal Text

Conduct cognitive interviews for assessments- “Five cognitive interviews will be completed using a demonstrated “think aloud” protocol wherein a question is read to the participant and the participant explains the meaning of the question in their own words.”

Finalize pre- and post-assessments - “The interviews will be modified to address ambiguity found in question meaning, or to minimize difficulty selecting valid responses”

Description of Progress

Pre- and post-assessments are in development. Pre-assessments are 75% complete; post-assessments and follow-up assessments are 50% complete. The estimated date of completion for all of the Phase 2 assessments is now end of February. Cognitive interviews will take place after assessments are finalized.

Activity Indicator: Schedule Phase 2 Safety Training Sessions

Grant Proposal Text

Phase 2 trainings will be scheduled on a continuous basis, not in advance. The PISCA project will provide quarterly updates to the Evaluation Core as the schedule is created and implemented.

Activity Indicator: Phase 1 Data Analysis

Grant Proposal Text

“Data collected from our attention controlled placebo design will be used to test two hypotheses: (1) Individuals randomized to the WPS-r pesticide safety training will show greater changes in pesticide knowledge, attitudes, and behavioral intentions than those randomized to the heat stress training; and (2) Individuals randomized to the heat stress training will show greater changes in knowledge, attitudes and behavioral intentions surrounding heat stress than those randomized to the WPS-r pesticide safety training. Descriptive statistics will be presented as frequency and percentage for categorical variables (e.g., perceived dangerousness of heat stress) and mean or

median for continuous measures (e.g., percentage of correct pesticide safety knowledge questions). The 95% confidence intervals will be provided for estimates of effect size and standard deviation.”

Description of Progress

Phase I data analysis is complete. Publication manuscripts are currently in process, and abstracts to American Public Health Association has been submitted.

Other Activity: Outreach Activities

Over 800 Hispanic/Latino participants were reached during the following outreach activities:

Lowndes County College Day

- Familia Adelante Training
- Advisory Board/ Migrant Farmworkers Clinic
- Echols County Fall Festival
- Peach State Hispanic Heritage Month
- Jennings Fall Festival
- Ag Center Meeting
- Fiesta Latina in Lake Park GA
- Presentation on APHA
- East Coast Migrant Forum
- Echols County Career Day

Promotoras write extensive descriptions of each outreach activity. RP3 will compile these descriptions in a spreadsheet format and share with the Evaluation Core each quarter from now on.

Research Project 4- Heat Stress and Biomarkers of Renal Disease

Project PI: Linda McCauley

Project Description

We **hypothesize** that biomarkers of renal damage previously identified in the Mesoamerican population will also exist among farmworkers from Mexico who have immigrated to the U.S. to work in agriculture. We will recruit 70 agricultural workers in Florida who are between 18 and 54 years of age and 30 controls of similar heritage who do not work in heat intensive agricultural environments such as mushroom facilities, restaurants and hotels. In this work, we will accomplish the following specific aims:

1. characterize the occupational environment of these workers including work practices, workplace heat exposure and work intensity;
2. characterize the physiologic profile of these workers including body anthropometrics, dehydration, and self-reported heat-related illness symptoms;
3. determine if biomarkers indicating kidney injury are present (kidney injury molecule – 1 (KIM-1), Beta-2 microglobulin (B2M), neutrophil gelatinase-associated lipocalin (NGAL), elevated blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine, uric acid, uromodulin, and decreased glomerular filtration rate (GFR)) and if the presence and levels of these biomarkers in agricultural workers differ from controls who are not employed in agriculture; and
4. use non-targeted metabolomics analysis of blood plasma to explore the molecular mechanisms of renal dysfunction associated with occupational heat exposure.

Activity Indicator: Community Health Worker Training

Grant Proposal Text

“Community Health Workers will be hired from local communities to assist in the implementation of all study procedures in community settings. Workers will disseminate information about the project, administer questionnaires and surveys, and assist in the implementation of other study protocols.”

Description of Progress

The Farmworker Association of Florida is planning staffing of promotoras/community health workers and Emory fieldwork staff are currently being selected.

