



Building a new Educational Pavilion

at the UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center

Since 1921, the **UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center (EREC)** in Belle Glade has supported the surrounding communities by providing research-based solutions to improve agriculture and protect the environment. Our faculty share best practices to help build a sustainable and profitable agricultural industry, conserve natural resources, and ensure food safety and security.

A major priority for us is workforce development. Palm Beach and Hendry Counties are one of the largest agricultural regions in the country, home to more than 550 agribusinesses. As these industries adopt more advanced technologies like precision agriculture and AI, there's a growing need for ag-tech skills training.

To meet this need, we're raising funds to build a covered outdoor pavilion at EREC. Our existing indoor conference center hosts over 7,000 attendees annually. This new space will allow us to host large groups for hands-on workshops, demonstrations, and training sessions. We're seeking \$2 million in federal, state and private support to cover construction, furnishing, and ongoing maintenance. We have secured \$500,000 as of October 2025.

Leadership gifts will be recognized with signage at the pavilion. Thank you for considering a donation. Your generosity will help bring this pavilion to life and make a lasting impact in Belle Glade.

For more information, please contact:



Samira Daroub, Ph.D.
Center Director and Professor
UF/IFAS EREC
(561) 993-1505 | sdaroub@ufl.edu



Julie Conn
Senior Director of Development,
Corporate and Foundation Relations
jrconn@ufl.edu | 352-273-2099



Details & Features

- 4,000 ft² (270 occupants)
- Motorized insect screens
- Kitchen prep and sink area
- Fire pit/grilling area
- A/V equipment, multiple screens for maximum visibility and accessibility

