



# 2016 Impact Report

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

SERVING MADISON, MONROE & ST. CLAIR COUNTIES





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Phone: (618) 939-3434

**Branch Office (Madison County)**

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Phone: (618) 344-4230

**EFNEP Training Center**

1269 North 89th Street  
Suite 3  
East St. Louis, IL 62203  
Phone: (618) 397-4973

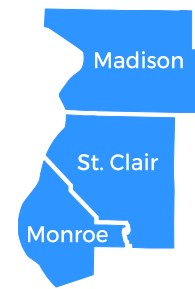
**East St. Louis Library Office**

5300 State St.  
East St. Louis, IL 62203  
Phone: (618) 397-0991

**Scott Air Force Base Youth Center**

4691 Patriots Drive  
Scott Air Force Base, IL 62225  
Phone: (618) 256-4991

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## A Note from Pamela Jacobs

The Madison–Monroe–St. Clair Unit supports an estimated diverse population of 564,140 which includes a large metropolitan area. The educational opportunities for University of Illinois Extension staff are vast and complex. The addition of volunteer outreach and program partners are essential to effectively offering high quality programming. Following is some data which staff uses to identify program opportunities.

- There is an increasing need for maintaining green space. Master Naturalists work on environmental Stewardship projects
- The specialty crop industry is a significant component of the community and overall economy. 70% of the Illinois horseradish production making up 39% of the US horseradish production is in Madison County. St. Clair County is home to the largest “You Pick” orchard in the United States.
- 133,000 youth ages 5–19 residing in the 3 county area would benefit from 4-H positive development projects.
- All three counties support local food pantries. The Master Gardener project gardens annually donate thousands of pounds of produce to the local food pantries.
- 112 of the 193 schools in Madison and St. Clair counties are eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program–Education (SNAP–ED). Approximately 10,000 students engage in nutrition education sessions each year.
- The Expanded Food Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) enrolls approximately 800 eligible families in nutrition education classes, teach nutrition education in 91 eligible schools, daycare centers, community centers, food pantries and Heard Start Centers and involve 800 eligible youth in summer cooking camps.

Pamela Jacobs

County Extension Director  
jacobs@illinois.edu

# Council Members

Officers	County	City
Mr. Wilbon Anthony	St. Clair	East St. Louis, IL 62203
Ms. Stephanie Bechard	St. Clair	Freeburg, IL 62243
Ms. Alicia Bohn	St. Clair	Summerfield, IL 62289
Ms. Nancy Henss	St. Clair	Trenton, IL 62293
Ms. Elizabeth Patton-Whiteside	St. Clair	East St. Louis, IL 62207
Mr. Jerry Hearn	St. Clair	Collinsville, IL 62234
Ms. Sherry Chase	Madison	Marine, IL 62061
Ms. Liz Dalton	Madison	Collinsville, IL 62234
Ms. Dawn Reinhardt	Madison	Alhambra, IL 622001
Mr. Justin Suhre	Madison	Edwardsville, IL 62025
Ms. Nichole Rinderer	Madison	Highland, IL 62249
Mr. Justin Knobloch	Monroe	Columbia, IL 62236
Mr. Kevin Koenigstein	Monroe	Columbia, IL 62236
Mr. Tim McDermott	Monroe	Waterloo, IL 62298
Mr. Daniel Rahe	Monroe	Waterloo, IL 62298
Ms. Victoria Vogt	Monroe	Columbia, IL 62236

The Unit Extension Council members serve as liaisons between the public in the local area and the local Extension staff by understanding and communicating local issues to advocate for Extension programming and partnerships. The Council also provides input into budget planning and discussion on other potential resources.



# Financial Support

## Madison, Monroe, St. Clair Unit Local Funders

- Madison County Board
- Madison County Extension Education Foundation
- Madison County Farm Bureau
- Madison County Association for Home and Community Education
- Monroe County Board of Commissioners
- Monroe County Extension & 4-H Education Foundation
- Monroe County 4-H Federation
- Monroe County Association for Home and Community Education
- St. Clair County Board
- St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation
- Horseradish Growers of Illinois



56.55%	Federal Funds*
23.41%	Local Funds
9.40%	Reserved Funds**
8.24%	State Funds
2.40%	Grant Funds

\*Federal Funding is provided for SNAP-Ed & EFNEP staff salaries, program supplies, and office space

\*\*Reserved Funds utilized due to absence of \$243,000 in state funding

Thank you to thousands of program partners who help with the success of educational outreach!