Product Indicator: Instrument Approval

In the first quarter of our study, we have begun preparations for our planned data collection dates, April 19th-May20th, 2018, in Homestead, FL. We received IRB approval on 10/23/17 for our updated research protocol that includes more sensitive biomarkers of renal injury and are awaiting the arrival of our subcontract. Preparations including calibration of field equipment and inventory are underway.

Activity Indicator: East Coast Migrant Forum Presentation

In October 2017, three team members, Dr. Valerie Mac, Dr. Antonio Tovar-Aguilar, and Ms. Roxana Chicas attended the 2017 East Coast Migrant Stream Forum. These presentations were generated from The Girasoles Study (1R01OH010657-01). Ms. Chicas presented a session entitled Community Health Workers Preventing CKDu in Farmworkers. Other team members, Dr. Valerie Mac, Dr. Antonio Tovar-Aguilar, attended the session and spoke about our upcoming study in Florida. These presentations provided networking opportunities with local farmworker groups, the Migrant Clinician’s Network, and other farmworker health programs along the Eastern coast. In addition, this forum provided an opportunity to distribute information about the SCCAHS.

Activity Indicator: American Public Health Association Paper Presentation

In November 2017, Ms. Chicas, presented a paper entitled: Mesoamerican Nephropathy in Review as a Podium Presentation at the 2017 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo in Atlanta, GA.

Outreach Core

Community Stakeholder Advisory Board

Activities Indicator: Communication with CSAB

Grant Proposal Text

“The CSAB will meet formally as a group with project staff twice a year. In addition, public education and outreach team members will personally meet with each of the board members during the summer months.”

Description of Progress

Narrative: At the conclusion of year one, the Outreach Core had developed a database of about 80 individuals that had an interest in the work of SCCAHS. In order to bring these individuals together to provide more information about the Center, a Community Stakeholder Advisory Meeting was

held on October 24, 2017. The meeting was held simultaneously in three different locations (Apopka, FL; Gainesville, FL, and Valdosta, GA) and was connected via ZOOM technology and Facebook Live. Those that were unable to attend an actual meeting location were able to connect remotely and participate. Objectives of the meeting were to raise awareness about the Center, identify safety issues in Center's region, determine potential community stakeholder advisory board (CSAB) members, and to obtain feedback from participants regarding Center goals.

Outputs: Upon registering, participants were asked to complete an online survey. In addition, data was collected via worksheets and note taking at each of the locations. Data was organized according to theme and category. Within the survey, and at each of the locations, participants were asked to indicate if they would be willing to serve on the 20-member CSAB board.

Outcomes:

- Through registration, the Outreach Core was able to identify gaps in reaching partners within the region geographically as well as topic specific.
- Survey results provided insight into top issues that need to be addressed, resources gaps and needs, current best management practices, and potential community partners.
- The Outreach Core was able to identify potential CSAB members.

R2P: Through the outcomes, the Outreach Core was able to strategically target goals to address the needs and gaps identified. They were also able to contact potential partners based on information from the meeting. Lastly, the Outreach Core was able to establish a strong list of about 25 CSAB member that were willing to serve.

Invitations for the CSAB – November 2017: Based on the results of the CSAM and the work of the outreach team in year one, a database of 25 individuals were identified as potential CSAB members. In November letters of invitation to join the CSAB were sent to potential members via e-mail and regular mail. Potential members were asked to contact us via e-mail with their desire to serve, or not to serve, on the board. To date, 19 have agreed to serve on the CSAB. The initial CSAB meeting is scheduled to take place in conjunction with the Center's annual scientific advisory meeting on March 15, 2018 in Gainesville, FL. Save the date e-mails and formal letter invitations have been sent to the CSAB members and project team members.

Community-Based Social Marketing

Activity Indicator: CBSM with Stakeholders

Grant Proposal Text

We will work closely with the CSAB to determine what practice changes and risk reduction and mitigation strategies are relevant for farmworkers, operators and crew leaders and then develop appropriate tools and trainings to enhance adoption. The use of social marketing will focus our efforts on developing *best practices* and *materials for dissemination* as well as the *means of promotion* for these activities.

