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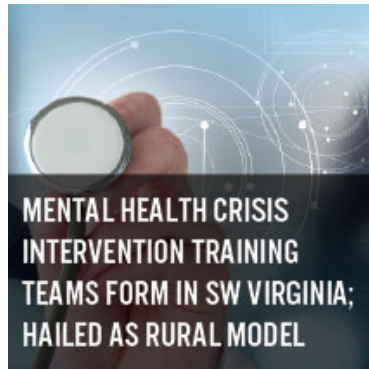
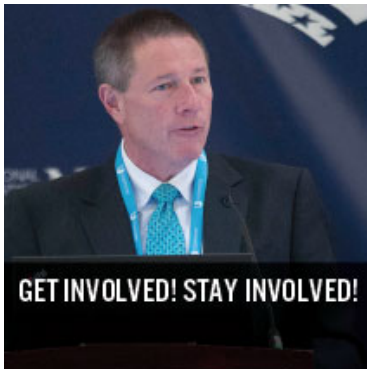


Joint opioid task force takes first steps

A toolkit for counties, a social media strategy, one voice with one message on the national level — these are a few of the hoped-for outcomes from members of the National City-County Task Force on Opioid Abuse that met for the first time April 7 in Washington, D.C.

[Read more.](#)

ABOVE THE FOLD



LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

BLM GRANTS 30-DAY EXTENSION OF PLANNING 2.0 COMMENT PERIOD

The proposed rule seeks to amend existing regulations relating to land use planning and opportunities for public engagement in BLM's planning process. New comment deadline: May 24, 2016.

FCC VOTE MODERNIZES LIFELINE PROGRAM TO INCLUDE BROADBAND ACCESS

The Lifeline program was established in 1985 to provide discounted telephone service for low-income Americans.

THE LATEST FROM NACo

ONLY THREE DAYS UNTIL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SUBMISSION DEADLINE. APPLY NOW!

NACo has announced that the deadline for submissions to the 2016 Achievement Awards has been extended to April 22. To begin your application, click [here](#).

NEW NACo PUBLICATION RELEASED, KEEPING COUNTIES MOVING: FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION AS AN ECONOMIC ENGINE

NACo has released a new issue brief, "Keeping Counties Moving: Freight Transportation as an Economic Engine," that describes how freight transportation planning and investments can fuel local and regional economic development. The report provides key best practice takeaways for county leaders through four county case studies. Access this publication [here](#).

ACTION REQUESTED

NACo is working with The Nature Conservancy to identify counties that are using nature-based solutions to help counties better prepare for and respond to coastal storm surges or river flooding. Contact [Jack Morgan](#) with any recommendations by May 2. [Read more here](#).

APPLY NOW! JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM GRANTS

The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications for the FY16 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program grants. Awardees will receive up to \$250,000 and direct technical assistance to develop a system-wide coordinated approach to reduce mental illness in local jails. Applications are due May 17. [Learn more here](#).

MACARTHUR FOUNDATION SUPPORTS LOCAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS REFORM

Eleven sites, including seven counties, received grants between \$1.7 million and \$3.5 million to reduce jail populations and address racial and ethnic disparities from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Nine additional counties will receive \$150,000 to continue reform work and to participate in a growing network of jurisdictions driving local justice reform. Learn more [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 22

WEBINAR: [An Interactive Virtual Discussion on Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities \(RED\) in County Justice Systems](#)

2 – 3 p.m. EDT

MAY 18 WEBINAR: **NEW** Keeping Counties Moving: Technological Innovations in Transportation
2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

MAY 19 WEBINAR: Funding a County-wide Workforce Development Strategy
2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

JUNE 2 WEBINAR: Homeland Security and Justice Grants for Counties: Are you Getting All You Can?
2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

JUNE 30 WEBINAR: **NEW** Saving Lives through Local Road Safety Planning
2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

MORE NEWS AND RESOURCES

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) unites America's 3,069 county governments. Founded in 1935, NACo brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public's understanding of county government and exercise exemplary leadership in public service.

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