OUR MISSION
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES UNITES AMERICA’S 3,069 COUNTY GOVERNMENTS.

OUR VISION
ACHIEVE HEALTHY, VIBRANT AND SAFE COUNTIES ACROSS AMERICA

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CHANGE is the only constant in Washington, D.C., and with that change, 2016-2017 held many opportunities for the nation’s counties, parishes and boroughs.

NACo began the year in a new headquarters (featured on the cover of this report), collocated with the National League of Cities. We created a local government innovation center with more opportunities for county-city collaboration and outreach to external partners.

With the new Congress and new administration, NACo seized the opportunity to inform new leaders about counties’ vast responsibilities and how federal policies impact us every day.

We achieved significant policy victories and will continue to fight for county priorities at the federal level.

As we advocate for counties at the federal level, we are not waiting for the federal government to act. With our state association and affiliate partners, we are driving progress and solutions at the state and local levels. Through NACo’s initiatives, conferences, peer exchanges, webinars and other events, thousands of county leaders pursued opportunities to address our communities’ needs – the devastating opioid epidemic, people with mental illnesses in our jails, transportation and infrastructure innovations, rural poverty and economic opportunity, early childhood development, technology and much more.

We delivered enterprise solutions to save taxpayers millions of dollars, and we expanded our signature civic education resources, informing the public – especially America’s youth – that counties matter.

At a time when our nation is politically divided, NACo is focused on advancing civil discourse and achieving results. NACo reflects our membership, delivering resources to help counties succeed.

At the local level and at NACo, we cannot afford partisan gridlock and political acrimony. We press forward to create healthy, vibrant and safe counties across the United States.

The 2016-17 Annual Report provides a snapshot of NACo’s accomplishments on behalf of the nation’s 3,069 counties.

Hon. Bryan Desloge
NACo President

Matthew Chase
NACo Executive Director
Membership

75% of the nation’s county, parish and borough governments are NACo members

98% membership retention rate

22 states, plus the District of Columbia have 100% NACo membership

ALABAMA | ARIZONA | ARKANSAS | CALIFORNIA | DELAWARE | FLORIDA
HAWAII | IDAHO | MAINE | MARYLAND | MINNESOTA | MONTANA | NEVADA
NEW HAMPSHIRE | NEW MEXICO | NORTH CAROLINA | NORTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA | OREGON | UTAH | WEST VIRGINIA | WYOMING

1,289 county officials on NACo committees

2,843 county officials attended at least one NACo event

NACo participated in 71 state association meetings
Twenty-five NACo members testified before Congress
MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

☑ Flawed “Waters of the U.S.” regulation sent back to the drawing board
☑ Implementation of the new 2015 Ozone rule delayed for one year
☑ EPA’s Risk Management rule delayed for two years
☑ Bureau of Land Management Planning 2.0 rule repealed
☑ U.S. House Bipartisan Task Force on Intergovernmental Affairs created
☑ 21st Century Cures Act passed, reauthorizing major justice and mental health grant program and providing additional resources to combat opioid epidemic
☑ Preserved $3 billion for CDBG and $950 million for HOME
☑ Secured full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program at $465 million for 2017
☑ Highlighted county infrastructure priorities during Infrastructure Week
☑ Fought to protect tax-exempt municipal bonds
☑ Secured seat on new FAA National Drone Advisory Council
☑ Produced new advocacy toolkits to assist county officials
☑ Met with all 62 new members of Congress
☑ Recognized 85 members of Congress who are former county officials
☑ Advised the newly created White House Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity
☑ Led the local response to FEMA’s Disaster Deductible proposal
☑ Presented congressional testimony on public lands management, transportation and infrastructure, federal regulations, National Flood Insurance Program, the Endangered Species Act and other county priorities
NACo members received **new tools** to assist with advocacy efforts.
Focusing on major opportunities and threats, including:


NACo recognized **85 members** of Congress who are former county officials
County officials addressed major challenges, including opioid abuse and the mental health crisis in county jails.
STEPPING UP: A NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAILS

NACo, in partnership with the Council of State Governments Justice Center, the American Psychiatric Association Foundation and other supporters, celebrated the initiative’s two-year anniversary with more than 2,000 people in person and online.