Description of Progress

Project leaders determined that research on risk reduction and mitigation strategies for farmworkers, operators and crew leaders was best conducted with crew leaders instead of the CSAB. Crew leaders are the best informants to provide insight on the benefits and barriers to behavior change among agricultural workers. CBSM activities were conducted with crew leaders

during a training in Immokalee on November 8 by PI Antonio Tovar-Aguilar. Ten crew leaders attended the training, including employees from Alico Citrus, Dundee Harvesting, Statewide Harvesting and Hauling, Lipmann Produce and an agricultural insurance company. Four more participants engaged with the program online. Key findings from the CBSM research included:

- Expanded use of H2A not limited to just citrus.
- Some companies have “acclimatization period” of half-days for new workers for up to 2 weeks.
- New safety equipment (such as ergonomic clippers) is much more expensive.
- Crewleaders have to identify sick, slow or hungover workers. If they are not going to be productive that day, they are sometimes asked not to come to work.
- Beyond heat stress, grove conditions are a big factor in safety- weeds, unmaintained trees, canals can all be dangerous.
- Chiva drivers complain about back injuries due to sitting and movement getting in and out of the chiva.

Activity Indicator: CBSM instrument for Crew Leader Training

Grant Proposal Text

CBSM is an approach based on using research to identify barriers and benefits to engaging in a socially desirable behavior, followed by using the results of that research to formulate education and outreach strategies. In support of this approach, we will utilize the members of the CSAB to collect data, via focus groups, surveys, and key informant interviews in years one and two of the project.

Description of Progress

The CBSM team has created three research instruments, including a crew leader focus group protocol, farmworker focus group protocol, and a telephone interview protocol for growers and managers.

Activity Indicator: Roka-Monaghan Crew Leader Training

Grant Proposal Text

“In years one and two, we plan to leverage the work of PIs Roka and Monaghan, who have developed existing programs to conduct training and professional development opportunities focused on specialty crop worker health issues, such as eye injuries, heat stress and ladder safety. We will work with Roka and Monaghan to refine materials for, promote and expand these trainings to a broader geographic area, and with more frequency. We plan to conduct four to six trainings a year in the first two years of the project. We will utilize the findings from the CBSM research that will be conducted by PI Monaghan in years one and two with CSAB members to determine the most effective adoption practices and training modalities and will assist in adapting the existing trainings and testing of these in years three to five.”

Description of Progress

In this quarter, a new safety module was pilot tested for the IFAS Farm Labor Supervisor Training curriculum and training. This module covered heat related illness prevention, which was developed by PI Antonio Tovar-Aguilar in concert with Research Project 3. There were 14 crew leaders who

attended this training. Four of them were women and four were Latino supervisors. The target audience was farm labor supervisors, worker, growers, and Extension.

Key Findings: CBSM

Description of Findings

Heat-related illness (HRI) is mediated by hydration practices, climate, and task. Field sanitation rules may infringe on behaviors. HRI prevention has been successful in sports & industrial settings. Target audience: Extension, industry, academia, non-profits, regulatory agencies, public agencies, workers. Keywords: Cultural and work practices shape interventions. Ready for translation: 2018.

Activity Indicator: Seminar Series

Description of Progress

Extension specialist Fritz Roka presented a lecture entitled Labor Supervisors and their Role in Citrus and Vegetable Production in Florida: Opportunities for Improving Agricultural Health and Safety. It was held on October 13, 2017, and was attended by 15 faculty and staff in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication. Other seminars in the series included Dr. Antonio Tovar's presentation in on heat-related illness in September 2017, and Professor Joan Flocks' presentation on farm labor law in Oct 2017.

Product Indicator: EDIS Publication

Product description

Title: Using social marketing to reduce HRI and improve productivity among farmworkers. Publication is in draft stages. Keywords: Heat-related illness, behavior, best practices

Training Development

The Outreach Core and Administration Program proposed three separate regular web training schedules in the SCCAHS grant proposal. Rather than conduct monthly or quarterly webinars in these three subject areas, the Outreach Core and Administration Program will coordinate to host quarterly webinars in agricultural crew leader training, farm risk-management trainings, and general topic trainings.

