



**2015 Fall RAC Symposium**  
**Thursday, October 15 - Saturday, October 17**

**Ouray County Fairgrounds and 4H Event Center**  
**22739 Highway 550, Ridgway, CO 81432**  
***\*Pre and Post Symposium Events Included***

---

Chair: **Hon. Lynn Padgett**, Commission Chair, Ouray County, Colo.  
Vice Chair: **Hon. J.D. Clark**, County Judge, Wise County, Texas  
Vice Chair: **Hon. Kenneth Dahlstedt**, Commissioner, Skagit County, Wash.  
Vice Chair: **Hon. Craig Gregory**, Council Member, St. Martin Parish, La.  
Vice Chair: **Hon. Tommie Cline Martin**, Supervisor, Gila County, Ariz.  
Vice Chair: **Hon. Mandy Metzger**, Supervisor, Coconino County, Ariz.  
Vice Chair: **Hon. Michael Victorino**, Council Member, Maui County, Hawai'i

**SYMPOSIUM AGENDA**

**Wednesday, October 14 (Optional Pre-Symposium Events)**

**9:00AM - 4:00PM**      **Backcountry Jeep Tour (*\*Special Pre-Registration Required*)**  
Open-air jeeps will tour the two oldest hydro-electric plants in the nation, visit the Ouray Ice Park, historic Atlas Mill, Yankee Boy Basin and Governor Basin. In Governor Basin members will look at a proposed Good Samaritan project site. The tour will also visit the historic town sites of Iron-ton and Red Mountain Town. This field trip will highlight rural economic development efforts and quality of life enhancement through motorized and other outdoor recreational opportunities, resource extraction, forest health, and discuss the need for full funding of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs.

**Cost:    \$95** (Includes Lunch)

**Thursday, October 15 (Optional Pre-Symposium Events)**

**10:00AM - 7:00PM**      **Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad Tour (*\*Special Pre-Registration Required*)**  
Shuttles will pick up attendees at their lodging and drive to Silverton over the Million Dollar Highway, about 30 miles (1 hour) to the south. Members will be given the opportunity to explore the historic mining town of Silverton's business district and have lunch in Silverton. At the Silverton Train Station, members will board a first class rail car departing at 1:45PM. Members will be joined by a representative of the historical society. Due to the off-season

timing, members will shuttle back to Ouray after arriving in Durango at 5:15 pm and go straight to the RAC Welcome Reception.

**Cost: \$179** (Not including shuttle)

**7:30PM - 9:30PM**      **RAC Welcome Reception**  
**Wright Opera House Ouray**  
462 Main Street  
Ouray, CO 81427  
Join RAC leadership, NACo colleagues and Ouray County guests at the Welcome Reception for an evening of networking with hors d'oeuvres, drinks and unique southwestern fare.

## Friday, October 16

**7:30AM**      **Telluride Express Shuttle (three 15-person shuttles)**

**8:00AM - 8:30AM**      **Networking Breakfast**  
**Ouray County Fairgrounds and 4H Event Center**  
22739 Highway 550  
Ridgway, CO 81432

**8:30AM - 10:00AM**      **Rural Substance Abuse Trends and Drug Trafficking**  
Rural areas are seeing a surge in heroin use. The rise comes as Mexican heroin production has increased in recent years. Officials seized 1,989 kilograms of heroin at the Southwest border, from Texas to California, in 2012 - up from 487 kilograms in 2008. Administered by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) under the U.S. Department of Justice, the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program provides assistance to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drug-trafficking regions of the United States. This panel will discuss drug abuse trends in rural America and how counties can utilize the HIDTA program.

### **Guest Speakers**

- **Mr. Michael Gottlieb**, National Director, HIDTA Program, Office of National Drug Control Policy
- **Hon. Kenneth Dahlstedt**, Commissioner, Skagit County, Wash.

**10:00AM - 10:15AM**      **Networking Break**

**10:15AM - 12:00PM**      **2015 RAC Strategy Session**  
This discussion will examine ways to make NACo's Rural Action Caucus more relevant in the federal legislative and policy arena. Caucus members will take an in-depth look at the annual calendar of events to determine how to efficiently and effectively address key county priorities through RAC engagements.

