



Dr. Jim Flowers, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Programs  
Jackie Knowles, Class of 2017, NC State 2017 Outstanding Student Teacher

The **Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences** is the merger of Agricultural and Extension Education and Youth, Family, and Community Sciences. Faculty in the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences work across the functions of extension, research, and teaching to serve students and stakeholders. We believe that integration of extension, research, and teaching advances effective and impactful learning, discovery, translation, application, and engagement.

**Areas of focus include:**

- Agricultural Education
- Extension Education
- Agricultural Leadership
- Community Youth Development
- Volunteer Resource Management
- Family Life
- Family Resource Management
- Community Leadership
- Nutrition and Food Safety



## Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences

**22**

Tenure-Track  
Faculty

**28**

Grant-Funded  
Professionals

**4**

Extension-  
funded  
Professionals

**5**

Administrative  
Professionals

**11**

EFNEP-Funded  
Professionals

**7**

FFA-Funded  
Professionals

**77**

Total Full-time  
Department  
Members



### Publications

Faculty published **55** peer-reviewed articles in professional journals.

Faculty published **1** book and **9** book chapters.



### Presentations

Faculty gave **8** presentations at international professional meetings, **97** poster or oral presentations at national professional meetings, and **84** presentations at state and regional professional meetings.

Faculty spoke in Russia, Dubai, Canada, Portugal, United Kingdom, and Bahamas and **17** states across the US.



# AWARDS

**Kimberly Allen**

DELTA Faculty Fellow  
*DELTA*

**Jackie Bruce**

*Graduate School/OIED*

**Jackie Bruce**

Honorary State FFA Degree  
*North Carolina FFA Association*

**Travis Park**

Honorary State FFA Degree  
*North Carolina FFA Association*

**Jason Davis**

University of Mount Olive Honorary  
Collegiate FFA Degree  
*University of Mount Olive*

**Koralalage Jayaratne**

Outstanding Graduate  
Instructor Award from the College  
of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
*College of Agriculture  
and Life Sciences  
NC State University*

**Harriett Edwards, Carolyn Bird,  
Beverly Cash, James Johnson**

2016 Excellence in Team Work Award  
(State and Regional)— College-2-Career  
Preparation and Readiness (C<sup>2</sup>PR)  
Campus Experiences for Military Youth  
*NAE4-HA*

**Joy Morgan**

NC State University New Faculty  
Advising Award  
*NC State University*

**Joy Morgan, Travis Park, and  
Wendy Warner**

Volume 41 Outstanding Journal  
Article (Agricultural Education Teacher  
Candidates' Perceptions of the edTPA)  
*Career and Technical Education  
Research Journal*



**Dr. Jim Flowers**

Lifetime Achievement Award  
*North Carolina FFA Association*

## Department Alumni Receive College Awards

The Distinguished Alumni Awards are granted each year to outstanding graduates of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to recognize achievement and an ongoing commitment to giving back to NC State University. These awards were given in a ceremony in November prior to the Ag Day football game and tailgate. We were fortunate to have three of our talented alumni receive these prestigious awards.

### Outstanding Alumni Award

**Dr. John Richardson '64**, Agricultural and Extension Education

### Outstanding Young Alumni Award

**Mr. Jeremy Crisp '15**, Youth, Family, and Community Sciences

**Ms. Ashley Collins '05**, Agricultural and Extension Education

# GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Faculty in the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences have a long history of successful resource development. They receive grants and contracts from a variety of sources including state government, federal government, and private foundations. They serve as Principal Investigators and collaborators for grants outside the department. In addition, our entrepreneurial faculty fund programmatic work through sales and service accounts. Funding from grants and contracts supports teaching, research and extension efforts in the department as well as over 25 professionals.

## AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

TOTAL FOR 2017:

OVER \$7M

TOTAL MULTI-YEAR  
COMMITMENTS:

OVER \$18M

## AS COLLABORATORS

TOTAL FOR 2017:

OVER \$15M

TOTAL MULTI-YEAR  
COMMITMENTS:

OVER \$34M



# ACADEMICS

## Degree Programs in Agricultural and Extension Education

### Undergraduate

The Agricultural and Extension Education undergraduate program offers Bachelor's Degrees in Agricultural Education, Agricultural Science, and Extension Education.

- **Agricultural Education**—prepares students to teach agriculture and be FFA advisors in public and private K–12 schools.
- **Agricultural Sciences**—includes a leadership component and allows students to explore all aspects of the food and fiber industry.
- **Extension Education**—prepares students for positions with Cooperative Extension.

### Graduate

The Agricultural and Extension Education graduate degree program offers the Master of Science (thesis option) and Master of Agricultural and Extension Education (non-thesis option). Both degrees offer students in-depth knowledge of school-based agricultural education or non-formal education that is focused on extension, youth development, rural development, international education, and family and consumer sciences.

A Doctor of Education is offered in Agricultural and Extension Education. This research degree is designed for students who want to pursue careers in higher education or administrative positions in educational settings or government.

## Degree Programs in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences

Two distance graduate programs are offered in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences. Both the Master of Youth, Family, and Community Sciences (non-thesis option) and Master of Science (thesis option) are designed to meet the individual needs of the student. Graduate programs prepare and strengthen current and future professionals who work with youth and/or families in community-based settings. Graduate faculty are subject-matter experts who create applied learning environments to prepare students to seek dynamic careers in youth, family, and community development. The program offers three concentration options; these are also Graduate Certificate options:

- **Family Life Education and Coaching**
- **Leadership and Volunteer Management**
- **Youth Development and Leadership**

The Youth, Family, and Community Sciences graduate program is approved as a Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) program through the National Council on Family Relations and is a Board Certified Coach (BCC) approved program from the Center for Credentialing and Education. As such, students who graduate with this master's degree are eligible to become a Certified Family Life Educator and students that complete specific coaching courses are eligible to become a Board Certified Coach.

## Agricultural and Human Sciences Students in the NEWS



**Amber Emerson**  
'17, received her Master's degree in Youth, Family, and

Community Sciences (M.R.). Amber was awarded the Outstanding YFCS Graduate Student MR award at the December '17 commencement ceremony. Amber was also featured in CALS News as an outstanding December graduate. She continues her work to improve the quality of early childhood programs.



**Christian Gray**  
'17, received his Master's degree in Youth, Family, and Community

Sciences (M.S.). Christian was featured in the CALS Magazine Winter 2017 Issue of What's Next? Christian currently works a professional basketball trainer and is founder of DIVERSE Training.



**Dr. Jamie Alexander**  
'09, received her Master's degree in Family Life and Youth

Development (M.S.). Dr. Alexander was featured in a story on the NCSU Online Distance and Education News Page. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Development at State University of New York-Oswego.