Activity Indicator: Extension In-Service Trainings (Y1-Y5)

Grant Proposal Text

"We will develop promotional tools and Extension In-Service Trainings (ISTs) to promote effective worker protection strategies and training of county Extension agents and Sea Grant Extension agents in Florida and Georgia to deliver trainings to crew leaders, workers, independent contractors and supervisors in support of the findings from all of the research projects. Each year, we will hold four one-day training workshops webinars, and multiple train-the-trainer activities throughout the region."

Description of Progress

The Outreach Core will coordinate with the CBSM team to contact Extension agents in Florida interested in agricultural health and safety. These agents will be drawn from the Needs Assessment participants, as well as agents identified as experts in topic areas on the SCCAHS website. The CBSM team will draw upon five years of crew leader training curricula to create webinars aimed at

educating agricultural Extension agents. The Outreach Core will provide technical support for hosting these webinars.

Activity Indicator: Farm Risk-Management Web-based In-Service Training

Grant Proposal Text

“We will also develop tools, disseminated by county Extension faculty, to promote farm family awareness of property and liability risk management activities involving farm work... A series of web-based in-service training sessions (1.5 hours each) will be held quarterly to increase extension agents’ knowledge and access to property and liability risk management resources. Each web-based session will be recorded and made available for future viewings.”

Description of Progress

In Year 1 Quarter 4, farm risk-management themes were identified, including basic liability insurance, agritourism liability, worker liability, and health insurance. Webinar in-service training session will be recorded for each topic. The first training is scheduled to be released in March in conjunction with the National Ag Safety Awareness campaign. The following trainings are tentatively scheduled for March, April, May and June in 2018.

Activity Indicator: Farm Risk-Management Fact Sheets

Grant Proposal Text

“Additionally, a series of extension fact sheets will be developed to promote awareness of property and liability risk management.

Description of Progress

In Year 1 Quarter 4, current materials available on identified farm risk-management topics were examined. New material will be created as needed including fact sheets.

Activity Indicator: Monthly Seminars/Webinars in Agricultural Safety and Health

Grant Proposal Text

“Monthly SCCAHS seminars/webinars in agricultural safety and health/occupational health. The seminar series will draw on SCCAHS investigators as well as external speakers. At least one of the sessions will be devoted to short project presentations by investigators in the pilot/feasibility grant program. All seminars will be webcast and archived on the SCCAHS website, to facilitate inclusion of investigators at collaborating institutions. Our group at UF routinely webcasts all seminars, and the IT group from the Administration Program will work with each collaborating institution to assure that necessary facilities are available for webinar participation.”

Description of Progress

The Administration Program is coordinating with the Emerging Issues Program to host a seminar and webinar presenting the research of PI Linda McCauley, from RP4. This seminar will take place in Y2Q2.

Message Testing

Activity Indicator: Message Testing for Stakeholder Groups

Grant Proposal Text

“Pursuant to the content analysis and social media analysis and in conjunction with the other teams on this proposal, we will develop messages for farm families, laborers, supervisors and company owners (all the stakeholders) to communicate important points about workplace safety. These messages will be developed with different frames to ascertain which frame is most effective.”

Description of Progress

In Y2Q1, a plan was developed for message testing. Outreach Core members Dr. Lisa Lundy and Dr. Tracy Irani formulated a plan for message testing in 2018. The Outreach Core discussed key messages related to the center and to each research program. These messages will be tested with the Community Stakeholder Advisory Board in 2018 through Cognitive Response Testing methods via in-depth interviews.

Communications

Activity Indicator: Website Update

Grant Proposal Text

“We will provide... effective utilization of cutting edge communication techniques, including an interactive public outreach web site containing information databases, downloadable print fact sheets for use by county extension faculty and Sea Grant agents, and brochures, video interviews, blogs and social media. (The public outreach web site will include a link to the project web page maintained by the Planning and Evaluation Core).”

