

# 2019 AgrAbility NTW New Staff, Lincoln, NE

March 25, 2019

3:00-3:15 pm

By **Robert J. Fetsch**, Extension Specialist & Professor Emeritus

NAP QOL Evaluation Committee Coordinator

**& NAP Evaluation Committee**

AANTWMcGillQOL3.2519NewStaff (Rev. 3.2019)



**To “AgrAbility Quality of Life Study:  
New Staff Training”**

# I am Bob Fetsch, CSUE & CAP

*Who here is with a newly funded SRAP?*

- Who is from AK?*
- Who is from CA?*
- Who is from MI?*
- Who is from NM?*
- Who is from SD?*
- Who is from UT?*
- Who is from WI?*
- Who is from IN? OH? TN?*

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Who can tell us—  
***What is AgrAbility's Vision?***

## Our AgrAbility Vision

“The vision of AgrAbility is to enhance the quality of life for farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities, so that they, their families, and their communities continue to succeed in rural America.”

Source: Retrieved from [www.agrability.org/about/program/#mission](http://www.agrability.org/about/program/#mission)

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*When people create Mission and Vision Statements for their organization, what are they for?*

**A Mission statement** describes where we are now.

**A Vision statement** describes a future “target that beckons.”

The process of getting from now to then is a **Strategic Plan**.

*How will you know your newly  
funded state project is effective  
at enhancing your  
farmers'/ranchers' QOL?*



# How Do We Define QOL?

- QOL is a multidimensional construct of a person's overall physical, emotional, social, financial, and spiritual well-being.

## Sources:

Bogue P, Phelan J. Exploring the quality of life of farm families in Ireland: implications for extension. *J Int Agri Ext Educ.* 2005;12(1):79-90.

Cummins RA. Assessing quality of life for people with disabilities. In: Brown RJ., ed. *Quality of Life for Handicapped People.* Cheltenham, UK: Stanley Thomas, 1997:116-150.

Fetsch, R. J., & Turk, P. (2016, December 13). *A quantitative assessment of the effectiveness of USDA's AgrAbility Project.* Manuscript in review.

Hagerty MA, Cummins RA, Ferriss AL. et al. Quality of life indexes for national policy: review and agenda for research. *Soc Indic Res.* 2001;55(1):1-96.

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How do we know we're on the  
right track?

## How Do We Measure Quality of Life (QOL) Levels?

- The McGill QOL scale is a 17-item scale (0-10) with five subscales...
  - Physical well-being.
  - Physical symptoms.
  - Psychological well-being.
  - Existential/Experiential well-being.
  - Support.

## Measures Used in 12-State Study

- McGill Quality of Life (QOL) Survey
- AgrAbility Independent Living & Working Survey (ILW) **Thank you, Carla Wilhite!**
- NAP Demographic Data