**Shahnee Haire**  
'17, received her graduate certificate in Youth Development and

Leadership. Shahnee was featured in the NCSU Graduate School's Think Magazine 2017 summer issue where she discussed her volunteer efforts for Hurricane Matthew relief. She currently works as a Regional Public Health Educator for Robeson County Department of Public Health. She is also founder of her own mobile youth development organization called Workshops on Wheels (WOW).



**Abby Whitaker**  
'16, earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural science as well as minors

in animal science, agricultural business management and extension education. She is on her way to a master's in agricultural and extension education, focusing her studies on women in agriculture. Abby was featured in CALS News student spotlight in October 2017.



**Jackie Knowles**  
'17 was featured in CALS News AgPack Strong January 2018 story. Jackie

currently works at Southern Lee High School as the agricultural education teacher and FFA chapter advisor.



**Jacob Nester**  
'17 was the Scholastic Awardee at the Department of Agricultural and Human

Sciences commencement ceremony. Jacob was featured in the CALS News as an outstanding December graduate.

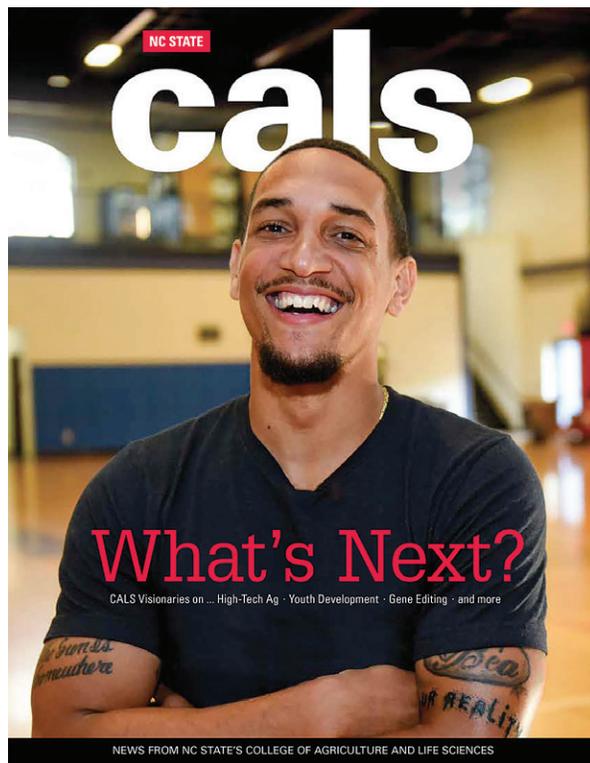
# ACADEMICS

## Undergraduate Enrollment 2017

Semester	Degree	Enrollment
Spring 2017	Agricultural Education	69
	Agricultural Science	113
	Extension Education	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>
Fall 2017	Agricultural Education	68
	Agricultural Science	128
	Extension Education	16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>

## Graduate Enrollment 2017

Semester	Degree	Enrollment
Spring 2017	Doctor of Education in AEE	18
	Master of Science in AEE	7
	Master of AEE	18
	Master of Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	17
	Master of Science in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	7
	Certificate in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>
Fall 2017	Doctor of Education in AEE	17
	Master of Science in AEE	8
	Master of AEE	20
	Master of Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	18
	Master of Science in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	8
	Certificate in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	



## 2017 Graduates

Degree Program	May Graduates	Summer Graduates	Fall Graduates	Total
Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education	11	2	3	16
Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Science	18	4	11	33
Bachelor of Science in Extension Education	2	0	2	4
<b>Total Undergraduate Degrees</b>				<b>53</b>
Doctor of Education in Agricultural and Extension Education	2	1	0	3
Master of Science in Agricultural and Extension Education	1	0	1	2
Master of Agricultural and Extension Education	4	1	4	9
Master of Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	4	1	4	9
Master of Science in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	0	0	1	1
Certificate in Youth, Family, and Community Sciences	7	0	8	15
Certificate in Agricultural and Extension Education	1	1	2	4
<b>Total Graduate Degrees and Certificates</b>				<b>43</b>



## The Preparation and Retention of Lateral Entry and Beginning Teachers in North Carolina

The Developing Educational Leaders and Teachers of Agriculture (DELTA) program meets the DPI-sponsored requirement for provisionally licensed Career and Technical Education teachers and is designed for provisionally licensed/lateral entry licensed Agricultural Education teachers. DELTA also benefits newly certified teachers. The DELTA team, composed of AHS faculty and NC agriculture teachers plans and delivers a New and Beginning Teacher Workshop in July and two professional development conferences throughout the year.

We were pleased to have classroom teachers, many of whom are our graduates involved in this effort: John Hardee, '02; Matt Harris, '99, '01; Kristina Brake, '89; Shannon Vanhoy, '89; and Stephanie Hollifield.

### Teachers Needed in Agricultural Education

Since 2000, over 80% of our graduates have pursued careers in agricultural education, with over 80% still involved in teaching or administration. In 2017, there were 72 agriculture teacher openings in North Carolina, but fewer than two dozen qualified, licensed teacher candidates. Recruitment and retention of quality agriculture teachers is paramount to increasing the presence of instruction, experiential learning, and leadership development in and about agriculture, food, and natural resources in secondary schools throughout North Carolina.

Data from the last three cohorts shows a positive impact of DELTA in the lateral entry rate and retention of Agricultural Education teachers.

#### 2014–15 class

participants = 27  
lateral entry = 100%  
completed 2 years teaching = 92.6%  
completed 3 years teaching = 77.8%  
still teaching = 74.1%

#### 2015–16 class

participants = 26  
lateral entry = 84.6%  
completed 2 years teaching = 92.3%  
completed 3 years teaching = 80.8%  
still teaching = 84.6%  
cumulative (2014–16) still teaching = 79.25%

#### 2016–17 class

participants = 35  
lateral entry = 82.9%  
completed 2 years teaching = 71.4%  
still teaching = 71.4%  
cumulative (2014–17) still teaching = 76.14%

**Faculty:** Travis Park, PhD; Joy Morgan, EdD; Wendy Warner, PhD; Jim Flowers, PhD; Barbara Kirby, PhD; Jason Davis, EdD, Allison Jennings, MS; Andy VonCanon, MS; Gerald Barlowe, MEd



**Victoria Whitley**



**Bradley Glover (far right)**



**John Ross Robertson**



**Caroline Sheffield**



**Olivia Haigler (third from right)**

## Recent Graduates Receive Teaching Honors

The preparation of highly qualified and effective teachers of agriculture is one of the aims of the Agricultural and Human Sciences Department. Our teacher preparation program is nationally recognized as a leader in preparing highly qualified teachers of agriculture. Our teacher candidates make a positive impact on their students by delivering excellent instruction in and about agriculture, food, and natural resources.