Description of Progress

After an initial website design, the project team decided that the navigation was difficult to follow, and the design was not attractive and did not communicate the essence of what the center did. After much discussion, the project team decided to make the website more graphically pleasing and to divide content into more pages. The team contracted with a local website development company to update the website. The finalized website was released in early 2018. Videos: Three 3-minute videos were created in Q1 to highlight the research being conducted for the three major research projects. No fact sheets, nor no information databases have been added to the website. The website has had 1416 views made by 345 users.

Activity Indicator: Social Media Update

Grant Proposal Text

“We will provide... effective utilization of cutting edge communication techniques, including an interactive public outreach web site containing information databases, downloadable print fact sheets for use by county extension faculty and Sea Grant agents, and brochures, video interviews, blogs and social media. (The public outreach web site will include a link to the project web page maintained by the Planning and Evaluation Core).”

Description of Progress

Due to staff changes that occurred last quarter, communication strategies related to media were strategized differently. Fewer posts were developed on social media to allow new staff members to

determine an effective social media plan. A general social media plan has been completed and content is currently being developed to introduce next quarter. This comprehensive social media plan aims to promote the research being conducted by affiliates of SCCAHS, provide resources on agricultural health and safety topics, and highlight researchers with the center. This content will be aimed at audiences, such as regulatory agencies, farmworker management, and industry advocate groups. An evaluation plan is also being developed, which will measure the success of the social media efforts. The evaluation will measure social media growth and engagement. The evaluation will also determine what type of content and topics are most successful on social media. Even though engagement is most important to the center, the outreach team's goal is to see a 10 percent growth on social media over the next quarter.

In addition to developing a more intentional social media plan, the outreach team introduced an email marketing platform. The email marketing platform will allow information to be communicated to a large audience through email. This decision was made after the evaluation team determined that most stakeholders wanted to communicate via email. The newsletter currently has 269 subscribers.

Activity Indicator- Social Media Analysis

Grant Proposal Text

We will pay attention to social networks such as Facebook and Twitter to listen to conversations related to agricultural safety and health. Our sampling frame will be Facebook posts and tweets identified through a Twitter search using the keywords "agricultural safety", "farm safety", "farm risk" and others identified through our preliminary participatory research. We will include tweets and posts written in English and Spanish. If tweets and posts have links to articles, photos or videos, this material will also be archived, coded and analyzed. We will identify influential voices in these conversations. Examples of these include, but are not limited to, media outlets, community leaders and religious leaders. Listening to these voices will lead to a better understanding of perceptions and an increased capacity to develop messages that effectively communicate about agricultural safety and health in authentic ways.

Description of Progress

The PIE Center has access to Sysomos, a social media analysis program. SCCAHS will also have access to this program to conduct a social media analysis in Y2. Results of the content analysis conducted in Year 1 yielded a list of health and safety topics. This list of topics was used to inform the construction of the Needs Assessment Survey, and will be used again to input search terms in Sysomos.

Other Activity: Live Streaming of CSA Meeting

Description

The center conducted a morning session that was delivered in-person and via video (Zoom and Facebook Live) to interested individuals throughout the region, mainly in Florida, to learn about the center and to invite them to participate in the Community Stakeholder Advisory Board. More than 50 individuals participated in this video-delivered event.

Other Activity: News Releases

Description

The center wrote four news releases to inform individuals about the video-delivered meeting, the recipients of the first pilot project awards, information on how to apply for the second round of pilot projects, and a review of what occurred during the video-delivered meeting.

Planning and Evaluation Core

Administration

Activity Indicator: External Scientific Advisory Board

Grant Proposal Text

“A five-member External Scientific Advisory Board (ESAB) will be selected for SCCAHS, in consultation with NIOSH program staff. The ESAB will meet on an annual basis, in conjunction with the Center’s annual scientific/programmatic meeting, to serve as a senior external advisory group to evaluate Center programs, progress, and direction; this will include a private meeting with the Center PI and NIOSH Program Officer.”