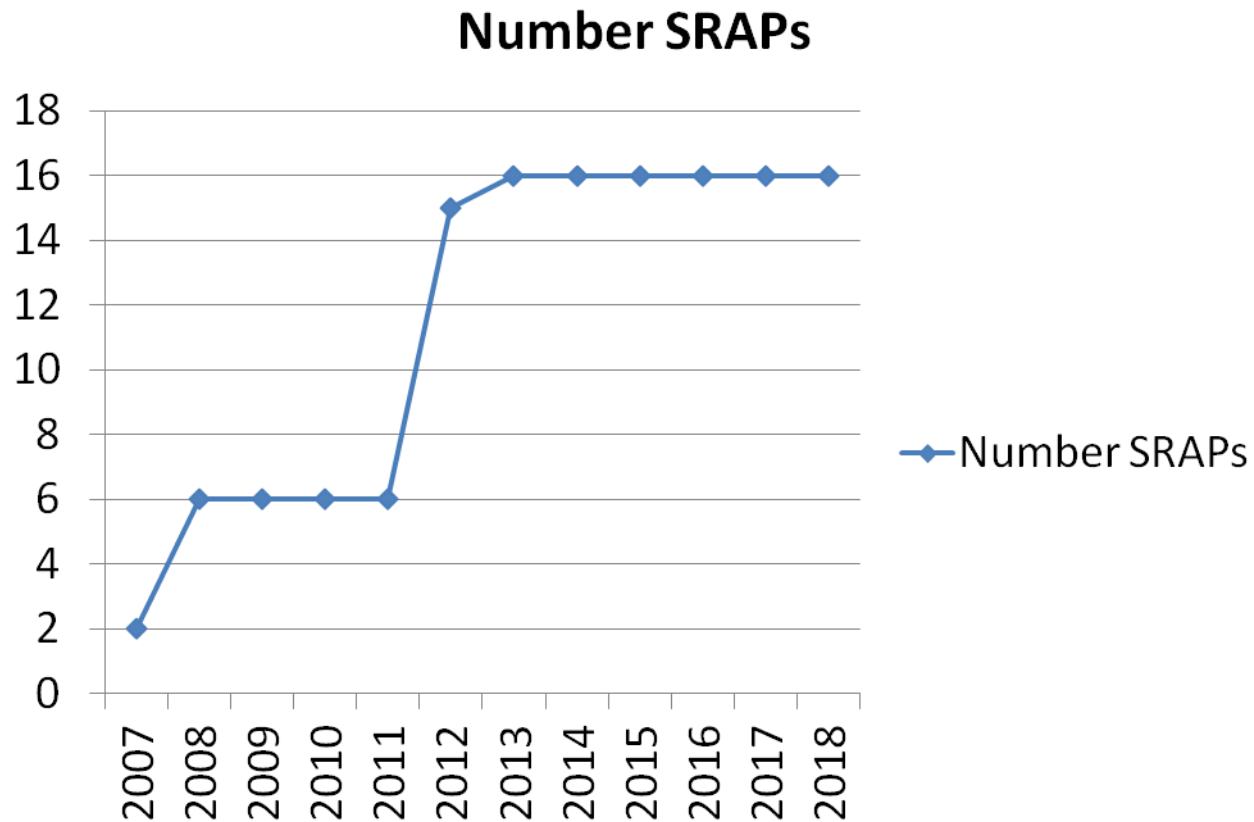
# Who Is an AgrAbility Client?

- An AgrAbility client is an individual with a disability engaged in production agriculture as an owner/operator, family member, or employee who has received professional services from AgrAbility project staff during an **on-site visit**.

## To Answer These Questions...

- More SRAPs are encouraged to **join us especially new SRAPs (AK, CA, MI, NM, SD, UT, WI, IN, OH, & TN).**
- SRAPs are encouraged to collect more matched pre-test and post-test data.