**Three of our recent graduates have been honored as outstanding first year teachers at their schools.**

**Victoria Whitley**, '16, '17, Southern Nash High, Victoria was also Finalist for the Nash County First Year Teacher of the Year

**Bradley Glover**, '17, Corinth Holders High School

**John Ross Robertson**, '17, Riverwood Middle School

**Two of our graduates were chosen as Teacher of the Year.**

**Caroline Sheffield**, '12, Trinity High School

**Olivia Haigler**, '12, Watauga High School

## Research Supports Student Success on the edTPA

The edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessment) has emerged over the past few years as an innovative and robust teacher performance assessment. It was created and developed through a partnership between the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning, and Equity (SCALE) and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. The edTPA is currently being used in 770 teacher preparation programs in 40 states and the District of Columbia.

At NC State University, the edTPA was piloted by the first group of agricultural education student teachers in spring of 2014. As of spring 2017, the edTPA is a high stakes teacher assessment in which student teachers must achieve a score of 37 to receive teacher licensure. Due to the high-stakes nature of the performance assessment, ongoing research informs and improves the edTPA process that will be used in future student teaching cohorts.

Research began in 2014 and is ongoing. Results are shared with professionals through one journal article and six conference presentations, and three poster presentations. This work is being well received as evidenced by awards for outstanding journal article, outstanding research presentation, and second place, outstanding poster award.

In agricultural education, the NC State AEE research team is the leader in edTPA research. The work has specifically examined student perception of the process and the relationship between self-efficacy and edTPA preparation. In addition, research has examined the best strategies to develop an implementation process and timeline for successful edTPA completion by teacher candidates. Most teacher preparation programs at NC State now follow this model. This work has opened the door to numerous collaborations across the university and the country.

**IMPACT:** In 2017, agricultural education teacher candidates outscored all other NC State teacher preparation programs on the edTPA. The average score for agricultural education student teachers was 51.49, while the College of Education scores averaged 45.98. All of the 14 candidates (100%) scored above the cut score of 37 with 12 candidates (86%) who scored above 48, which is recognized as mastery level.

**Faculty:** Wendy Warner, PhD, Travis Park, PhD, Jim Flowers, PhD, Joy Morgan, EdD, Barbara Kirby, PhD

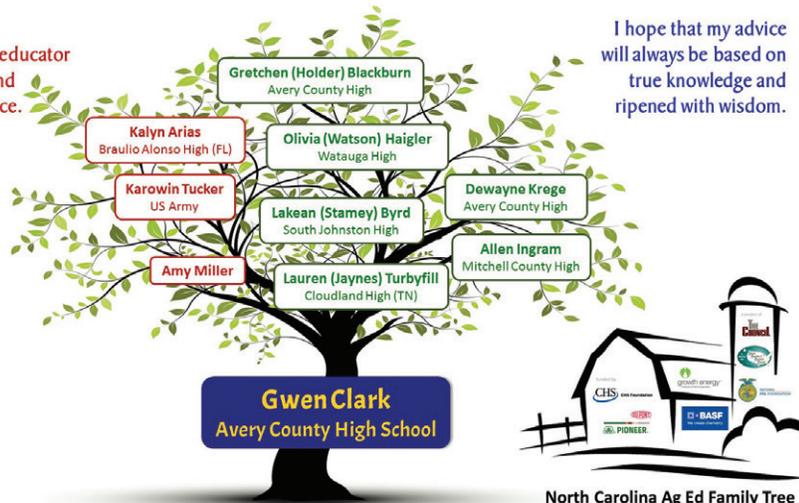
In 2017, agricultural education teacher candidates outscored all other NC State teacher preparation programs on the edTPA.

# Growing the Family Trees of North Carolina Agriculture Teachers

Agriculture teachers inspire the minds, hearts, and careers of their students in profound ways. Many of their students aspire to teach agriculture in their own future careers. This forms a family tree for agricultural education. The goal of the NC Ag Ed Family Trees initiative was to recruit and retain agriculture teachers in NC. Data from teachers were gathered and then personalized family trees for each teacher in NC were designed. Teachers posted these in their classrooms and then challenged their own students to become the next branches on their family trees.

**Faculty and Staff:** Jim Flowers, PhD; Joy Morgan, EdD; Travis Park, PhD; Wendy Warner, PhD; Gerald Barlowe, MEd

I am an agricultural educator by choice and not by chance.



I hope that my advice will always be based on true knowledge and ripened with wisdom.



Starmount High School  
LQ Thomasson, Jerry Cox

Southern Nash High School  
Cuyler Best, Warren Boone,  
Ralph Pegram



North Carolina Ag Ed Family Tree



## Jackie Knowles, '17, Named NC State Outstanding Student Teacher

For the first time ever, an agricultural education teacher candidate was named the NC State Outstanding Student Teacher. Jackie Knowles, a 2017 graduate of the program, earned this distinction en route to also being recognized as one of the top six student teachers from across the 24 teacher preparation institutions in North Carolina. Jackie now teaches high school agriculture at Southern Lee High School.

# NEW PROGRAMS



## Teaching and Research Kitchens to Start Construction in 2018

AHS is the home to many nutrition, food, and food safety programs. We train agents to teach food preparation and food preservation, we conduct research on consumer food safety, we create healthy, delicious recipes to help families eat smart—yet we do not have a kitchen laboratory. That is about to change. Thanks to successful fundraising from our emeritus faculty and supporters, generous support from the College, and departmental support, construction of a 2,500 square foot one-of-a-kind in the nation kitchen complex will begin construction in 2018. Located on the first floor of 512 Brickhaven, the kitchen complex will include a teaching kitchen and three consumer kitchens. State of the art video and projection equipment will support training and research. Benefactors of the kitchen include Dr. Carolyn Lackey, Jan Christensen, and The Academy of Family Physicians.



# NEW Leadership Program in Social Justice— The Oaks Scholars



NC STATE  
UNIVERSITY

## The Oaks Leadership Scholars

The Oaks Leadership Scholars program is a student-centered leadership, justice, and equity initiative for undergraduates and graduate students in the College of Agriculture and Life Science. Scholars spend a year engaging in intensive leadership training that will prepare them to be change agents throughout their lives. Student leadership development is the heart of The Oaks Program. Our Oaks Scholars engage in the following:

### Leadership Community

Oaks Scholars commit themselves to a year of intense leadership development. Scholars actively participate in workshop meetings each month and develop relationships during monthly program mentor meetings.

### Justice & Equity

Oaks Scholars believe that inherently, leadership is meant to move communities forward toward a more just and equitable place. Without leadership, justice and equity don't exist. Oaks Scholars study the institutions and systems in which we live and work.

### Reading & Reflecting

Scholars read extensively throughout the year. Program participants are provided with contemporary scholarship related to positionality, leadership, and equity work. Scholars discuss readings in the larger cohort as well as in smaller reading circles.

### Traveling

Scholars travel at least two times throughout their scholar year. The first excursion is a North Carolina centered experience. Scholars spend the day in Greensboro at the Greensboro Lunch Counter Museum and working with individuals from the surrounding community. Scholars also travel outside of North Carolina. A 2018 trip to Washington, D.C. is planned with meetings scheduled with Rep. John Lewis, an icon of justice and equity work and US Representative from Georgia.