Description of Progress

Four individuals have agreed to participate on the Scientific Advisory Committee, representing the National Farm Medicine Center & National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety, the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Florida State University School of Medicine, and a consultant from a NIOSH Center. Efforts to recruit the final committee member will take place throughout Year 2.

Activity Indicator: Pilot Project Funding and Project Monitoring

Grant Proposal Text

“The Pilot Project Research Committee, operating as a subcommittee of the IOC, will oversee pilot project grant selection and monitor progress on pilot grants after funding. Committee membership and operation is described in detail in the Pilot Grant Program section of the proposal.”

Description of Progress

Solicitations for pilot project proposals took place over Year 1 Quarter 4. The submission period closed in December. Five pilot projects were submitted. The pilot project committee will submit their reviews and award funding in Year 2 Quarter 2.

Activity Indicator: Biostatistical Support

Grant Proposal Text

“Strong biostatistical support is critical to research, and is an essential part of the IRB and IACUC approval process. In our experience, integration of biostatistical support into the core infrastructure of Center grants is a highly effective (and cost-effective) way to assure that studies are appropriately designed, with a sufficient sample size, and that plans for data analysis are in place from the start of the project. We have also found that by having a single statistical teamwork across all projects within a Center, there is often recognition of opportunities for collaborative studies which might not otherwise have been recognized. Oversight of the biostatistical group will be provided by Dr. Babette Brumback, Professor and Associate Chair of Biostatistics in the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions and the UF College of Medicine.”

Description of Progress

The biostatistics team is training a research assistant, familiarizing him with some more complex analytic methods in SAS and R. He is making good progress on his capstone project for his MS program, which will be centered on methods for handling censored data from one of Dr. Kane's former projects when estimating regression models. He is using SAS NLMIXED for these analyses. He is conducting a simulation study. The biostatistics team has attended the monthly IOC meetings. We are eager to begin data analysis with Dr. Kane in 2018. Dr. Brumback spent time familiarizing herself with theory and software for adjusting for multiple comparisons using the Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Rate paradigm. This should be useful to analyses for the NIOSH grant. Additionally, she has been investigating methods for adjusting for unmeasured confounding due to cluster-level variables in a multilevel analysis. She has researched the relevant literature and has also developed new methods.

Evaluation Program**Activity Indicator: Collect Relevant Monitoring and Evaluation Data****Grant Proposal Text**

The M&E processes will combine quantitative and qualitative methodologies to document program progress and assess the extent to which the SCCAHS meets its intended goals.

Description of Progress

The Evaluation Program has worked to develop an M&E process that records data pertinent to the project leaders, Outreach, and the Center as a whole. The Evaluation Team has created indicator forms based on the grant proposal and logic models developed during the first year of the project. The Evaluation Coordinator compares data reported in the indicator forms to the description of activities outlined in the grant proposal, and indicates whether the team is on its projected schedule. Data from the indicator forms is compiled in this quarterly report, which is shared with project and Core leaders. The quarterly report expedites the process of semi-annual reporting to funders and stakeholders, and updates SCCAHS faculty and staff about project achievements. The Quarterly Report is also published on the SCCAHS website for public review.

Activity Indicator: Cross-Center Evaluation Engagement**Grant Proposal Text**

"The Evaluation Program will collaborate with the Evaluation Programs of other NIOSH-funded Agricultural Centers to share information and resources, and to work towards the establishment of valid and reliable common measures and frameworks. Besides participating annually in the meeting of Ag Center evaluators/directors and NIOSH staff, the Evaluation Program leadership will maintain regular communication with other Ag Centers throughout the year."

Description of Progress

The Evaluation Coordinator participated in three NIOSH ECO calls on 10/11, 11/8 and 12/13. Discussions focused on outreach topics, including how to develop a community advisory board, branding across NIOSH Centers, writing press releases, and the Ag Centers YouTube channel. Evaluation topics included using social media for research, feedback from Beat the Heat campaign. The Evaluation Coordinator has taken on the responsibility of organizing the video review process

for the Ag Center YouTube Channel. This will allow her to network with experts in the Southeast region when seeking expert review of agriculture topics featured in YouTube videos.