## Reaching Out

### Website



279,868

Page views  
in 2016

### Facebook



1,134

Likes on  
Facebook

### Newsletters



Monthly

4-H & Master  
Gardener/Master

### Videos



15,969

Horticulture  
YouTube Channel  
views

### Broadcast



Monthly

"Let's Talk Plants"  
WBCZ 94.3 Alton, IL

## Impact Report

The content of this report is a highlight of the impact of educational programming in the following initiatives:

- Growing and Accessing Adequate Food to Prevent Hunger
- Protecting and Appreciating Our Environment
- Positive Youth Development

## Online



[web.extension.illinois.edu/mms](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/mms)



University of Illinois Extension  
Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Unit

# Education Outreach



Exciting Experiments!



Hands-On Learning!



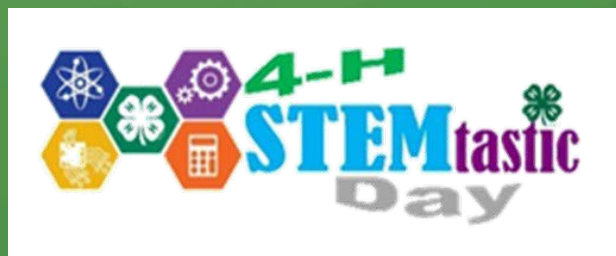


Madison County 4-H Program

## STEMtastic Excitement

178 youth participated in a new program the Youth Development Educator created called STEMtastic Day. This event was developed to enhance STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) skills. As STEM careers continue to increase in Illinois, 4-H is being proactive to implement programming to build confident youth in STEM areas. Youth participated in four hands-on STEM activities including: Can Can Robots, Eco-Bots, GPS, and Rockets, which allowed them to utilize many skills sets including team work, critical thinking, and designing prototypes. Due to the success of the program, teachers are requesting STEMtastic Day to continue.

- 88% stated they would like to do more STEM activities likes this in the future
- 87% stated these activities gave them a chance to think like an engineer
- 87% stated these activities allowed them to think about how science can help solve world problems
- 93% of youth expressed excitement in STEM Programming



## Youth School Garden

Alhambra Primary School is committed to helping their community. This program has continued for the second year with plans to build more raised beds next spring. During the spring, 18 youth participated in a Garden Camp to begin planning and planting their community school garden. Throughout the spring and summer, youth and their families have tended the garden committing over 120 service hours to the garden. In addition, the youth have harvested over 75 pounds of produce, which is given to the Heitz Home in Alhambra and shared with community members.

**ILLINOIS 4-H**  
**FEEDING @ GROWING**  
 OUR COMMUNITIES

## 1,086 Youth Served through the following programs:

- Community Clubs
- SPIN Clubs
- Cloverbuds
- Summer Programming
- National Youth Science Day Program
- STEMtastic Day Program
- Leadership Academy
- Workshops

# Monroe County



**1,928 Youth Served through the following programs:**

- ✿ Community Clubs
- ✿ SPIN Clubs
- ✿ Cloverbud Club & Camp
- ✿ Youth Cooking School
- ✿ Conservation Day
- ✿ Health & Safety Day
- ✿ Agriscience Roadshow
- ✿ Science Adventure Camp
- ✿ In-School Programs

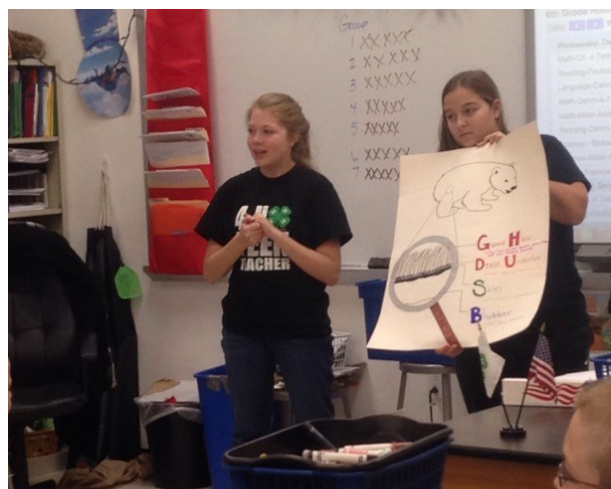
## Science Technology Engineering Math Programming

Approximately 25 youth from a local homeschool group participated in Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) activities throughout their school year. The youth were provided with the opportunity to attend one-hour 4-H STEM lessons including National Youth Science Day experiments such as *Motion Commotion*, *Rockets to the Rescue* and *EcoBots*. The 4-H science programs were so popular with the students, that STEM educational opportunities will continue.

“I love working with children and my dream is to turn this passion into a career. 4-H Teens as Teachers has allowed me to gain experience and how to work with kids individually.” –Kasey, 4-H Teens as Teacher

## Waterloo Junior High 4-H Science Club

Forty-five students in grades 6-8 participated in the 4-H Science Club at the Waterloo Junior High School. Due to the increase in youth that were interested in participating, the club split into two groups. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade group were taught science-based lessons by 4-H Teens as Teachers. The teens taught hands-on activities related to animal science, food science, Newton’s Laws of Motion and soil science. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade group were taught lessons by community volunteers in areas such as water quality, genetics, engineering and art science. All of the club members came together at the end of the school year for a collaborative outdoor Science Field Day. When asked why students want to join the 4-H Science Club, the overwhelming response is that they enjoy doing the hands-on activities and the lessons make science more fun to them.



## Welcome to the Real World

249 youth at Waterloo Junior High, Valmeyer Junior High, and a home school group participated in the Welcome to the Real World Program. The program is designed to educate youth on careers, learn about money management, and make lifestyle and spending choices similar to those adults face. During this real world simulation, youth picked a career and were given a salary. They learned how to write checks, balance a checkbook, open a savings/ checking account, and balance income and expenses. They also explored career opportunities prior to the simulation. Bankers, insurance agents, car salesmen, realtors, and community members helped and educated youth about these different topics.



St. Clair County 4-H Program

## STEM Programs at Fairmont City Library

Extension Staff have been partnering with the Fairmont City Library to provide Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) programs that help enrich the Community Youth Gardening Group. The STEM Programs involved **30 youth** participants in the National Youth Science Day Programs Motion Commotion, Rockets to the Rescue, and Eco Bots.

### St. Clair County 4-H Ambassadors

The St. Clair County 4-H Ambassador Program is helping St. Clair County teens build communication and leadership skills. The Ambassadors play an advocacy role for the St. Clair County 4-H Program and promotion of 4-H, which teaches teens to become actively involved in their communities.

“Two of the many things I love about 4-H are the friends you make, and the teamwork the program teaches. Because of 4-H I am no longer afraid to talk to new people or to give a speech. I have made many great friends in this program and make new ones at every event.”

– Grace Kapelski, St. Clair County 4-H Ambassador

## Food Pantry Donations

Co-sponsored with Fighting Illini Hunger & Farm Credit Services of Illinois

4-H put their hands to larger service at Food Packaging event this summer. St. Clair County Food Insecurity rate is 17.4%, with the state average being 14%. Due to the need to help families in St. Clair County, volunteers consisting of 4-H members, community members, and Master Gardeners came together to package over 16,000 meals. During this event, volunteers formed assembly lines, and places the separate ingredients in plastic bags to form a meal and sealed for distribution. The meals were distributed to food pantries in St. Clair County.

**ILLINOIS 4-H**  
**FEEDING @ GROWING**  
 OUR COMMUNITIES

## 229 Youth Served through the following programs:

- ✿ Community Clubs
- ✿ SPIN Clubs
- ✿ Cloverbuds
- ✿ STEM Programs
- ✿ Southern Illinois 4-H Camp
- ✿ Workshops



## Metro 4-H Program

East St. Louis Food Packaging Event  
Co-sponsored with Fighting Illini Hunger & Farm Credit Services of Illinois

11,562 meals

Youth & Community members volunteered their time at the Jackie Joyner Kersee Center in East St. Louis to package meals.

### Food Distribution:

Lansdowne Food Pantry• Jeremiah's Food Pantry• Soup n Share• Community Hope Center• Catholic Urban Programs• Caseyville Food Pantry• St. Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen• Collinsville Food Pantry• Who So Ever Will Church• East St. Louis Housing Authority• Bethel AME Church• Bond Avenue Missionary Baptist Church• The Body of Christ Christian Center• Alpha Omega Church



### Walmart Youth Voice, Youth Choice Grant

582 youth reached

4-H was awarded \$7,600 to implement interactive workshops to promote healthy living for youth in low-income communities. The sessions emphasized the importance of nutrition, physical fitness, and quality of life. Eleven Teens As Teachers taught workshops at a local teen symposium & youth summer cooking camps.

## 4-H Summer Teen Teachers

“After completing my 4-H summer program I am confident in speaking to those who don’t know me, helping others, and working along with other 4-H teen teachers. I liked the idea of yoga because it was new to me and also to some of the students. Hopefully the skills that I achieved in yoga inspired the children to show others and continue to do yoga at home. The interaction that stood out to me was how kids could have so much interest in cooking. Many were excited just to stir some ingredients together. It is that little love for something that motivates me to pursue a career in helping children.”

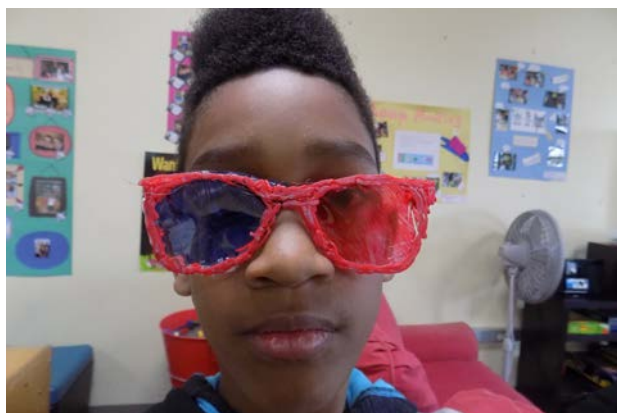
-Tianna Fisher





## 4-H Military Program at Scott Air Force Base

130 Club Members and over 1500 4-H Short Term participants explored a variety of projects which included Theater, Visual Arts, Entomology, Wood Working, Gardening, Science and emerging Technology. 4-H members gained self-confidence, resiliency, and pride in their project achievements.



Alex Anderson models his 3D glasses which he designed/built and later used to view the 3D pictures that he created.

“4- H taught me how to work with others and to have patience. I found that these skills were useful at school and I think they will help when I get a job,”  
Alex Anderson



### Tech Wizards Club

*Tech Wizards*, a National 4-H grant funded by the Department of Justice, has realized great success! Members meet weekly to explore new and emerging technology, which is applicable to their world. Participants have explored 3D design and printing, coding and programming robots, scientific research methodology, future uses of drones, and magnetism in transportation.

In addition to the club setting, youth are introduced to different 4-H activities through assemblies and base-wide events. Learning stations manned by adult volunteers and youth:

- Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Park System
- Illinois Agriculture Products Assembly
- *Birds, Bugs and Butterflies* Assembly
- “Kids on Guard” Day, opportunity for Guard members’ dependents to learn more about the military
- Scott Air Force Base All-Base Picnic

Collectively, over 600 military youth attended these 2016 events. During these sessions, youth and adult volunteers alike reported learning more about the highlighted 4-H project areas and gained experience in teaching and public speaking.



## Agriculture & Natural Resources

Our agriculture and natural resource program is committed to educating and supporting food production and environmental stewardship. Given that a significant percentage of the local population lives in poverty and defined food deserts, Extension programs target specialty crop growers to enhance local production but also the public on home gardening. Extension is at the forefront of communicating emerging insect and disease pests, regulatory changes and addressing production issues. The land is our greatest asset and proper stewardship promotes sustained food production and conservation of natural resources.



Master Gardener projects donated over 10,000 pounds of fresh produce to area food pantries



*“The material covered was very useful because it addressed very basic concepts which I needed!”*  
~ ABC’s Community Garden Participant

•137 Fruit, Vegetable & Horseradish Growers

•242 Green Industry Professionals

“I am not bothered at all to say our industry relies on Elizabeth (Wahle), there just isn’t another resource outside of Extension with the needed expertise...wonderful, excellent...it’s all true.”  
~ Barry McMillin, Horseradish Grower,



First Detector Workshop Hands On Activity; Wood Boring Insects

### Illinois First Detector

The annual Illinois First Detector program trains arborists, city and county employees, and homeowners about invading insects, plants, and diseases. Samples are available so participants can see the symptoms to help monitor the spread of these pests in our area.



Over 300 Master Gardeners & Master Naturalists participated in the Illinois State Master Gardener Conference: The Spice of Life. The program included 22 educational sessions, 4 hands-on workshops, & 4 tours of local attractions.

# Illinois Nutrition Education Programs

As part of the Illinois Nutrition Education Program, SNAP-Ed staff provide direct education while working to drive policies, systems and environmental change in multiple intervention areas: Preschool, K-12, Community Based Youth, Community Based Adult, Emergency Food, Food Retail, and Faith Based. Ultimately our goal is to help individuals and families make healthy living a natural part of their everyday lives!

9,150  
Participants Served

## Direct Education Curriculum

- OrganWise Guys Program
- It's Fun to Be Healthy
- Color Me Healthy
- Illinois Junior Chef
- MyPlate for My Family
- Eating Smart, Being Active
- Eat Smart, Live Strong



## SNAP-Ed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education CORNER STORE ENGAGEMENT

INEP is one of the lead Make Health Happen partners working to promote healthy eating and improve access and availability of healthy food in the City of East St. Louis.

*"Extension has been providing immense support in working with the stores to increase store capacity to sell and market healthy foods. They have provided technical assistance to store owners to market the healthy changes. With the help [of INEP], we were able to convert 5 stores into healthy corner stores. With continued support, we would like to replicate this to all stores in East St. Louis,"*

Bhagya L. Kolli, Division Director of Nutrition Services, East Side Health District in East St. Louis.



## Illinois State Board of Education Grant

As part of a UIUC Illinois State Board of Education Grant, training and technical support are being given to K-12 schools throughout the state. This includes facilitating professional development training to school nutrition personnel, conducting Smarter Lunchroom Assessments, while helping schools create healthier school lunch environments that promote nutrition, encourage healthy eating among students, and support the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act and healthy school meal requirements. Local trainings have reached 215 food service professionals representing 59 schools!

Thanks to University of Illinois Extension for coming out to do an assessment of our kitchen. You gave some great ideas that I already have started working on. The materials & website were very helpful!

## EFNEP Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program

Deciding what is proper nutrition seems to get more complicated every day. Where do we learn what to eat? How do we know what is best for our health? Which meals are most important? How many vegetables are enough? Milk for babies or for all ages? The list of questions continues to grow!

The most obvious answer would be from the individuals who rear us from infancy. Eating habits are formed early and are difficult to change. However, convincing homemakers to change unhealthy habits is what we do! The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) works with the entire family throughout the year to teach health and fitness.

There are cooking schools for children as young as six. They are taught to add carefully selected information to their nutrition knowledge early on. EFNEP also teaches clients in their homes to capture their undivided attention for some experiential learning. Youth in schools don't get to escape either. The local school district opened its doors at each grade level for some much needed food and physical fitness related information.



## Our Reach

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) involves all ages

50, 249 Training hours in 2016

### Summer Youth Cooking Schools

793 Students ages 6-16yr/9 hours training: 7137 hours

### 189 Nutrition Collaboration

278 Students grades k -12/4 hours of training: 1112 hours

### Home visits/small group meetings

700 homemakers/6 hours each: 42,000 hours of training



# Appreciating Our Volunteers

## THANK YOU!

We take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers that help support University of Illinois Extension programming in Madison, Monroe & St. Clair Counties. Without your help our education outreach would not be what it is today. You play a vital role in our success and we look forward to your continued support.

119 Madison County 4-H Program Volunteers

70 Monroe County 4-H Program Volunteers

54 St. Clair County 4-H Program Volunteers



**Debbie Adamick**

*Recipient of the 2016 4-H Hall of Fame for Madison County*



**Jim Etherton**

*Recipient of the 2016 4-H Hall of Fame for Monroe County*



**David Dressel**

*Recipient of the 2016 4-H Hall of Fame for St. Clair County.*



**Joseph F. and Ida Geiger Family**

*Winner of the 2016 4-H Family Spirit Award*

Since 1965, there has been a descendant of the Joseph and Ida Geiger Family in 4-H. In their 50 years of consecutive membership, there have been 62 family members and spouses with 4-H affiliation for a total of 411 years of 4-H members.

“Simply put 4-H prepared us for life.” –Margaret Weis, Granddaughter



## Master Gardener and Master Naturalist

University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener and Master Naturalist volunteers extend horticulture and natural resource education and community engagement throughout the Unit. The volunteers maintain demonstration gardens, grow produce for food pantries, restore wildlife habitats, and conduct youth and adult education programs.

Horticulture Helpline answered over 200 gardening questions from the public.

“What a wonderful resource we have here!”  
~Monroe County Resident

53 Master Naturalist Volunteers

5,106 Master Naturalist Hours

185 Master Gardener Volunteers

13,235 Master Gardener Hours



## Outstanding Master Gardener State Award Winners



Cheryl Kinert  
Monroe County



Jerry Albrecht  
St. Clair County



Marian Smithson  
Madison County

# Staff Directory

SERVING MADISON, MONROE & ST. CLAIR COUNTIES



**Pamela Jacobs**  
County Extension Director



**Elizabeth Wahle**  
Extension Educator  
Horticulture



**Ashley Wetzler**  
Extension Educator  
4-H Youth Development



**Genesis Powell**  
Extension Educator  
4-H Youth Development,  
Metro



**Amy Funk**  
Visiting Extension Educator  
SNAP-Ed

## Extension in Our Communities

EDUCATION - ENGAGEMENT - EXCELLENCE



**Linda Crawl Jackson**  
Extension Educator  
EFNEP



# Staff Directory

SERVING MADISON, MONROE & ST. CLAIR COUNTIES



Laquitsha Bejoile-Hayes  
Program Coordinator  
SNAP-Ed



Kelly Brandt  
Program Coordinator  
4-H and Youth  
Development



Mariel Buckrop  
Program Coordinator  
SNAP-Ed



Emily Reece  
Program Coordinator  
4-H and Youth  
Development



Sarah Ruth  
Program Coordinator  
Horticulture and  
Natural Resources



Lynn Weis  
Program Coordinator  
4-H and Youth  
Development



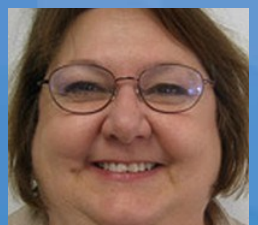
Belva Blakely  
Community Worker  
SNAP-Ed



Maritza Lemke  
Community Worker  
SNAP-Ed



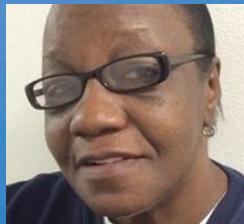
Julie Fulton  
Community Worker  
SNAP-Ed



Kim Brown  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Gestavia Peebles  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Brenda Randall  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Ellen White  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Valeria White  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Teresa Collins  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Candria Denzmore  
Work Program  
Participant  
EFNEP



Earnestine Gilbert  
Extra Help, Publicity  
Promotions Specialist



Paige Brown  
Office Support  
Associate



Karla Isaak  
Office Support  
Associate



Mary Kay Rahn  
Office Support



Patty Stanton  
Office Support



## In Recognition of Nora Feuquay

University of Illinois Extension, Community & Economic Development Educator, 2009–2015.

Nora was an energetic, creative and dedicated team member! Unexpectedly, Nora's life ended December 21, 2015.

As a result of Nora's knowledge and experience in community economic development, she was committed to working with local government officials and groups to strengthen the economy through educational programming for business retention and growth.

- Worked closely with Chamber of Commerce groups and Economic Development groups in the Unit to establish program partnerships for youth and adults. Successful programming included Entrepreneurship and Leadership academies for teens and career preparation workshops.
- Through her leadership with the Monroe County Revolving Fund committee, three new businesses were approved by the Monroe County Commissioners to receive revolving funds. These businesses were established and continue to be a successful part of the community.
- Nora worked closely with numerous businesses within the Unit to help them learn ways to enhance their social media marketing plan, review their business plan for long range retention and to provide customer service training.
- Established the Connecting Generations program for teens to teach seniors basic computer and internet skills. Nora provided training to the teens who then taught seniors at a local library.
- Provided leadership to the formation of the Annual MoCo Expo for the Think Monroe County First program. Local businesses participated with information booths at the Expo. Community interest and support continues for this event.
- Coordinated with Monroe County Commissioners, Economic Development Committee and City of Waterloo to offer college courses through McKendree University and to establish a scholarship program.
- Developed a Local Foods Needs Assessment and submitted the surveys for Illinois Review Board approval. Surveys were posted on-line for businesses to complete.
- Established a working relationship with the Latino Roundtable of Southwestern Illinois group through meeting attendance and program partnership.
- Team work with Unit staff on the development of a new Facebook page; *Connecting to Our Food Web*, researching local data for the Unit Plan of Work and working closely with Unit staff on interdisciplinary programming
- Team work with Community Economic Development Educators throughout the state on updating multiple curricula, researching new information for program development and team teaching workshops.



## Our Mission

University of Illinois Extension is committed to providing educational programs that help people make their lives better, healthier, safer, and more profitable. Madison-Monroe-St. Clair Unit delivers programs in local communities through workshops, seminars, meetings, and websites. Our mission is to enable people to improve their lives and communities through learning partnerships that put knowledge to work.



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If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any program, please contact the county Extension Office.  
The Illinois Nutrition Education Program is funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).