**Dr. Bernadette G. Watts Award of Excellence and Communicator Award**

Della Hicks, EFNEP Program Assistant at North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Pasquotank County, was awarded the Dr. Bernadette G. Watts Award of Excellence and the Communicator Award at the North Carolina Association of Extension Program Assistants, Associates and Technicians (NCAEPAAT) Conference held on August 2-5, held in Asheville, NC.

The Bernadette G. Watts Award of Excellence, the highest award given by the NCAEPAAT recognizes an outstanding Program Assistant, Associate and/or Technician with 5 or more years of experience and accomplishments in their program area. Della has been with Extension in Pasquotank for 18 years and in 2015 she provided nutrition education to over 200 adults with 96% of participants improving their dietary intake.

The Communicator Award is a new award and its purpose is to recognize a current NCAEPAAT member who produces educational news articles, videos, posters, displays, etc. in the course of his/her job. Della has been collaborating with the Food Bank of the Albemarle to assist families in need of meals/snacks and other household items. Della has reached over 500 families and enlightened them on how to make healthier meal choices with the food that they receive.