### Doing

Scholars set two goals for their Oaks Year that advance their knowledge, skills, and position. They keep a learning journal to gauge their own development. Finally, scholars complete a year-long project that is presented to campus and community partners at the end of term (May) prior to the May Excursion to demonstrate the impact they're making in our world and their development of identities as allies, advocates, and actors for social change in agricultural communities. Each year, the Oaks Scholars extend 10 invitations to the program. This is a competitive process that includes a written application and in-person interview.

**Faculty:** Jackie Bruce, PhD; Katie McKee, PhD; Wendy Warner, PhD; Joy Morgan, EdD



## Coaching and Technical Assistance Provided Across the US for CYFAR

Quality program implementation and evaluation increase the potential for programs to achieve sustainability. NIFA's Children, Youth, and Families At-Risk (CYFAR) Program funds programs to work with vulnerable youth and families. These programs need support to create and implement quality programs and to evaluate those programs. AHS faculty and staff serve as National Program Coaches for the CYFAR Professional Development and Technical Assistance (PDTA) Center. Coaching, technical assistance, and training opportunities were provided to a total of 14 CYFAR Sustainable Communities. Programs were served in Pennsylvania, Alabama, Minnesota, Nevada, Colorado, Hawaii, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Rhode Island, and Ohio.

**IMPACT:** In 2017, we assisted with the creation of an Evaluation Institute for CYFAR front line staff. This curriculum was developed to allow for greater evaluation consistency and understanding among all CYFAR Programs. The Evaluation Institute, comprised of 5 separate workshops, was completed and implemented at the 2017 CYFAR Professional Development Event and as a bi-weekly webinar series throughout the Fall of 2017. Extension evaluators across the nation were convened to inform the CYFAR Evaluation Institute in the early Spring of 2017. An eight-module workshop was created from multiple sessions with these evaluation experts. Recently, the CYFAR PDTA Center's Coaching Framework was evaluated using a PI survey and a coach self-assessment. Preliminary results suggest that coaches use inclusive and welcoming language, help program staff feel heard and understood, build connections, support leadership development and stability, and assist program staff with creating and implementing quality programs.

**Faculty and Staff:** Kimberly Allen, PhD; Autumn Guin, MS; Diana Urieta, MSW

## B.E. Safe Behavioral and Environmental Safety Program for Early Childhood Educators

The B.E. Safe Behavioral and Environmental Safety Program for Early Childhood Educators, NC Extension creates important resources for children ranging from nurturing positive relationships to creating safe learning environments. This program will be delivered in-person with early childcare professionals, as well as an online training. In addition to providing important information for child care providers, the main goal of B.E. Safe is to address environmental and behavioral federal regulations for early childcare providers while also helping to meet their requirements for CEUs for the NC Division of Child Development and Early Education.

**IMPACT:** The program team conducted a needs assessment survey with early childhood educators to determine the most relevant environmental and behavioral topics for educators (n=260). The environmental portion of the program addresses principles of a healthy child care environment, disaster preparedness, playground safety, asthma control, safety in the classroom, and indoor air quality. The behavioral aspects of the program address mental health, diversity and inclusion, safe technology, bullying prevention, building connections with parents, and serving children with special needs. Piloting of this project will take place in 2018.

**Faculty and Staff:** Kimberly Allen, PhD; Sarah Kirby, PhD; Bria Sledge, MA; Taylor McDonald



## Building the Next Generation of Agricultural Leaders

As agriculture in NC and the world continues to grow and diversify, graduates are needed in existing and emerging careers. The Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL), sponsored by the North Carolina Farm Bureau provides rising high school seniors an opportunity to learn about the degree programs offered in our college. IFAL brings students from across the state to NC State University and exposes them to new and innovative career opportunities. The program also provides leadership and personal development. Students who participate in IFAL often indicate that this program played a major role in their decision to attend NC State University and to major in an agricultural related field. During this week, you will often hear students say “I didn’t know that major existed,” or see the light bulbs turn on when exposed to a research lab.

**IMPACT:** IFAL continues to grow with 2017 having the largest cohort (60) to date. The 2016 IFAL cohort had 48 participants and 29 of those participants are currently attending NC State University. Six of the participants who are at other universities are pursuing a major in agriculture.

**Faculty:** Joy Morgan, EdD; Travis Park, PhD; Jim Flowers, PhD; Wendy Warner, PhD; Jackie Bruce, PhD



IFAL brings students from across the state to NC State University and exposes them to new and innovative career opportunities.

# IMPACTS—EXTENSION AND RESEARCH



## IMPACTS

- 613 students served in 9 different counties across North Carolina (Sampson, Yadkin, Wayne, Catawba, Wake, Forsyth, Pender, Buncombe, Montgomery)
- 89 students participated in the Juntos Summer Academy at NC State
- 226 individuals, including Juntos 4-Hers, parents, college students, and volunteers, participated in the annual Copa Unidos Soccer Tournament at NC State
- 60 families attended Juntos Family Day where they had an opportunity to learn about NC State and tour a college campus for the first time
- 89% of parents in the program attended family nights and/or family activities
- 89% of students in the program improved their grades to prepare for higher education
- 95% of students report that Juntos helped them feel like they belonged in school
- 4 seniors received Juntos scholarships via the North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals

## The Empowering Effect of Juntos

Over the last decade, NC State's Juntos Program has demonstrated that NC State Extension can work with schools and communities to help Latinx students achieve academic success and prepare for higher education. Juntos empowers students and their families to gain the knowledge and resources they need for success via four components:

- Family Engagement
- Juntos 4-H Clubs
- Success Coaching and Mentoring
- Juntos Summer Academy

Juntos is growing nationally and provides technical assistance to other states who are implementing the program. Juntos is now in Alabama, California, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, and Wisconsin.



100% of high school seniors who participated in Juntos graduated from high school on time.

**Faculty and Staff:** Andrew Behnke, PhD, CFLE; Cintia Aguilar, MS; Diana Urieta, MSW; Juana Hernandez, Nancy Marks



## Cooking Local Foods Made Simple

Cooking Local Foods Made Simple (CLFMS) is an intensive, three-part, 60-hour hands-on training series designed specifically for Family and Consumer Science Extension Agents to improve confidence and develop food preparation skills for nutrition and local foods programs. By increasing the capacity of FCS Agents to effectively teach healthy cooking skills, CLFMS allows them to better promote healthy eating and the adoption of healthy food behaviors within their communities. The CLFMS pilot series (2014–2015) trained 11 FCS Agents across North Carolina. A second cohort of 12 FCS Agents began training in April 2017 and are scheduled to graduate in March 2018. Subsequent training series are expected to take place every other year.

**IMPACT:** Evaluation of CLFMS is ongoing. Preliminary results show increased confidence in knife skills, food preparation skills, and local food programming skills.

