

How you can get involved:

- Host a workshop or webinar for health, education, agricultural, and/or disability services providers to share the message and services of Ohio AgrAbility.
- Connect with Ohio AgrAbility for Capstone and/or Independent Study projects working directly with clientele

# Ohio AgrAbility Project: Cultivates Accessible Agriculture and Helps Disabled Farmers to Continue Farming



Purpose

#### **Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved**

who could use adaptive design or service solutions to address real world problems.

- Advocate for farmers/ individuals with disabilities by contacting your legislators and asking them to support funding & legislation for disability services.
- Sign up at our website for the Ohio AgrAbility newsletter to learn about events and workshops.
- Donate to the Ohio AgrAbility Fund: Your tax-deductible gift supports educational programming and assistive technology purchases.
  http://www.giveto.osu.edu Fund #313467.

## To get involved, contact:

S. Dee Jepsen, PhD Program Director Associate Professor, FABE

Ohio AgrAbility Project's (OAP) mission is to promote independence through rehabilitation and established service capacity to meet the needs of Ohio farm families with disabling injuries. The program takes a comprehensive approach to optimize the clientele's farmstead planning and support their sustainability in an agricultural occupation. Through a combination of education, networking, and assistance the project builds bridges to connect agricultural clientele to disabilities services and appropriate technologies.

### Impact

Education: Annually, OAP reaches over 11,500 individuals with educational outreach activities; topics describe OAP services and demonstrate assistive technology and Universal Design concepts on the farm to prevent secondary injury.

Networking: A 10-member advisory board, a 6-farmer Peer coach network, and 230 students involved in capstone projects have linked agricultural solutions for real-world problems that farmer face. College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering Ohio State University Extension

Community Partners Involved United States Department of Agriculture - National Institute of Food and Agriculture supports the AgrAbility Program: Ohio is one of 20 states that receive funding through this program. Grant partner: Easter Seals TriState Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) USDA Farm Service Agency County Boards of Developmental Disabilities

Field experiences provided to students at CFAES, University of Dayton Engineering School, and University of Toledo Occupational Therapy (OT) Program

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Assistance: Many of OAP's 140 clients qualify for funds through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities or other external sources to improve their workplace. To date, \$490,000 has been utilized on farms.





THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY