

# Illinois FFA Center Team



Mindy Bunselmeyer has been at the Illinois FFA Center since March of 2013 and serving as Executive Director since the summer of 2015. Prior to her position with the Illinois FFA Center, she was the District 4 Program Advisor for Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education for 10 years. Prior to that experience, Mindy taught agriculture at Monticello High School for 8 years. She attended the University of Illinois, where she completed her Bachelors and Masters in Agricultural Education. She and her husband, Mark and their son Gehrig and daughter Emery, live on a farm near Decatur, Illinois, where they raise corn and soybeans.



Jannette Allotey joined the Illinois FFA Center in February of 2018 as the bookkeeper. She grew up on her family farm just southwest of Springfield, IL in Waverly, IL. She currently resides in Springfield, IL with her husband, Josh and their two daughters Jorja and Layla. She graduated from Greenville College in 2006 with a Bachelor's of Science in Organizational Leadership and has worked most of her career in the banking industry. Jannette manages office payroll, budgets for each of the organizations at the FFA Center, financial statements and payments, as well as the finances of the Illinois Foundation FFA local collection drive.



Patti Davis is serving as the Illinois FFA Center Special Events Specialist. Patti graduated from Mt. Pulaski High School and received her Associate's Degree from Lincoln College in 1988. Patti has two children, Maddy & Joe. Maddy is finishing up college at Louisiana Tech University, and Joe is a senior in high school and is currently looking for a college to continue his education. Patti first started at the FFA Center in August 2010. Patti handles Alumni membership including starting and reactivating Alumni chapters, and membership processing. Patti also works with host sites for events, contests, conferences, and conventions. She coordinates registrations for all of the events hosted by the Illinois FFA Center.



John Edgar and his wife, Kiersten, live in Athens, IL. Both grew up on small family farms, and Kiersten is now the agriculture teacher and FFA Advisor at Athens High School. The two met while serving as FFA state officers. Their son, John Luke, was born during FFA week in the spring of 2018. John graduated from Southern Illinois University (SIU) with a degree in Agribusiness Economics in 2014 and is also working to complete his graduate degree in Agricultural Education. Before being hired at the FFA Center as Assistant Director in 2015, John worked as FFA Advisor at SIU coordinating regional contests and conferences along with teaching the Introduction to Agricultural Education course. His major roles at the FFA Center include financial and technology oversight, coordinating state contests, working with high school and post-secondary

agriculture teachers, event and conference planning/management, assisting with FFA and major state officer activities, and "all other duties as assigned".



Lori Nelson is serving as the Illinois FFA Center Office Manager. Lori coordinates the FFA Center scheduling of the facility, upkeep and overall office well being. with the Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers and Illinois Association of Community College Agriculture Instructors membership. She works with some of the Career Development Events, awards and recognition, and some Scholarships. Lori Nelson began working at the Illinois FFA Center in the fall of 2001. Lori and husband, Richard, farmed and raised Standardbred race horses in west central Illinois, and later the Springfield area, until Richard's retirement in 2014. They have a son, Zach, who works in the plumbing field.



Tammy Yard is serving as the Illinois FFA Center Foundation and Leadership Specialist. She began working for the Illinois FFA Center in April 2007. Her major responsibilities include Illinois Foundation FFA local collection drive, FFA membership, FFA state convention preparation, FFA officer management, FFA Camp and other duties as assigned. Tammy is a graduate of Mt. Pulaski High School and Lincoln Land Community College. She and her husband Troy both grew up in agriculture families. Troy is an accounts manager for Gro Alliance Seed Company. They are the parents of Miranda and Jake.

Beginning May 11, 2020, Riley Duckworth will be serving as the Associate Director of the Illinois Foundation FFA. Riley, the daughter of Tim Duckworth and Sally Kittinger, is originally from Secor, IL. She moved to Eldorado at a young age, where she was raised on a farm by her step-father Bill Kittinger and her mother. Riley graduated from Eldorado High School in 2015. Riley attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and received a Bachelors of Science degree in 2018. After receiving her Bachelor's Degree, Riley chose to continue her education at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and is currently working towards a Master Degree through the Public Administration program. Riley will graduate on May 9, 2020, and begin her new position on May 11, 2020. As the Associate Director, Riley's primary responsibilities will include overseeing the stewardship of Foundation donors and logistics of the local collection drive as well as all marketing, branding, and media of Illinois FFA Center organizations. Riley looks forward to beginning her new position and is excited to help the Illinois Foundation FFA grow to its full potential.