## Farm Bureau Farm Rescue Program

**Program Area:** Public Relations & Information (PR/I)  
**County Farm Bureau:** Highland County Farm Bureau  
**State:** OH  
**Membership Category:** 1,001-3,000  
**Year:** 2014  
**Phone:** (937) 378-2212  
**Email:** abch@ofbf.org  
**Program Description:** In a joint partnership with the Highland County Fire Chiefs Association and the Highland County Farm Bureau, the organizations worked together to prepare first responders on how to handle grain bin emergencies.

Over the past twenty years, the number of grain-related incidents on farms and commercial grain handling facilities has been increasing across the country. A new record of fifty-one documented grain bin incidents in the United States were reported in 2010 in which half of all victims did not survive. The objective of this initiative was to provide local fire departments in the county with the proper equipment and training needed to conduct grain bin rescues.

In developing the plan for how to go about sourcing the equipment needed for the fire departments; the Highland County Farm Bureau took the lead in developing a fund raising campaign to purchase the specialized grain bin rescue equipment that the county's fire departments would need. In addition, the Fire Chiefs Association worked to develop the training program to train local first responders on how to use the equipment and how to respond during a grain bin emergency.

The county Farm Bureau successfully raised $44,000 that was used to completely equip two emergency grain bin rescue trailers that were strategically placed in the county. In conjunction with the State Fire Academy, the fire chiefs developed a program to train thirty-six emergency personnel on how to use the equipment.