



# SILO

## **SILO is a Film about Community.**

Please use the *SILO Community Discussion Guide* to engage in a post-screening discussion with your fellow audience members. Every hosted screening is different and these discussion points are meant to allow for a unique group conversation. Don't give yourself a time limit, so that you can enjoy the process of connecting with your community on a deeper level.

From the very beginning our filmmaking team hoped to tell a story that was authentic to real life experiences. SILO's characters do not communicate effectively, which in turn leads to a tragic grain entrapment. We hope that these discussion topics will help you work towards an open and honest dialogue around issues that you face within your own community, which in turn can prevent future accidents.

We are confident that this 4-part framework (*Safety, Identify, Legacy, Outreach*) will be useful and effective for your discussion, and we encourage you to use it for future non-film events as well. Thank you for watching SILO and for partaking in this important event.





## **Safety**

SILO's story centers around a preventable and dangerous situation that often ends in tragedy...

1. What were the main factors, including characters' attitudes and circumstances, that led to the grain entrapment?
2. Why is it sometimes challenging to practice safety procedures at worksites such as a family farm, or grain elevator?
3. How can we encourage agricultural workers to use safety practices that prevent illness, injury, and fatality?

## **Identification**

SILO is about a rescue, but also shows other challenges people in rural communities may face...

1. What challenges did characters in the film face?
2. Which challenges did you personally relate to, or identify with?
3. What are some solutions to the challenges rural communities face? Where has there been improvement? What still needs attention?

## **Legacy & Learning**

In SILO, the farmers and rescue workers all have different backgrounds and attitudes towards their work...

1. What should we understand about the differences between inexperienced and experienced farm workers? How do we avoid complacency in both groups?
2. How do we instill the courage to speak up and the willingness to listen to workers' safety concerns?
3. There is discord between Frank and other rescue workers: who did you agree with? What do you think went right? What do you think went wrong?

## **Outreach**

SILO gives viewers insight into the characters' struggles with grief, alcohol, dementia and other difficulties, including the pressures of multigenerational farming...

1. How do these challenges contribute to farmers' or responders' overall well-being and ability to handle conflict?
2. What are ways in which we can reach out to our community when experiencing the stress or pressure of everyday life?
3. How do we continue to raise safety awareness and encourage stress management?

*The SILO Community Discussion Guide was created in conjunction with the Grain Handling Safety Coalition. For more information about their farm safety initiatives please visit [GrainSafety.org](http://GrainSafety.org).*