**Faculty and Staff:** Zandra Alford, MPH; Dara Bloom, PhD; Susan Chase, MEd, LDN; Carolyn Dunn, PhD, RDN, LDN; Emily Foley, MS; Jennifer Grable, MAEE; Lindsey Haynes-Maslow, PhD, MHA; Gretchen Hofing, MPH, RDN; Lorelei Jones, MEd; Olivia Jones; Katrina Levine, MPH, RDN, LDN; Jayne McBurney, MS; Hayley Napier, MS

## Project Youth Extension Service (YES)



Family separation is not a new phenomenon for military members or their families. Everyone feels the impact of deployment, but children and youth can be especially vulnerable. This issue has received the highest levels of attention as evidenced in the recent Presidential Study Directive 9 and subsequent report, "Strengthening the Military Family; An Interagency Review." Studies previously conducted

by the Department of the Navy were re-confirmed in the 2010 Military Family Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) findings—the continued need for enhanced and improved education and development opportunities for military children. With multiple deployments and unprecedented, repeated mobilization of the National Guard and Reserve, the challenges are especially great for families who are geographically dispersed or separated from military installations.

### What Is Project YES?

Project YES is a federally funded grant program created in direct response to the growing needs of Reserve Component military youth impacted by military deployments. Project YES engages college students from across the nation to facilitate leadership development, resilience/life skills, and STEM focused programs with a focus on providing new skills to aid military youth in working through deployment related challenges. Project YES interns commit to a 1-year program whereby they work with military youth a minimum of 1 weekend per month. In addition, Project YES interns work with an individually assigned mentor to complete a career-enhancing project tailored towards their specific career goals. This work is accomplished through a strong partnership with the General H. Hugh Shelton Leadership Center.

**NATIONAL IMPACT:** Project YES interns work with military youth throughout the 50 United States and all US territories. In 2017, 44 interns supported 90 events ranging from 1 to 3 days and served 4,472 youth. The events were widely distributed throughout 33 states as well as the US Virgin Islands. Since the program's inception, Project YES has proudly supported 672 events serving 21,524 youth in 49 states, 4 US territories, and Germany. This was possible through the service of 120 interns representing 36 states and 69 universities/colleges.



**Faculty and Staff:** Harriett Edwards, EdD; JC Johnson, EdD; Beverley Cash; Kavitha Ram



## Health Matters

Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Matters is a project focused on increasing access to healthy food and physical activity in four counties in North Carolina: Edgecombe, Halifax, Lee, and Northampton, areas with significant health disparities. Health Matters builds partnerships with health-focused coalitions and other local organizations to increase their capacity for impact. The grant is a partnership between the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, Department of Sociology, and Extension at NC State.

**IMPACTS:** In 2017, Health Matters Associates (HMAs), based in each of the four county Extension offices worked with county-based coalitions and over 110 community partners to support over 60 projects to increase access to healthy eating and physical activity. Some highlights include:

- Park Baptist Community Garden in Halifax County, provided 354 families and 30 homebound older adults with fresh produce over the 8 week harvest
- GAP certification of Conetoe Family Life Center's community farm, which allows the farm to provide locally grown produce for hospitals and schools in Edgecombe County
- Bike use promotion through a bike rack installation in Lee County
- Park enhancements in Northampton including a walking trail, benches, and playground equipment around the local library

Health Matters Associates have supplemented project resources with financial, physical capital, staff and volunteer time contributions from various partners, currently totaling over \$100,000.



# HEALTH MATTERS



**Faculty and Staff:** Annie Hardison-Moody, PhD, MTS; Lindsey Haynes-Maslow, PhD, MHA, MTS; Dara Bloom, PhD; Michael Schulman, PhD; Jill Kuhlberg, PhD, MSW; Kim Eshleman; Lorelei Jones, MEd; Cintia Aguilar, Jason Bocarro, PhD; Mike Edwards, PhD; Michael Kanters, PhD, Aaron Hipp, PhD, Beth Mazak; Sarah Bowen, PhD

## Filling the Buckets for New North Carolina Agriculture Teachers

Everyone needs “their bucket filled,” especially when starting a new career. In summer 2017, current agriculture teachers welcomed the new crop of NC agriculture teachers into the profession by filling and giving them a bucket full of resources needed by new teachers. The goal of the buckets initiative was to recruit and retain agriculture teachers in NC.

**Faculty and Staff:** Jim Flowers, PhD; Barbara Kirby, PhD; Joy Morgan, EdD; Travis Park, PhD; Wendy Warner, PhD; Gerald Barlowe, MED



## Med Instead of Meds

Adoption of a healthy Mediterranean-style eating pattern (a.k.a. the Med Way of eating) can help reduce the risk of many chronic diseases. MedInsteadofMeds.com provides online resources and recipes to help people eat the Med Way every day. To expand the web resource, a Med Instead of Meds curriculum was developed for use in community programming across the state. The *Med Instead of Meds* class series provides an in-person opportunity for North Carolinians to learn how to Go Med and includes food tastings, demonstrations, and hands-on cooking.

**IMPACT:** MedInsteadofMeds.com reached over 13,000 people in 2017. In December 2017, the six-session *Med Instead of Meds* nutrition education class series was launched. Trainings offered in 2017 were attended by 55 FCS Agents representing 70 NC counties. This hands-on training prepared agents to deliver the *Med Instead of Meds* class series in their communities. Evaluation of the impact of the in-person class series is ongoing.

**Faculty and Staff:** Zandra Alford, MPH; Carolyn Dunn, PhD, RDN, LDN

What sets the Med Way apart from other dietary patterns?



## Faithful Families

Faithful Families Eating Smart and Moving More (Faithful Families) is a practice-tested health promotion intervention developed by the North Carolina Division of Public Health and NC State Extension. Faithful Families promotes healthy eating and physical activity in communities of faith through a nine-lesson curriculum. Additionally, Faithful Families facilitators work with each faith community to help them adopt environmental supports for healthy eating and physical activity. Faithful Families

has been certified as a practice-tested intervention and is being implemented by state and local public health and extension organizations in twenty states across the U.S.



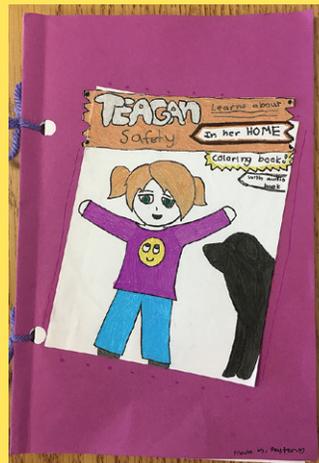
**IMPACT:** Twenty-six faith communities have participated in the Faithful Families program through this partnership, representing over 3,100 individuals impacted. These faith communities have adopted policies, practices, and environmental supports to promote healthy eating and physical activity. These include changes such as establishing policies to serve water at all events, creating a farmers' market on-site at the community of faith, establishing guidelines that all meals offered at the faith community be healthy, establishing physical activity breaks for all meetings, opening up spaces for physical activity on faith community grounds for community usage ("shared use"), and establishing community gardens.

