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## **Opportunity for All: *Building a Brighter Future for Rural Families***

February 22-23, 2016 | Marriott Wardman Park Hotel | Washington, D.C.

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### **EVENT OVERVIEW**

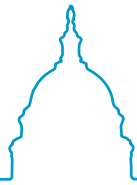
During the 2016 Legislative Conference, NACo will be hosting a series of events focused on combating chronic rural poverty. In coordination with the White House Rural Council and the National Governors Association, these events will bring together hundreds of key stakeholders from federal, state, and local government to raise awareness of the nature and consequences of some of the biggest challenges facing rural communities, including child poverty and substance abuse. The event will also highlight evidence-informed and promising practices to ensure rural families have an opportunity to thrive.

On Monday, February 22, from 4:30pm to 5:30pm, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack will moderate a roundtable discussion with a bi-partisan panel of governors to highlight key innovative approaches to rural child poverty intervention and opportunities for state and local government collaboration on combating chronic rural poverty. Governors include:

- **Hon. Tom Vilsack**, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **Hon. Bill Haslam**, Governor, State of Tennessee
- **Hon. Tom Wolf**, Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- **Hon. Gary R. Herbert**, Governor, State of Utah
- **Hon. Terry McAuliffe**, Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia

On Tuesday, February 23, from 12:15pm to 3:30pm, NACo will host a rural poverty summit entitled “**Opportunity for All: Building a Brighter Future for Rural Children.**” This session will highlight the current state of poverty in America and examine the numerous factors contributing to chronic poverty including early childhood development, drug and substance abuse, access to healthcare and workforce training. Additionally, this session will provide a look at innovative and successful initiatives designed to combat rural poverty through multi-generational service delivery models. Special guests include:

- **Hon. Tom Vilsack**, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **Mr. David Wilkensen**, Director, White House Office of Social Innovation and Civic Participation
- **Dr. Michael Lu**, Associate Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **Ms. Anne Mosle**, Vice President and Executive Director, Aspen-Ascend
- **Dr. Sharon McGroder**, Program Director for Human Services, National Governors Association
- **Dr. Beth Mattingly**, Director of Research on Vulnerable Families, University of New Hampshire
- **Ms. Amy New**, Assistant Commissioner for Rural Economic Development, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
- **Dr. John Warne**, Director, Graduate School of Public Health, North Dakota State
- **Ms. Audrey Rowe**, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, United States Department of Agriculture



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## AGENDA

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**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

**ROOM: Thurgood Marshall East/North**

**4:30pm - 5:30pm**

**A Special Governors' Roundtable: State and County  
Collaboration to Tackle Chronic Rural Poverty**

*This roundtable discussion will highlight key innovative approaches to rural child poverty intervention and opportunities for state and local government collaboration on combating chronic rural poverty focusing on opportunities for state and local government collaboration combating chronic rural poverty*

- Moderator: **Hon. Tom Vilsack**, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **Hon. Bill Haslam**, Governor, State of Tennessee
- **Hon. Tom Wolf**, Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- **Hon. Gary R. Herbert**, Governor, State of Utah
- **Hon. Terry McAuliffe**, Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia

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**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

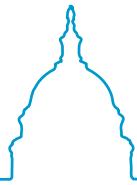
**ROOM: Marriott Ballroom**

**11:15am - 12:00pm**

**Closing General Session: Cabinet Conversation**

*This session will discuss the underlying factors of chronic poverty including early childhood development, drug and opioid abuse, access to education and workforce development*

- Moderator: **Ruth Marcus**, Columnist, Washington Post
  - **Hon. Tom Vilsack**, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
  - **Hon. John King**, Acting Secretary, U.S. Department of Education
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**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

**ROOM: Thurgood Marshall East/North**

*\*Plated lunch provided to first 350 guests\**

## **Rural Poverty Summit**

**Opportunity for All: *Building a Brighter Future for Rural Families***

**12:45pm - 1:00pm**

### **Welcome and Overview of Summit**

- **Hon. Brian Desloge**, NACo First Vice President, Commissioner, Leon County, Fl.
- **Hon. Tom Vilsack**, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **Mrs. Dorothy McAuliffe**, First Lady, Commonwealth of Virginia

**1:00pm - 2:15pm**

### **Rural Poverty: Prevalence and Implications for Child Well-Being**

*This session will present new findings on the growth of concentrated poverty outside urban areas and the implications of poverty for children's future economic opportunities.*

- Moderator: **Dr. Sharon McGroder**, Program Director for Human Services, National Governors Association
- **Dr. Beth Mattingly**, Director of Research on Vulnerable Families, University of New Hampshire
- **Dr. Emilia Istrate**, Director of Research, National Association of Counties
- **Amy New**, Assistant Commissioner for Rural Economic Development, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
- **Dr. Donald Warne**, Director, Graduate School of Public Health, North Dakota State



**2:15pm - 3:30pm**

**Evidence-Based and Promising Practices for Addressing Rural Child Poverty**

*This session will highlight evidence-based programs and promising practices for addressing the needs of low-income children and families in rural areas. Panelists will discuss issues around adapting evidence-based practices for rural areas.*

- Moderator: **David Wilkensen**, Director, White House Office of Social Innovation and Civic Participation
- **Dr. Michael C. Lu**, Associate Administrator, Maternal and Child Health, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **Audrey Rowe**, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **Anne Mosle**, Vice President and Executive Director, Ascend - Aspen Institute

**3:30pm**

**Adjourn**