



Executive Director Matthew D. Chase

Matthew D. Chase began serving as Executive Director of the National Association of Counties (NACo) in September 2012.

Prior to becoming NACo's fifth executive director, Matt served nearly a decade as executive director of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), which represents local government-based regional planning and development organizations. He previously served as the organization's legislative affairs director and deputy executive director. He began his career with the Professional Managers Association, serving as membership services director and chief operating officer.

Matt believes that county leaders and an active NACo membership are essential in preparing America for a better future. Since becoming executive director, he has partnered with the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and committee leadership to bring an infusion of enthusiasm, new ideas and emphasis on collaboration with affiliates and state associations.

Just one example of NACo's new approach is the Why Counties Matter! campaign, launched during the 2013 NACo Legislative Conference. The campaign aims to make certain that the Administration, Congress and the American people gain a better understanding and appreciation of county government. This effort ties into NACo's new focus on policy and practitioner research, especially data and facts that tell the county story and demonstrate the impact of counties on the economic and social fabric of our communities.

A native of Warren County, New York (Glens Falls), Matt believes that his childhood experiences in upstate New York serves him well as NACo's Executive Director. His stepfather held two elective offices in Washington County, New York — district attorney and judge.

Matt is a graduate of Hartwick College in Otsego County, New York, and holds a master's degree in political management from The George Washington University. He resides in Northern Virginia with his wife, Shana, where they are raising their two young sons.