**Faculty and Staff:** Annie Hardison-Moody, PhD, MTS; Lorelei Jones, MEd; Carolyn Dunn, PhD, RDN, LDN; Kim Eshleman

## Healthy Homes Middle School Curriculum

The Healthy Homes Middle School curriculum is a new curriculum for 8th grade students. The curriculum addresses basic principles of healthy homes, water, asthma, radon, and lead. It is designed to be taught as part of a middle school science curriculum and includes lesson plans that correspond with Common Core Science Literacy Standards as well as North Carolina Essential Standards. This curriculum has been adopted by the Department of Housing and Urban Developments for use across the nation. Currently, this curriculum is being piloted in a North Carolina middle school with over 100 students.

**IMPACT:** Student assessments reveal that youth are learning to transform scientific phenomena into practical application in maintaining a healthy home. While evaluation is ongoing, in the most recent healthy homes assessment, students experienced an average 25-point increase in their healthy homes knowledge, moving from an average score of 66 to 91. An example of what youth learn and apply, the first module on healthy homes principles has students create a children's book that illustrates and explains the 8 parts of a healthy home and posters explaining important health homes concepts.



**Healthy Homes  
Partnership**

**Faculty:** Sarah Kirby, PhD;  
Kimberly Allen, PhD

## Safe Plates Food Safety Information Center

As North Carolinians' concerns for food safety increase, there is a need to explore non-traditional channels of food safety education in order to provide timely evidence-based information. Every day there's either a new breakthrough in the research, better epidemiology or concern online about the safety of our food system. The Safe Plates Food Safety Information Center is a growing repository of food safety information to receive and share the most up-to-date knowledge as well as a full public launch in 2018 that will use social media, phone, and text messages as vehicles to engage with consumers.

**IMPACT:** Phase 1 of the pilot program began in September 2017 and continued through the end of November. This phase serves as a soft launch for NC State Extension searchable Food Safety FAQ Database website and closed FCS Agent Facebook page.

**Faculty and Staff:** Ben Chapman, PhD; Candice Christian, MPH; Rachel McDowell, MS; Debbie Stroud, MEd



## Safe Plates Certified Food Protection Manager Training Program



There are an estimated 48 million cases for foodborne illness in the United States every year. Many of these preventable illnesses are attributed to violations in handling in retail establishments. The North Carolina Food Code requires certification of a person-in-charge. The Safe Plates Certified Protection Manager Training Program provides relevant retail food safety training and certification opportunities. Based on analysis of exam scores

and FCS agent feedback, the curriculum was revised in 2017. FCS and 4-H agents received training on the revised curriculum.

**IMPACT:** The Safe Plates Certified Food Protection Manager training program was awarded to 631 people in 2017. Revised content has yielded an increase in pass rate from 82% to 86% as well as an increase in participants who achieve topic mastery level from 41% to 54%. Safe Plates was also implemented into Foods and Nutrition 1, a Career and Technical Education course, thus reaching approximately 31,000 students in North Carolina public high schools in 2017–18.

**Faculty and Staff:** Ben Chapman, PhD; Natalie Seymour, MS





## More In My Basket

In North Carolina, 16% of the population experiences food insecurity. More In My Basket (MIMB), NC State's SNAP Outreach program, provides education about eligibility guidelines for SNAP and how to maximize food resources. The program works to address barriers to applying for SNAP benefits and provides application completion assistance.

**IMPACT:** In FY 2017, MIMB reached a total of 73,586 likely eligible individuals across all outreach methods. MIMB assisted 167 household members who were eligible for a total of \$22,009 per month in SNAP benefits, which totals \$264,108 per year in food benefits.

USDA's economic multiplier shows these expenditures in communities have a potential economic impact in North Carolina of \$475,393 per year.

**Faculty and Staff:** Carolyn Bird, PhD; Jeanette Maatouk, MA; Sue Ellen Colon



## Extension Master Food Volunteer Program Pilot Year



The Extension Master Food Volunteer (EMFV) program is a new program that gives FCS agents the tools to train and supervise volunteers in the areas of cooking, nutrition, food safety, and local foods. EMFV volunteers work closely with their supervising agent to

support FCS programming by helping to deliver community-based programming, including: Steps to Health and Faithful Families classes, food preservation workshops, lunch n' learn workshops, cooking demonstrations at community locations, kids cooking camps, community health fairs, county fairs, etc.

**IMPACT:** The EMFV program was piloted in 2016–2017 with seven agents, who have trained 31 volunteers for a total of 930 training hours, 1,149 volunteer hours, and 5,140 contacts reached. The program will be rolled out statewide in 2018 with 20 FCS agents.

### Faculty and Staff:

Dara Bloom, PhD;  
Zandra Alford, MPH;  
Geri Bushel, Ben Chapman, PhD; Kristin Davis; Carolyn Dunn, PhD, RDN, LDN; Harriett Edwards, PhD; Annie Hardison-Moody, PhD, MTS; Joanna Lelekacs, MS, MLA, Katrina Levine, MPH, RDN, LDN; Robin Stout, Tes Thraves, Gretchen Hofing, MPH, RDN, Jennifer Grable, Sue Estridge, Tracy Davis, Michelle Estrada, Morgan McKnight, Olivia Jones



Grow. Cook. Eat.

## Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less

Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less is an evidence-based, 15-week, online weight management program for adults delivered in real-time by Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs). It uses the theory of planned behavior to empower participants to eat smart and move more. Mindful eating is used as a strategy to help participants become more aware of their eating and movement.

**IMPACT:** The program has been successfully offered to more than 18,000 participants. Participants that complete the program lose an average of 7.5 pounds and maintain their weight loss six months after the program ends. Additionally, program completers are more mindful about healthy eating and physical activity, improve their blood pressure, and reduce waist circumference as a result of the program. Using weight and blood pressure outcome data, it is estimated that for every \$1 spent on Eat Smart Move More Weigh Less, approximately \$2.16 can be saved in medical care and lost productivity costs.

**Faculty and Staff:** Carolyn Dunn, PhD, RDN, LDN; Surabhi Aggarwal, MHSc, MPH, RDN, LDN; Kelly Nordby, MPH, RDN, LDN; Sarah Myer, MPH, CHES; Madison Johnson



## Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less Participant Testimonial:

“Hooray! I did it! I did it! I lost 20 pounds! I can’t believe it! Drinking water, walking and being mindful of what I’m putting into my body...wow! I can really feel and see my body change and did I mention how great I feel and my sugar has dropped from a steady 254-312 down to a steady 104-129? Oh my God! I could cry. I’m so happy!!! Thank you so much to my instructor and to this program for helping me to finally do something about my life! This is not just about weight, it’s really about changing your lifestyle! One thing I’ve realized is that motivation is the key and I’m the only one that can change my life. I don’t need a diet or miracle pill to lose weight. Just a little motivation and better food choices. I want to thank you for providing such a wonderful program to help people start a “forever” lifestyle change. I have learned so much and I’m so excited to see what my future holds.”