Activity Indicator: Process Evaluation

Grant Proposal Text

“Data collection activities at the *whole-Center level* will focus on examining the Center’s level of success integrating and maintaining an interdisciplinary network of synergistic projects within all four categories detailed in the FOA (basic/etiologic, intervention, translation, and surveillance) addressing strategic goals outlined in the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA, 2008). The evaluation of the *Planning and Evaluation Core* will focus on assessing organizational effectiveness, the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of Center’s administration, the fidelity of program implementation in relation to the plan, and the reactions of internal and external clients (e.g. satisfaction, attitudes, expectations, etc.) to the Center’s work and vision.”

Description of Progress

The evaluation team developed a process evaluation instrument to gauge levels of communication and collaboration among primary teams and among the Center as a whole. SCCAHS team members provided suggestions on improving work within their primary teams and within the Center. They identified the teams they currently collaborate with, and which teams they are currently not collaborating with and need to collaborate with in the future. Team members were also asked whether the project management software, Basecamp, has been effective in facilitating communication and collaboration within the Center. Finally, team members were asked to describe barriers and challenges for communication and collaboration among SCCAHS teams, as well as recommendations for improving communication and collaboration. A third-party evaluator collected the data and screened it to protect the anonymity of respondents. Forty-five team members were contacted and 21 responded. Data collection began Dec 4th and continued through Jan 8th. Data will be analyzed and reported on in Y2Q2.

Activity Indicator: Needs Assessment

Grant Proposal Text

“During the first year of implementation, a needs assessment (Owen, 2007) will be conducted by the Outreach Core in collaboration with the Evaluation Program. This activity will serve to assess current knowledge and attitudes among agriculture and fishery operations and organizations in the region regarding the physical, chemical, and biological hazards addressed by the SCCAHS areas of focus/themes. Findings from the needs assessment will guide the activities of the Outreach Core and serve as a baseline to evaluate its impact.”

Description of Progress

The Needs Assessment Report was published in October 2017. Results included participant information, including sector, stakeholder type and state. Agriculture, fisheries and forestry (AgFF) issues were organized by sector and ranked in order of importance. The most important issues in the agriculture sector included heat-related illness, pesticide exposure, access to healthcare and injuries from equipment. The most important issues in the fisheries sector included access to healthcare, drowning, and worker mental health/substance abuse. The most important issues in the forestry sector included injuries from equipment, transportation accidents in work vehicles and hearing loss. Center-wide issues included strategies for self-employed workers, farm risk

management education topic needs, tools and strategies to improve worker safety and health, and how SCCAHS can benefit stakeholders. Stakeholders suggested how to address these issues and provided potential obstacles. Issues pertaining to outreach included participant information sources, social media use, and communication preferences. Limitations of the study included the sample of participants. Agriculture was sector over-represented (80%) and Extension stakeholders were over-represented (47%). The Needs Assessment Report was used as the basis for the first Community Stakeholder Meeting in October, in which topics from the needs assessment were presented to stakeholders. Instruments used in the meeting, including discussion worksheets and online surveys, were based on the needs assessment survey format. The Needs Assessment Report is available at: <http://www.sccaahs.org/index.php/2017/10/17/sccaahs-needs-assessment-report-is-available/>

Emerging Issues Program

The Emerging Issues Program (EIP) will work within the Center, maintaining connections with all projects, cores, advisory boards and other stakeholders in a seamless effort to identify, prioritize, and address issues that appear during the life of the Center. The tasks of the emerging issues program include: identify new agricultural and fishery worker safety and health problems in the region, prioritize emerging issues; address prioritized emerging issues through small investments; and refer other emerging issues to appropriate resources.

Activity Indicator: Monitor Industry Media Sources

Grant Proposal Text

“Develop an inventory of the most relevant electronic and print sources of Center relevant information including (but not limited to) trade publications, relevant nonprofit organization resource, academic journals, NIOSH communications and publications, and traditional media. These resources will be consulted regularly for stories about potential emerging health and safety issues.”