More than 375 counties passed resolutions to join the initiative.

605 Achievement Awards were given to 108 counties in 29 states.

NACo President Byran Desloge’s “Brilliant Ideas at Work” identified 100 of the best innovations in county government and launched an interactive online, searchable publication.

A PRESCRIPTION FOR ACTION
Local Leadership in Ending the Opioid Crisis.

NACo-NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES TASK FORCE ON THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC promoted policy, funding and best practices through a comprehensive report, “A Prescription for Action: Local Leadership in Ending the Opioid Crisis,” and town halls, webinars and briefings.
Rebranded and realigned NACo’s Research Department to launch the Counties Futures Lab, focusing on county governance and management issues — and grounded in analytics, data and knowledge sharing.

Partnered with Public Technology Institute to strengthen technology in county government and connect elected officials and technology professionals.

Additional signature projects include:

MACARTHUR FOUNDATION SAFETY & JUSTICE CHALLENGE | DATA-DRIVEN JUSTICE INITIATIVE | COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS AND ROADMAPS | HEALTHY COUNTIES INITIATIVE | HEALTHIEST CITIES AND COUNTIES CHALLENGE | RESILIENT COUNTIES INITIATIVE | ARTS AND CULTURE INITIATIVE | STRONGER ECONOMIES IN COAL-RELIANT PLACES | WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE | SOLSMART INITIATIVE | NATIONAL COHESIVE WILDLAND FIRE STRATEGY COORDINATION | IMPROVING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH RISK MODELING | NATURALLY RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE TOOLKIT | ADVANCING INNOVATION IN TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | COORDINATING MILITARY BASES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS | RURAL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN DESIGN GUIDE ASSISTANCE
Leadership training provides another outlet to exchange ideas and strengthen skills to serve residents.
Since its inception, officials from 289 state associations, counties, parishes and boroughs in 44 states have been represented in the program.

Nearly 100 webinars and conference workshop recordings— including leadership topics like civic education, civility and integrity and communications— with more than 5,000 attendees and viewers.

With Harvard University’s Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, NACo brought together 23 county elected executives and other leaders for a peer exchange focused on county innovation and leadership development.

25 county leaders participated in the County Leadership Institute.

Leadership training provides another outlet to exchange ideas and strengthen skills to serve residents.
Saving taxpayer dollars and providing value added resources are top priorities for NACo and our members
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS
NACo’s Defined Contribution and Retirement Services Program offers county employees a voluntary, tax-deferred savings opportunity to supplement employer-sponsored retirement plans. It also offers a 401(a) match and stand-alone defined contribution plans.

More than 353,000 county employees participated in the program with over $16.5 billion in assets.

40 state associations of counties endorse the program

3,122 counties and county jurisdictions participate

Since the partnership began, we’ve proudly helped more than 1.5 million county employees and retirees save extra money for retirement.

U.S. COMMUNITIES COOPERATIVE PURCHASING ALLIANCE SAVES MILLIONS ON COUNTY SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

68 new county participants

87,340 public sector users

51 suppliers, including seven new supplier contracts

U.S. Communities launched a new contract with Amazon Business to give counties access to a huge variety of products and solutions, including office supplies, audio/visual equipment and electronics, animal supplies, kitchenware and food and hard-to-find items such as 3-D printers and more.
LIVE HEALTHY U.S. COUNTIES

1,325 counties participate in the prescription discount program

117 counties participate in the health and dental discount program

34 state associations endorse NACo’s prescription discount program

20 endorse the enhanced prescription, health and dental discount program for residents

County residents have saved $672 million since the program’s inception
Enriching the public’s understanding of county government
iCIVICS – NACo, in partnership with iCivics, unveiled new and improved civic education resources: the County Solutions curriculum and the Counties Work online game.