**12:00PM - 1:00PM**      **Networking Lunch**

**1:00PM - 4:00PM**      **Preparing the Next Generation for Success:**  
***The County Role in Early Childhood Development in Rural Communities***  
During early childhood, the effects of both positive and negative factors on healthy development are amplified. For instance, poverty has a significant negative impact on childhood

development that can produce detrimental economic and social effects across the lifespan. The White House Rural Council recently announced renewed efforts to address childhood poverty in rural areas through multi-generational service delivery models. As the national debate on this issue moves forward, this panel will discuss counties' role in early childhood and their needs in carrying out this role effectively in rural communities.

#### **Guest Speakers**

- **Mr. Doug O'Brien**, Senior Rural Advisor, White House Domestic Policy Council
- **NGA (TBD)**
- **CDHS (TBD)**
- **Hon. Lynn Padgett**, Commissioner, Ouray County, Col.

**4:00PM - 4:15PM**

#### **Networking Break**

**4:15PM - 5:45PM**

#### **Preparing for an Aging Rural Population**

The demographic of older adults is growing more rapidly than at any other time in the country's history. By 2030, 1 in every 5 Americans will be 65 or over—and even more in many rural areas. Local governments and community leaders must prepare to capitalize on the opportunities an aging society presents and prepare to meet the unique needs that older adults have. This session will provide an overview of area agencies on aging and the broader national aging network and how rural communities are preparing for the increasingly aging population.

#### **Guest Speakers**

- **Mr. Roberto Rey**, Colorado Associate State Director, AARP
- **Ms. Autumn Campbell**, Director of Legislative Affairs, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)

**6:00PM**

#### **Adjourn**

**6:30PM - 8:00PM**

#### **Dinner**

##### **Beaumont Hotel**

*505 Main St.*

*Ouray, Colorado, 81427*

## **Saturday, October 17**

**8:00AM**

#### **Telluride Express Shuttle (three 15-person shuttles)**

**8:30AM - 9:00PM**

#### **Networking Breakfast [Special Guest Speaker]**

##### **Ouray County Fairgrounds and 4H Event Center**

22739 Highway 550

Ridgway, CO 81432

**9:00AM - 12:00PM**

#### **Mobile Workshop: Ridgway Historic Business District (Ridgway Creative District)**

Tour will highlight Marketplace Fairness Act (MFA) benefits for rural small businesses in the new Creative District and examine a Responsible Acceleration of Maintenance and Partnerships (RAMP) project featuring local-state partnership to pave the district and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment. MFA gives states and local governments the ability to enforce existing sales tax laws allowing Main Street retailers to compete on a level playing field against out-of-state Internet retailers.

- 12:00PM - 1:00PM**      **Catered Lunch**  
[Sherbino Theater/True Grit Café]
- 1:00PM - 2:00PM**      **Mobile Workshop: Acme Greenhouse and Wellness Center**  
Members will visit the Acme Greenhouse and Wellness Center for a discussion with representatives from the Department of Revenue, Sheriff's Department, Public Health Department and County Attorney regarding the nuances of a marijuana grow facility in the county.
- 2:00PM - 3:30PM**      **Mobile Workshop: Log Hill Mesa Overlook and County Road 1**  
The Ouray County school system no longer operates bus routes on County Road 1 - a proposed TIGER Grant Project - due to the high cost of maintaining and repairing busses servicing this route. The tour will discuss the need for a long-term reauthorization of the federal surface transportation bill, MAP-21, and examine impacts the measure has on county infrastructure and services.
- 3:30PM**      **Adjourn**

