### GRAIN HANDLING SAFETY COALITION PARTICIPANTS

Carle Hospital Center for Rural Health & Farm Safety **Carroll County Farm Bureau Community Health Partnerships of Illinois COUNTRY Financial** Everareen FS. Inc. Family Members/Private Citizens/Farmers Grain and Feed Association of Illinois Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (University of Iowa) **GROWMARK, INC.** The GSI Group, LLC. Illinois Department of Agriculture **Illinois Corn Growers Association** Illinois Farm Bureau **Illinois Fire Service Institute** Illinois Association FFA **Illinois State University Department of Health Sciences** National Children's Center for Rural & Agricultural Health & Safety Precision Planting, Inc. Purdue University **Region V OSHA** University of Illinois Extension University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and **Environmental Sciences (ACES)** University of Illinois - Chicago Environmental & Occupational Health & Safety Education & Research Center USDA Farm Service Agency of Illinois US Department of Labor - Wage and Hour Division Western Grain Marketing



### Grain Handling Safety Coalition CONTACT US:

Phone calls and correspondence are received by the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois.

### Grain Handling Safety Coalition (GHSC)

c/o Grain and Feed Association of Illinois 3521 Hollis Drive Springfield, IL 62711 Call us at: 217-787-2417 (GFAI) Fax: 217-787-8671 (GFAI) www.grainsafety.org Email contact: info@grainsafety.org

### **OUR INSPIRATION TO SAVE LIVES:**

On July 28, 2010, in the small town of Mt. Carroll, IL, 14-year old Wyatt Whitebread and 19-year old Alex Pacas were killed working in a grain bin. Will Piper, 20, was trapped for several hours before being rescued. Chris Lawton, 15, was able to escape and call for help.



Wyatt Whitebread



Alex Pacas' aunt, Catherine Rylatt, realized a true need existed to educate and train those working in the industry. Catherine reached out to Dr. Robert Aherin, Agricultural Safety and Health Program Leader at the University of Illinois. Together, they sought out individuals, organizations, and agencies with connections to the

Alex Pacas

grain and/or agricultural industries. It did not take long for everyone to realize that in working together we could achieve greater success in the mission to deliver community-based grain safety awareness and education across the entire industry.

### Thus, the Grain Handling Safety Coalition (GHSC) was established.

#### GHSC's Mission:

To prevent and reduce accidents, injuries, and fatalities across the grain industry spectrum through safety education, prevention and outreach.



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# We can't afford to lose another life.

## Grain Handling Safety Coalition

### WHAT'S THE COST?

Consider the staggering cost of a life, the stunning cost of care and treatment of the injured, the shattering cost to families, businesses, farms, and communities.

### WHO CARES? WE DO...

We are the GRAIN HANDLING SAFETY COALITION (GHSC) and YOUR SAFETY and the SAFETY of everyone who works with you — on the farm or at the elevator — is our goal.

The GHSC is dedicated to helping you Learn & Live. "Live & Learn" does not apply to handling grain. In 2010, more than half of the reported grain handling accidents involved fatalities. Learn to make safety a routine for life, so at the end of each day, you can go home to your family and friends.

A volunteer group, the Grain Handling Safety Coalition is a team from industry-related associations, agencies, and individuals with a shared dedication to preventing accidents, injuries and fatalities in grain handling operations on the farm and at the elevator. Our diverse team has two interests in common: *GRAIN and SAFETY.* 



### **LEARN & LIVE**

Safety doesn't have to be expensive or complicated—it just needs to be DONE. Making you aware and teaching you how to handle grain safely is the dedicated function of the GHSC. We want to help you make SAFETY your standard operating procedure.



### Our Mission: To prevent and reduce accidents, injuries, and fatalities across the grain industry spectrum through safety education, prevention and outreach.

The GHSC is here to educate and instill positive changes in the world of grain handling. Our funding is committed to:

- Develop and distribute education and training materials.
- Offer online resources with self-tutorial training.
- Establish a one-source resource for education information for Grain Handling Safety.
- Provide public out-reach to increase awareness of the critical need for Grain Handling Safety in our industry.

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

You can help the GHSC with your time, active participation and monetary support. The Grain Handling Safety Coalition operates on gifts and grants. If you'd like to make a contribution, contact:

Dr. Robert Aherin: 217-333-9417 raherin@illinois.edu OR Jeff Adkisson: 217-787-2417 jeffa@gfai.org



### **HAZARDS & PREVENTION STRATEGIES**

**Invest in Safety**—Accidents are preventable. Identifying and fixing hazards immediately is the first step to ensure a safe work environment.

**Establish Safety Practices**—Make sure all family members and/or employees are trained and follow safety procedures.

**Engulfment/Entrapment**—Follow proper bin entry procedures. Don't walk or knock down grain. Use a secured lifeline & safety harness. Never enter alone!

**Electrocution**—Make sure all electrical wires and equipment are in good repair, properly grounded, and follow lock out/tag out procedures. Never work on equipment with a live power source.

**Entanglement**—Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry, ensure machines are properly guarded, follow lock out tag out procedures, don't by-pass or dismantle guards.

**Being Struck By an Object or Vehicle**—Wear hard hats and safety glasses, be aware of hazards in the environment, station observers around vehicles & other moving machinery.

**Falls**—Make sure ladders are in good repair, follow ladder safety/other height procedures, wear fall protection.

**Dust Explosions**—Follow good housekeeping procedures to prevent the accumulation of combustible dust.

Make sure *everyone* is properly trained for their job and understands the hazards. Develop a SAFETY PLAN and make sure everyone follows it. If an accident does occur, the seconds saved by knowing what to do may be the seconds that save lives!