## Eat Smart, Move More, Prevent Diabetes

Eat Smart, Move More, Prevent Diabetes uses evidence-based strategies for diabetes prevention in adults. The program is approved and recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a lifestyle change program through the National Diabetes Prevention Program. The program is 12 months in duration and is delivered online in real-time by Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) who are also trained lifestyle coaches.



**IMPACT:** The program has been successfully offered to more than 400 participants in 2017. According to the CDC, participation in a lifestyle change program with the goal of 5–7% weight loss and 150 minutes per week of physical activity can lower one’s risk for developing type 2 diabetes by up to 58%.

### Eat Smart, Move More, Prevent Diabetes Participant Testimonial:

“I just finished the October year-long Eat Smart, Move More, Prevent Diabetes class and for me it was a success! I started with an A1C level of 6.0 and have gotten it down to a 5.4. I no longer have prediabetes! Over the course of the year I lost some weight, gained some back and then lost it again. I have increased my exercise and started eating healthier, but most importantly, I have learned a lot! My instructor was excellent and very supportive. It was helpful to have someone who was encouraging me along the way. Thanks for having this class!”



**Faculty and Staff:** Carolyn Dunn, PhD, RDN, LDN; Surabhi Aggarwal, MHSc, MPH, RDN, LDN; Kelly Nordby, MPH, RDN, LDN; Sarah Myer, MPH, CHES; Madison Johnson

## STEPS TO HEALTH—Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)



### What Is Steps to Health?

North Carolina State University's SNAP-Ed Program is **Steps to Health**. Steps to Health educates and inspires limited resource North Carolinians to eat smart and move more through nutrition and food resource management education programs targeting elementary-aged children, adults, older adults, families, and Latino families.

**Steps to Health** is delivered by county-based educators across North Carolina. Steps to Health educators are:

- **Members** of the community they support
- **Trained** by university faculty to influence changes in behavior and impact the lives of those they teach
- **Skilled** in using hands-on, interactive teaching methods
- **Committed** to delivering research-based instruction
- **Dedicated** to reaching diverse, low-income populations

### What Is SNAP-Ed?

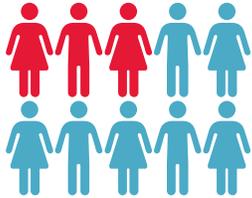
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) is the nutrition education arm of SNAP. Funded through the US Department of Agriculture and delivered nation-wide, it brings together federal, state, and local resources to improve the likelihood that families enrolled in and eligible for SNAP will make healthy food choices within a limited budget and choose physically active lifestyles.

### Defining the Problem

Obesity and related chronic diseases are prevalent among North Carolinians. With **2/3** of adults overweight or obese, North Carolina ranks **13th** in the nation for obesity, and **9th** and **17th** highest for adult diabetes and hypertension, respectively. Poor eating practices and physical inactivity are not limited to adults. Children are following closely in their footsteps, with only **1 in 4** eating recommended amounts of fruits and vegetables and almost half spending more than two hours watching television every day.

**The prevalence of food insecurity in North Carolina is higher than the national average.**

**1/4**   
**children in NC live in households that lack access to adequate food.**

**3/10**   
**kids in NC rely on SNAP to meet their nutritional needs.**



Every **\$1** spent on nutrition education saves as much as **\$10** in long-term health care costs.

## Cultivating Solutions

Beginning in 2007, Steps to Health has improved diets, nutrition-related behaviors, and physical activity levels of thousands of North Carolinians. During this time, Steps to Health educators, in collaboration with NC Cooperative Extension, made **447,651** education contacts, reaching **59,517** participants within **94** of North Carolina's 100 counties.

Direct education programs are multi-session to provide repetition and aid in the retention of information presented. Sessions are interactive and multi-sensory to better facilitate learning. Session components include: taste tests, cooking demonstrations, games, discussion, physical activity, songs, and goal setting. Participants receive take-home materials to promote behavior change outside of the classroom.

Steps to Health enhances direct education by providing support for policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) change at Head Start and child care centers, elementary schools, congregate nutrition sites, senior centers, and faith communities. All sectors of society, including individuals and families, educators and health professionals, communities, organizations, businesses, and policymakers, contribute to the food and physical activity environment in which people live, learn, work, and play. Direct education combined with PSE changes are more effective than either strategy alone for preventing overweight and obesity.

## Highlighted FY17 Impacts

- **72% of elementary school children** eat more fruits and vegetables.
- **77% of children and youth** are more active.
- **49% of adults and older adults** are more active.
- **100% of Summer Meals site managers** said Steps to Health increased participation and retention at their site.
- **93% of food pantries and small retail stores** made at least one change in their policies, systems, or environment.
- **5,283,768 media impressions** were made by the Steps to Health social marketing campaign.

## Build It and They Will Walk

The SNAP-Ed *Steps to Health* team received an Investment in Faculty Award from the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences to renovate a walking trail at the East Rockingham Senior Center in Richmond County where *Steps to Health* programming is offered. Trail renovations included paving the walking trail, creating signage promoting physical activity, building a trail head sign, installing water fountains, and new benches. The team was excited to be a part of a project that would benefit the community for the seniors and for future generations. *Steps to Health* was also able to invest in Richmond County's small business community by hiring predominately local vendors to renovate the trail.



**Faculty and Staff:** Lindsey Haynes-Maslow, PhD, MHA; Gretchen Hofing, MPH, RDN

## EFNEP—Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program



**EFNEP**  
EXPANDED FOOD AND NUTRITION  
EDUCATION PROGRAM

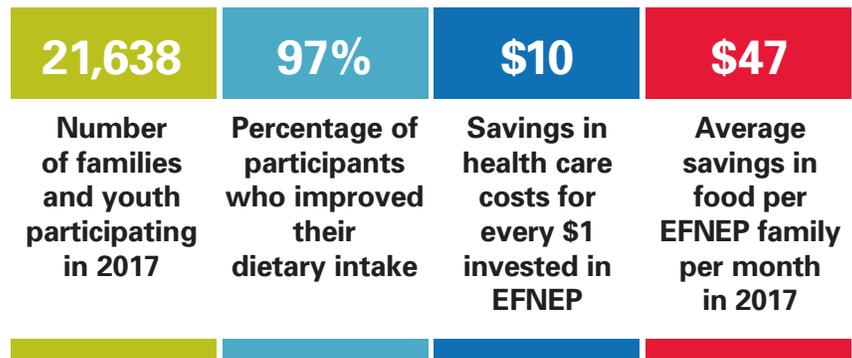
The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) has been identified as the MOST successful nutrition education program in increasing fruit and vegetable consumption among low-income families and youth. Through a series of lessons, participants make positive changes to improve their health and food security.