## Sunday, October 18 (Optional Post-Symposium Events)

- 9:00AM - 5:00PM**      **Ridgway Cascade Bike Tour (\*Special Pre-Registration Required)**  
Interested members will meet at Cascade Bikes in Ridgway at 9:00 am for light breakfast fare and hear about the history and benefits of the new Ridgway Area Trail (RAT) system on a combination of Town, BLM, and State Park land. Cascade Bikes will outfit participants with a mountain bike, helmet, and water bottle. RAT members will lead a ride down the River Trail path toward popular trails that are part of the Weaver (Dennis Weaver) system and the newest trail system. This field trip will highlight regional rural economic development efforts and need for full funding of PILT/SRS. Trailside box lunch will be served. Riders can choose to walk or ride up to a scenic overlook. There will be easy-moderate and moderate-advanced options. **There will not be 8 hours of solid riding.**
- Cost:    \$30 Hard-Tail Bike/\$50 - Full-Suspension Bike (Includes Lunch)**
- 10:00AM - 3:00PM**      **Ouray Trail Group Tour (\*Special Pre-Registration Required)**  
Hike will be led by members of the Ouray Trail Group which voluntarily maintains and builds (in partnership with USFS) hundreds of miles of public trails in the National Forests within Ouray County. Hike will feature the Ouray Perimeter Trail, which provides outdoor recreational opportunities for locals and visitors and has a very positive economic impact on the City of Ouray and Ouray County. Boxed lunch will be served trailside in Box Canyon Falls Park. Bring hiking gear, water bottle, trail snack, camera, waterproof layers and weather appropriate clothes/hat/gloves.
- Cost:    \$12 (Includes Lunch)**

# **GUEST SPEAKER BIOS**



**Mr. Doug O'Brien**

*Senior Rural Advisor*

*White House Domestic Policy Council*

*Executive Office of the President*

*Washington, DC*

Doug O'Brien serves as the Senior Rural Advisor to the White House Domestic Policy Council in the Executive Office of the President. There, he will coordinate the White House Rural Council and take the lead on a number of Obama administration rural development initiatives.

Mr. O'Brien comes to the White House Domestic Policy Council from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) where he served as Deputy Undersecretary for Rural Development under Secretary Tom Vilsack. During his tenure at USDA, Mr. O'Brien also served as Chief of Staff to then Deputy Agriculture Secretary Kathleen Merrigan.

Before working at USDA, Doug served as the Assistant Director of the Ohio Agriculture Department, Senior Adviser to Iowa Democratic Gov. Chet Culver, and Counsel to the Senate Agriculture Committee when Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, was the top Democrat on the committee.



**MICHAEL K. GOTTLIEB**

*Assistant Deputy Director, Office of State, Local and Tribal Affairs  
National Director, HIDTA Program  
Office of National Drug Control Policy  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, DC*

Michael K. Gottlieb is the Assistant Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs and National Director of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program at the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). ONDCP advises the President on drug policy issues and develops the Administration's National Drug Control Strategy. In his role as National HIDTA Director, Mr. Gottlieb oversees the \$245 million grant program that funds 670 investigative, prosecution, interdiction, and prevention initiatives. The HIDTA Program is a national model for facilitating coordination and cooperation among federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies in order to combat drug-related safety and health consequences. He also collaborates closely with law enforcement and public health leaders nationwide.

Mr. Gottlieb has served in numerous leadership posts at ONDCP since 2001. He has advised the Obama, Bush, and Clinton Administrations in prominent legal and management roles at ONDCP including Deputy General Counsel and acting Chief of Staff. For more than a decade, Mr. Gottlieb has served as ONDCP's liaison with the domestic and international sport community on matters related to drugs in sport. He represents the U.S. Government on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Executive Committee and participates on numerous international committees and expert working groups addressing doping in sport.

Previously, Mr. Gottlieb served as Associate General Counsel at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). He provided enforcement and regulatory counsel to the Office of Criminal Investigations and the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. In 2000, he received the FDA Commissioner's Award for Distinguished Service.

Mr. Gottlieb began his legal career by serving the Federal Judiciary as law clerk for Senior U.S. District Judge Glen M. Williams of the Western District of Virginia.



## **The Honorable Kenneth Dahlstedt**

*District 2 Commissioner*

*Skagit County, Washington*

Ken Dahlstedt is the 2nd District Commissioner for Skagit County, Washington. He was first elected to the position in 2000. Commissioner Dahlstedt and his fellow commissioners are responsible to the voters of Skagit County to manage all facets of County government, including budgets totaling \$165 million and a county staff of over 700.

The Northwest HIDTA region funded a program to help Skagit County develop a multidisciplinary partnership of community coalitions, law enforcement, tribal, medical health providers and other agencies that provides prevention programs to the Hispanic student population in several schools throughout the county.