# How Many SRAPs Are Collecting ILW and QOL data?



## **Aida Balsano & Brad Rein Asked Us to Help Respond.**

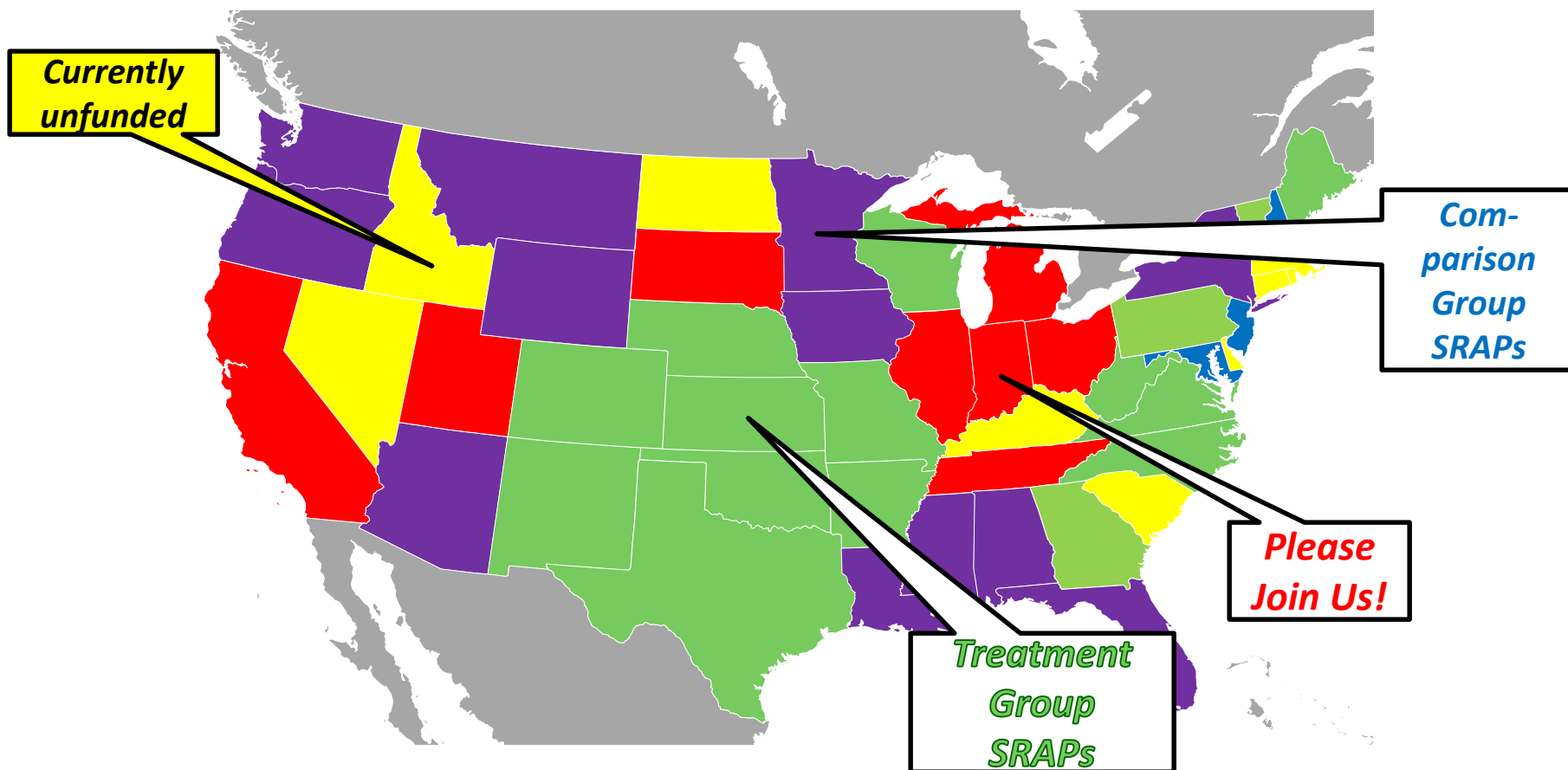
- So far 16 SRAP's are working to collect data from AgrAbility clients with an on-site visit (AR, CO, GA, KS, ME, MO, NC, NE, OH, OK, PA, TX, UT, VA, WI, & WV).



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**AgrAbility Quality of Life Study:  
New Staff Training**

By Robert J. Fetsch (CSU) & Hamida Jinnah (UGA),  
Robert Aherin & Chip Petrea (UIL),  
Hannah Barthels, Vicki Janisch, & Abigail Jensen (UW),  
Sheila Simmons & Kerri Ebert (KU),  
Candiss Leathers & Danielle Jackman (CSU/Goodwill Denver),  
Nancy Frecks & Sharon Nielsen (UN),  
Linda Fetzer (PSU),  
Karen Funkenbusch (UMO),  
Rick Peterson (TAMU),  
Linda Jaco, Jan Johnston, & Diana Sargent (OSU),  
Toby Woodson (UAR),  
Richard Brzozowski & Leilani Carlson (UME),  
Inetta Fluharty (WVU),  
Kirk Ballin (ESVA), &  
Betty Rodriguez, Michele Proctor & Madeline McCauley (ECU).



*How many of us are in  
**AgrAbility green states**  
who are assessing our  
effectiveness with the McGill  
QOL & the AgrAbility ILW?*

## Why Join Us?

1. Document your project's *effectiveness* at increasing clients' ILW and QOL levels.
2. Join our 16-SRAP Team to find out what works.
3. Enhance your chances of *receiving funding* next time with empirical evidence of your SRAP's quality and effectiveness. (Cf. *FY 2018 RFA*, pp. 17, 18, and 25.)

