**Purpose.** To inform all employees that effective August 1, 2018, the NRCS Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will be provided by Program Support Center (PSC) Federal Occupational Health (FOH).

**Expiration Date.** September 30, 2019

**Background.** Federal executive branch agencies are required to provide an EAP. An employee assistance program is a voluntary, confidential program and referral service that helps employees (including management) work through various life challenges that may adversely affect job performance, health, and personal well-being to optimize an organization's success. The EAP is a short-term assessment and open to employees and their immediate family members. Family members who reside in the household and dependent children who are away at school are all eligible for EAP services.

**Explanation.** On July 31, 2018, NRCS EAP will no longer be provided through Sand Creek Group, LTD. Effective August 1, 2018, NRCS will align its EAP with other Department of Agriculture Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) agencies for EAP delivery of services by Federal Occupational Health. FOH is a component of Program Support Center within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The employee assistance program is offered as a free benefit and services are confidential within the limits of the law. EAP services include assessments, counseling, and referrals for additional services to employees with personal or work-related concerns, such as stress, financial issues, legal issues, family problems, office conflicts, and alcohol and substance use disorders. EAP also often works with management and supervisors providing advanced planning for situations, such as organizational changes, legal considerations, emergency planning, and response to unique traumatic events.

To access a wealth of resources to help you better manage your work and life responsibilities, notify the Federal Occupational Health Employee Assistance Program at (800) 222-0364 (TTY: (888) 262-7848). The EAP website is [FOH4You.com](http://FOH4You.com). This website also provides valuable information, educational materials, resources, and self-assessments on key behavioral health topics, including depression, anxiety, relationship issues, alcohol abuse, and health and wellness, to help you live healthy and work well.

**Contact.** Please direct questions to Uretha Bostic, safety and health, at (352) 338-8526 or uretha.bostic@wdc.usda.gov, or Monique Salahuddin at (202) 720-1155 or (Monique.Salahuddin@wdc.usda.gov).

/s/

THOMAS W. CHRISTENSEN
Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Business Services, FPAC
Associate Chief for Operations, NRCS

**Attachment A – EAP Brochure – FOH**

**Attachment B – EAP Legal Brochure**

**Attachment C – EAP Financial Brochure**