### WHAT IS EFNEP?

EFNEP serves limited-resource families with young children, school-age youth, and pregnant teens through a series of lessons offered by paraprofessionals and volunteers, many of whom are indigenous to the population. In 2017, EFNEP served 45 counties in North Carolina. Participants learned how to:

- Make wise food choices
- Increase daily physical activity
- Manage food resources
- Practice food safety

### EFNEP Works!



By adopting healthy behaviors, families and youth participating in EFNEP reduce their risk for nutrition-related chronic diseases. Participation in EFNEP results in families experiencing improvements in these core areas:

- diet quality
- physical activity
- food resource management
- food safety
- food security

In 2017, 3,907 parents and 17,731 youth participated in EFNEP. Graduates of the program learned new skills to help them make changes to improve their overall health.

- 97% of program graduates improved their dietary intake
- 58% increased their daily physical activity
- 93% adopted practices that helped them better manage their food resources including an average savings of \$47 per participant per month in food costs
- 77% improved their home food safety practices

# North Carolina FFA

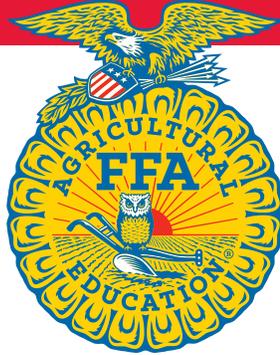
## NC FFA Center Renovations

The NC FFA Association began a renovation project at the NC FFA Center in October 2017 to the girl's dormitory. The renovation project includes gutting the interior of the four dorms, complete rewiring, new roofs and exterior finish, and complete renovation to the bath house to include the addition of heating and air conditioning.

### IMPACT

- Upgrade of lodging and bath house facilities
- Increased security for students
- Improved appearance of facilities
- Extend the camping season with the addition of bath house heating
- Increase the profitability of the NC FFA Center

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Jason Davis, EdD; Megan Blanke; Denning Varnell



## NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Agricultural Education Program Improvement Grant

The NC FFA Foundation was awarded a North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Commission grant for \$181,692 to be used for Agricultural Education Program Improvement grants to purchase equipment, build or renovate school laboratories and facilities, or purchase supplies. Grant applications were offered to agricultural education programs for up to \$5,000. Forty agricultural education programs submitted applications for the grants. Grants will be announced and awarded in 2018 and are coordinated by the Agricultural Education/FFA staff.

### IMPACT

- 35 Agricultural Education programs across the state will receive funding to make improvements
- Over 9,500 students will be provided new opportunities and over 4,500 students will receive increased education training
- Students will be given new opportunities as a result of these grants

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Alycia Thornton





## Participation in NC FFA Association Activities and Events

During 2017, the Agricultural Education/FFA staff conducted a variety of programs and events for NC Agricultural Education students and FFA members. Events and activities include: 43 career development events, leadership training and workshops, FFA degree program, 47 proficiency awards, regional events, State and National FFA Convention, State FFA Officer program and FFA Camping program. These activities provide hands on training for students in middle and high school.

### IMPACT

- Students across NC received educational experiences that enhance lives and provide career guidance
- 2,800 students participated in FFA Career Development Events
- 270 students submitted FFA Proficiency Awards at the state level
- 2,100 middle and high school students attended the State FFA Convention
- 1,320 middle and high school students attended programs at the NC FFA Center
- Over 1,800 students participated in leadership development programs

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Jason Davis, EdD; Andy VonCanon, MS; Allison Jennings, MS; Megan Blanke; Denning Varnell, Alycia Thornton

## Agricultural Education Program Growth

The 2017–18 school year has been a year of growth in Agricultural Education with the addition of 22 new agricultural education programs across the state with a total of 418 NC agricultural education/FFA programs. This growth is the result of efforts made by the agricultural education/FFA staff over the past several years to nurture and expand programs within school systems. Additionally, the staff has provided assistance to the school systems to locate and recruit new agricultural education teachers and to provide them assistance in these new programs.

### IMPACT

- Students (n=2,200) exposed to agricultural education and FFA
- Middle and high school students increased awareness about opportunities for careers in the agriculture industry
- New agricultural education teachers received critical training to allow for program growth

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Jason Davis, EdD; Andy VonCanon, MS; Allison Jennings, MS



This growth is the result of efforts made by the agricultural education/FFA staff to nurture and expand programs within school systems.

## TEACH AG STAR Grant



The North Carolina Agricultural Education/FFA program received a TEACH AG STAR Grant for \$8000. Funds from this grant were used statewide to promote the profession of an Agricultural Education Teacher through activities such as a TEACH AG workshop at the State

FFA Convention, signing day for graduates entering agricultural education, National TEACH AG DAY activities, and other smaller activities.

### IMPACT

- Promotion of the state's agricultural education teacher preparation programs
- Increased interest in teaching agricultural education
- Increased enrollment in agricultural education teacher preparation programs

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Jason Davis, EdD; Andy VonCanon, MS; Allison Jennings, MS; Travis Park, PhD; Joy Morgan, EdD; Wendy Warner, PhD; Jim Flowers, PhD; Barbara Kirby, EdD

## Agricultural Education Curriculum Updates and New Offerings

The agricultural education/FFA staff has been coordinating the development of new high school curriculum for North Carolina. New or revised courses in Sustainable Agricultural Production I and Agricultural Mechanics I were developed and released for the 2017–18 school year. These courses were developed following guidelines of the NC Department of Public Instruction.

### IMPACT

- 500 students in North Carolina will be enrolled in the new Sustainable Agricultural Production I course this year
- 5,000 students will be enrolled in the revised Agricultural Mechanics I course this year

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Andy VonCanon, MS; Allison Jennings, MS

## Agricultural Experience Tracker System

Work-based learning or Supervised Agricultural Experience is a requirement for all agricultural education students at the middle and high school level. To assist students and teachers in their recordkeeping of experiences in their Supervised Agricultural Experiences, our department provides them with a subscription to an online recordkeeping system called the Agricultural Experience Tracker (AET). Additionally, the staff provides training and resources to assist teachers in the administration of the system. This system allows the agricultural education staff to gather data on the impact of student's work-based learning experiences.

### IMPACT

- AET reports from 2017 indicate that a typical agricultural education program has students earning \$16,961 in combined income from their SAE programs with a statewide estimate of nearly \$4.75 million in total value
- Students invested \$15,256 per program or a state estimate of \$4.27 million in spending for SAE program expenses

**Economic impact for North Carolina, as a result of student's SAE programs, is over \$12.3 million in economic value which creates jobs, supports business and builds communities.**

**Faculty and Staff:** Gerald Barlowe, MEd; Jason Davis, EdD; Andy VonCanon, MS; Allison Jennings, MS; Megan Blanke

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