Additionally, Commissioner Dahlstedt serves on several boards and commissions, including the Health Steering Committee with the National Association of Counties.

Commissioner Dahlstedt and his wife Flo have four grown children and two grandchildren. They live at Big Lake, near Mount Vernon, Washington. In addition to government and business responsibilities, Dahlstedt has been locally active as a volunteer on church boards and civic organizations.





**Mr. Roberto Rey**

*Associate State Director--Multicultural Outreach  
AARP Colorado State Office*

Roberto Rey is the Associate State Director for Multicultural Outreach at the AARP Colorado State office. He is the staff lead for the AARP Colorado on Livable Communities outreach.

Prior to joining AARP in 1997, Rey worked 12 years as a community organizer in Chicago. At AARP, he worked on voting issues in Nebraska, Iowa, and Indiana from the Midwest regional office until 2000.

Rey worked at the AARP Illinois state office as a community organizer until 2005 when he transferred to the Colorado State office as associate state director for community outreach.

In 2010, he accepted the position of multicultural outreach director for AARP Colorado, where he has built an esteemed group of volunteers and is instrumental in engaging diverse communities. He also serves on the Board of the Denver Regional Mobility Access Council. Rey has a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Iowa State University and a master's degree in political science from the University of Illinois.



advocacy | action | answers on aging

## **Autumn Campbell**

*Director, Public Policy & Advocacy*

*National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)*

Autumn Campbell joined n4a in March 2014 as Director, Public Policy and Advocacy. In this role, Autumn supports all and leads many of the association's public policy and advocacy efforts. Autumn brings a broad portfolio of experience to the position and has worked for nearly 10 years for DC-based associations and nonprofits.

Most recently, Autumn served as the Director of Community Programs at the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC). At NARC, she led the organization's community and economic development program, managing priorities for NARC's member metropolitan and rural planning organizations, which include many Area Agencies on Aging.

Autumn has experience in transportation, workforce development, rural development, housing, and community and social services policies and federal programs. She has also worked both for Congress and as a reporter for the Capitol Hill-based publication Roll Call, where she gained an extensive understanding of the legislative process.



## **The Honorable Lynn Padgett**

*Commissioner, Ouray County, Colorado*

*Chair, NACo's Rural Action Caucus*

Commissioner Padgett is currently Vice-Chair of the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners, and has been serving as an elected County Commissioner in Ouray County since 2009. She is the second elected female Commissioner in Ouray County.

Lynn has worked to increase collaborative partnerships between all levels of government and local non-profit organizations, and to increase understanding at the state and national levels of the unique challenges faced by rural counties and their citizens. She currently serves on several boards and committees including:

- Chair of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Rural Action Caucus
- NACo Board Member
- Member and past Vice-Chair of the NACo Public Lands Steering Committee
- Chair of the Tourism, Resorts and Economic Development Committee of Colorado Counties, Inc.
- Ouray County BOCC Liaison to the TOP, Inc. Board of Directors
- Public Lands Partnership Executive Committee.

Commissioner Padgett was a co-founder of the REAL (Responsive, Efficient, Accountable, and Locally-Driven) local government initiative with several county commissioners active in Colorado Counties, Inc. Additionally, Lynn facilitated stakeholder meetings that led to the development of Ouray County's Bottom-Up Economic Goals.

Lynn holds a Bachelor's degree with honors in Geology from Western State College, CO. Lynn is Co-Owner of MtnGeoGeek, LLC which provides Project Coordinator services to the Colorado Data Sharing Network (CDSN), a project of the Colorado Water Quality Monitoring Council designed to increase the amount of high-quality, publically accessible, water quality data being actively managed and shared in Colorado.

Prior to becoming County Commissioner and co-owner of MtnGeoGeek, LLC, Lynn worked as a consultant for geotechnical engineering and natural resource firms and federal agencies.

For fun, Lynn enjoys cooking and playing with Legos with her family at their off-grid home, going to music festivals throughout the San Juan Mountains, and hiking, fishing, jeeping, paddle-boarding, camping and x-country skiing on our public lands and national forests.