## Why Join Us?

4. Increase your chances for *outside funding* by demonstrating your accountability.
5. Contribute to AgrAbility's *Vision*.

## Won't You Join Us? Here's How:

1. Send an email to [robert.fetsch@colostate.edu](mailto:robert.fetsch@colostate.edu).
2. Seek IRB approval from your Land-Grant University.
3. Study and use the same protocol.
4. Adapt CO to \_\_\_ on pp. 1-2 & mail.
5. Enter your data into an Excel file that we will provide, proof perfectly & email to me.

## **Further Research Is Needed to Answer...**

- What can we **learn from AgrAbility demographics?**
- How effective is AgrAbility at **improving behavioral health levels** of clients?
- What can we **learn from those who improved the most and the least?** What did they and their SRAPs do differently?

**Please Join Us Wednesday, March  
27 at 10:10-10:55 am for “AgrAbility  
QOL: Psychological Well-Being  
Improved +28% vs. -4%”**  
By Robert J. Fetsch, Hamida Jinnah,  
Paige Tidwell, &  
the NAP Evaluation Team.



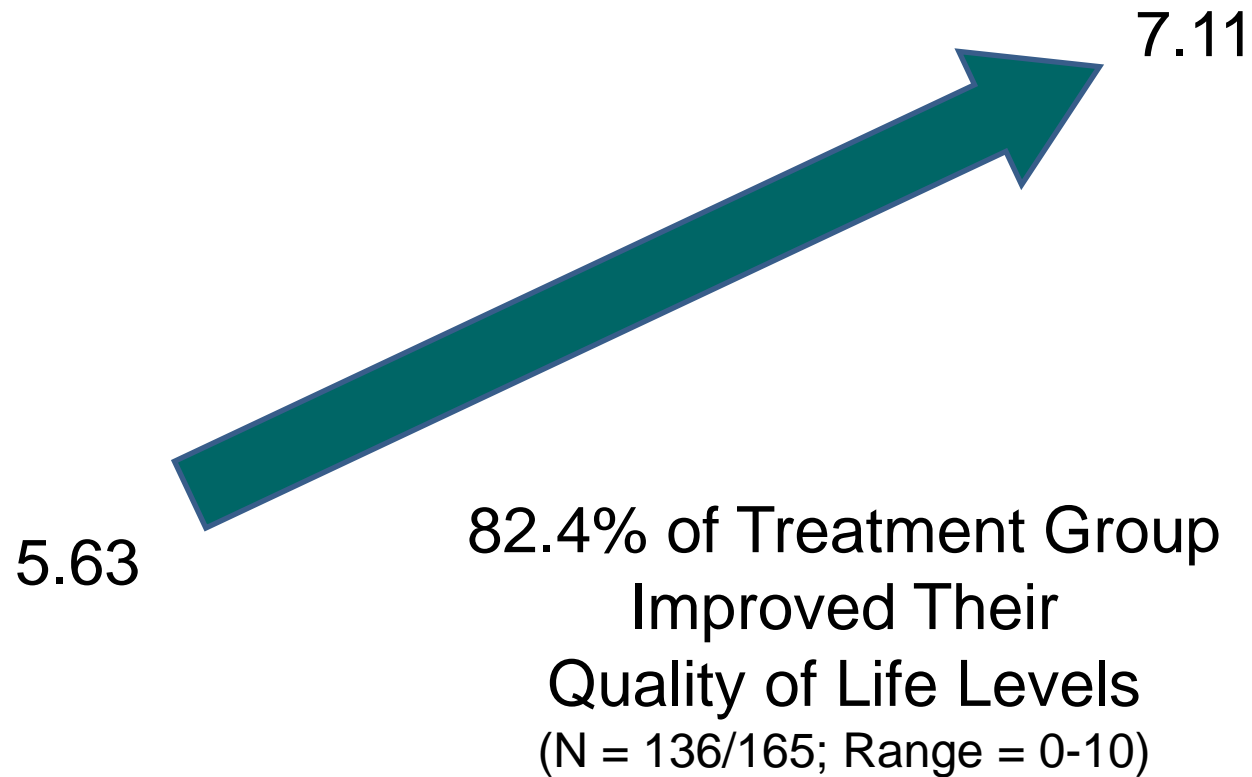
# Questions? & Answers

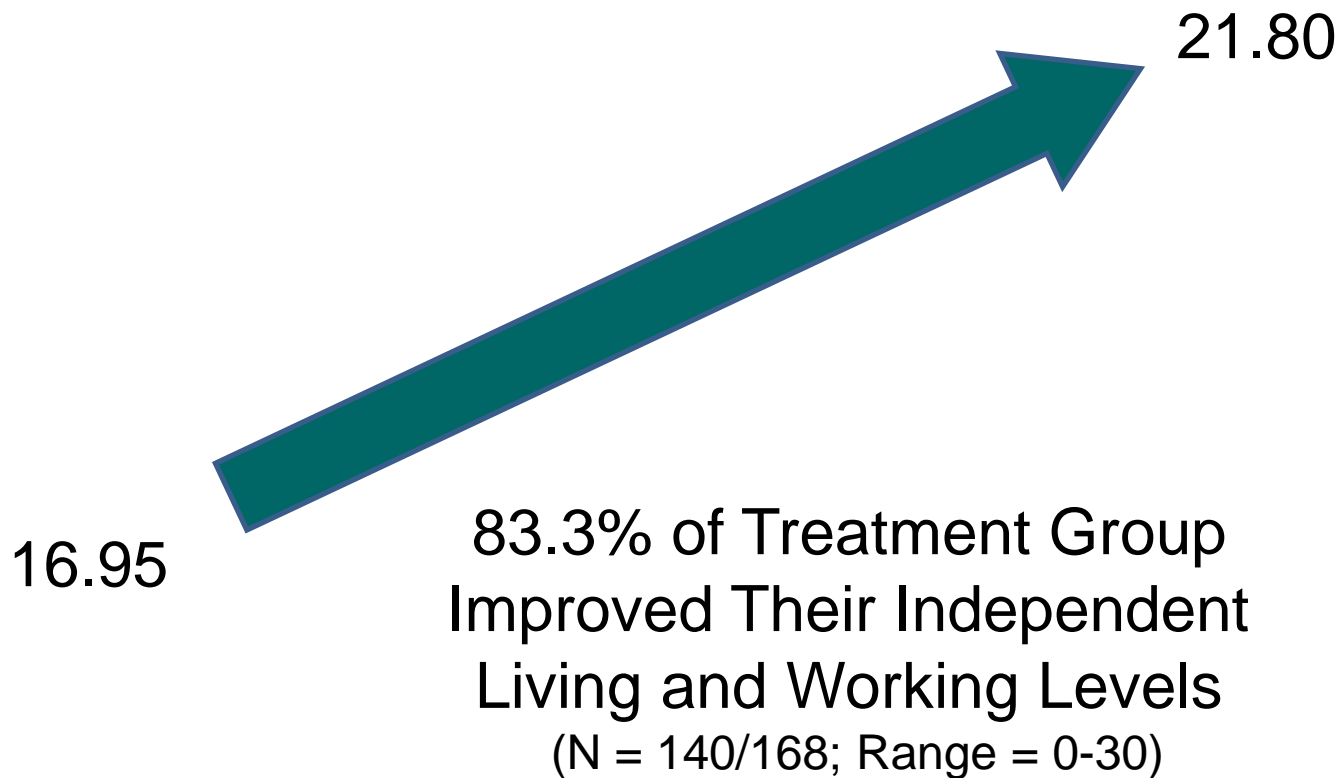
# Won't You Join Us? We Need You. Here's How:

1. Email me at [robert.fetsch@colostate.edu](mailto:robert.fetsch@colostate.edu).
2. Or call me at 970-491-5648.

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**Thank you  
very much!**





## We've seen progress in physical, but what about in behavioral health?

- We've seen progress in reduced numbers of physical fatalities and injuries in agriculture, thanks to the efforts of OSHA and Extension Farm Safety programs.
- But we've **not** seen progress in reducing behavioral health issues like suicide, especially among older white men.
- Source: M. Rosmann (personal communication, June 4, 2010.)

## Comparison U.S. Workplace Suicides with Non-Workplace Suicides (Per million)