SINCE THE RELAUNCH ALONE (THREE-MONTH TIMEFRAME):

More than **1.5 million** social media impressions of #TeachLocal

**1,100** accessed the curriculum

**264,118** game plays

Produced 24 issues of County News, along with special editions on homelessness and mental illness in jails

NACo.ORG AND COUNTY EXPLORER

Over **3 million page views** and more than 1.6 million sessions, an increase of nearly six percent.

County Explorer includes the latest data for 3,069 counties across 19 categories, over 100 datasets, more than 1,000 indicators and 15 county profiles
Broadcast 12 live events online, ranging from a town hall on the opioid epidemic, to Capitol Hill briefings and panel discussions on the Stepping Up Initiative, local infrastructure investments, human trafficking and homelessness, among others.

VIDEO (YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK)
More than 37,900 views on YouTube and Facebook – an increase of over 62 percent – accounting for 35 days and 12 hours of watch time.

SOCIAL MEDIA
Increased followers by more than 31%
Delivered 3.1 million impressions, a 67% increase.
2017-2018 Presidential Initiative

SERVING THE UNDERSERVED: COUNTIES ADDRESSING POVERTY

Under the leadership of incoming NACo President Roy Charles Brooks, NACo will raise awareness of the critical role counties play in breaking the cycle of poverty. NACo will also provide tools to strengthen efforts to address this issue as we help to build healthy, vibrant and safe counties across the United States.

While counties put people first, poverty can push them to the end of the line. This is particularly true for our nation’s children, who are impacted by poverty more than any other age group. In fact, adverse childhood experiences can impact infants for the rest of their lives.

As the ultimate safety net, county investments and leadership in early childhood development will lower future costs in county health, child welfare, safety and justice services. Counties also forge partnerships with the public, private and non-profit sectors at the federal, state and local levels to remove barriers, build opportunities and address the many faces of poverty in America.

NACo will raise awareness of the critical role counties play in breaking the cycle of poverty, especially with our children.
NACo ended 2016 with a net operating surplus of $1,204,297. Total operating revenue of $20,904,141 reflects 6.4 percent growth over 2015, driven primarily by continued growth in sales from the U.S. Communities Purchasing Alliance program. Total operating expenses grew 4.8 percent over the prior year to $19,699,844.
NACo Leadership

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U.S. Dept. of Justice Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) Advisory Committee
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FCC Intergovernmental Advisory Committee
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- Symantec
- The Public Group
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- TransCanada
- Transurban
- United Healthcare
- Visa

**LARGE URBAN COUNTY CAUCUS**
- Aetna
- Altria
- Amazon
- American Beverage Association
- Carton Council
- CH2M
- Comcast
- IBM
- International Council of Shopping Centers
- Nationwide
- The Public Group
- UnitedHealthcare

**RURAL ACTION CAUCUS**
- Aetna
- AT&T
- Carton Council
- IBM
- International Council of Shopping Centers
- Nationwide
- The Public Group
- TransCanada
- UnitedHealthcare

**RESILIENT COUNTIES AND COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
- Accela
- BNSF Railway
- Carton Council
- CGI Communications
- Corvias Solutions
- Crown Castle
- Ernst & Young
- Esri
- IBTS
- National Association of Home Builders
- Public Financial Management
- TransCanada
- Transurban
- Waste Management

**HEALTHY COUNTIES**
- Accela
- Aetna
- American Beverage Association
- AT&T
- Centpatico
- Consumer Healthcare Products Association
- Esri
- Johnson and Johnson
- Netsmart
- Premier
- UnitedHealthcare

**SMART JUSTICE**
- CoreCivic
- DLR Group
- Johnson and Johnson
- Netsmart
- Thomson Reuters

**START-UP ZONE**
- Bandura Systems
- Cloudistics
- GlobalFlyte
- Gruntify
SAVE THE DATES!

THANK YOU TO ALL NACo MEMBERS