Description of Progress

EIP research assistant monitored regional ag newsletter (Morning Ag Clips), set up Google Alerts using variety of appropriate keyword combinations (industry/issues/topics) for research, breaking news, and stories. EIP also monitored stories from AgriSafe mailing lists and industry association social media sites. Potential emerging issues from these observations included opioid addiction, mental health and the legal marijuana industry.

Activity Indicator: Potential Emerging Issues

Grant Proposal Text

“The EIP leader and assistant will meet regularly and document any emerging issues of concern monthly. They will discuss these issues during regularly scheduled meetings with the Center Director, IOC, and Community/Stakeholder Advisory Board.”

Description of Progress

Issues identified in Q1 included: Post-hurricane worker housing assessment, H-2A workers, marijuana production, livestock industry, more research into differences between H-2A and undocumented workers, worker safety and cell phone use, partnering with RCMA, WPS, opioid addiction, and mental health.

Activity Indicator: Prioritize Emerging Issues

Grant Proposal Text

“The EIP leader and assistant will meet regularly and document any emerging issues of concern monthly. They will discuss these issues during regularly scheduled meetings with the Center Director, IAB, and Community/Stakeholder Advisory Board. If there are emergency issues or no upcoming regular meetings, the EIP will request meetings with key personnel to discuss prioritization. The purpose of discussing documented issues will be to determine if any issues: 1) can be addressed through ongoing research projects or cores; 2) can be referred to known outside resources; 3) should be addressed immediately through the provision of small amounts of funding from the EIP program.”

Description of Progress

After emerging issues have been identified, they are presented at IOC and ECO meetings. Researchers and other SCCAHS personnel have the opportunity provide comments relevant to the issues such as potential resources, opinions on urgency, and means of leveraging avenues to address them. After considering all comments and in consultation with other SCCAHS researchers, the EIP director decides on the best way to address particular issues.

Activity Indicator: Award EIP funds

Grant Proposal Text

“A special fund (total of \$8,000) is included in the EIP budget to respond to highly prioritized emergency health and safety issues. The EIP program will develop a protocol for awarding these funds on a case by cases basis to assist stakeholders in addressing these issues. Funds will be expended after careful consultation with program administration and key advisory groups, and approval by the IOC.”

Description of Progress

Allocation of funds is now considered on an annual, rather than quarterly, basis due to the uncertainty of the timing of emerging issues. So far in Q1, after consulting with IOC and ECO, it is anticipated that some EIP funds will be allocated to the inaugural SCCAHS seminar in March, 2018. Other funds have not yet been allocated.

Other Product: Summary Sheets and Mapping of AgFF Industries

Description

A comprehensive list of industry sources and/or resources is being built and continuously monitored and collected by means of online searches. Combination of state extension sites and connected resources, industry association sites, as well as other miscellaneous resources of interest. Available at: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/VRM5mKKSCG31USpTC9PsXXwP>

Other Activity: Presentation at Fall 2017 AEC Seminar Series

Description

Delivered presentation on Immigration, Policy and Agricultural Labor in Florida to AEC staff and others. Approximately 10 people attended.

Other Activity: Presentation at the Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations

Description

Presented on Immigration, Farm Labor and Food Justice. Students and Faculty, law and other departments. Approximately 30 people attended.

Key Findings: Clinic Directory for Medical Approval of Respirator Fitness

Target audience: Small/medium growers, Extension.

Description: The purpose of this directory is to provide a list of health care providers offering respiratory fitness physicals to agricultural workers that would approve them for work involving pesticides. Awaiting comment, and final document will be forwarded to Outreach Core January 2018.

Keywords: Worker Protection Standard (WPS), respirator fitness physical

Key Findings: Immigration and Farm Labor Research

Target audience: Academia

Description: This is ongoing research related to the history and impact of temporary worker programs in the US. Presented in AEC Seminar Series and Center for Study of Race and Race Relations. Prospective article in a law review in 2018.

Keywords: Temporary worker programs, H-2A