

November 13, 2018 [View this email in your browser](#)



Save the Date! NARC's 2019 National Conference of Regions is February 10-13

NARC would like to extend an invitation to you and your staff to join us in Washington for our February policy conference. The National Conference of Regions is NARC's forum to determine key policy issues and a legislative agenda for the year ahead, targeting topics central to our members' missions and their local elected officials' focus. The conference will take place at the **Washington Court Hotel**, located at **525 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, D.C.** A registration link will be made available soon. We hope to see you there!

2018 Executive Directors Conference Photos and Presentations

Take a look at some of the photos from our Executive Directors Conference last month. You can also view several of the presentations that were made at the conference. Thank you to all those who joined us in Cleveland!

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

The House and Senate are in session.

Lawmakers Return to Washington

Everyone in Congress will tell you that there remains much to be done – including the passage of seven appropriations bills, the Farm Bill, the National Flood Insurance Program, and prison reform. But they will also tell you that passing these seven fiscal year 2019 appropriations bills – including the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, State, and Justice – is a huge undertaking and may cause other important legislation to be pushed into the 116th Congress.

Even as Congress focuses on the remaining appropriations bills, a partial government shutdown is becoming increasingly likely. Senate minority members have said they will use the power of the purse to address what they believe is the “unlawful appointment” of the current acting attorney general. House minority members have said that they will do what they need to do to protect the Russia investigation. And all sides, including the president, seem to be digging in their heels, making it harder to find a clear path to adoption of the necessary appropriations bills. The president has threatened to shut down the government unless he gets full funding for his border wall. No matter what happens, the Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, Labor, Education, and Veterans Affairs are funded until October 2019 because their appropriations bills were passed prior to the midterm election recess.

The lame-duck session will also be used to choose House and Senate leaders. This week, House Republicans will meet to choose their leadership for the 116th Congress and Senate Republicans will also gather to choose their leaders. House Democrats will meet after the Thanksgiving holiday and newly elected House members will meet for their freshman orientation.

The lame-duck session is shaping up to be unpredictable. The agenda for the lame-duck session includes negotiations over the Farm Bill, with conferees expected to continue discussions this

week and House and Senate leaders hoping to adopt a final agreement. The key remaining dispute involves House-supported work requirements for food stamp recipients. If Congress cannot reach an agreement, they will need to pass another extension to keep the agriculture programs funded.

As Congress wraps up, lawmakers may seek to attach other legislation to the spending package, which must be adopted to keep the government running, including reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program (HR 2874) and Autonomous Vehicle legislation (S 1885).

White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and US Department of Agriculture Release Community Resources to Address Substance Abuse

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released a guide of federal resources for rural communities to help address substance use disorder and opioid misuse. The resource guide provides a comprehensive listing of federal resources available for communities facing the devastating impact of the opioid epidemic.

NARC Schedule this Week

NARC has several upcoming events for our members this week! We hope you can tune in and share them with your staff and colleagues. Recordings of all the events will be posted on our [YouTube page](#), and the PowerPoint presentations will be available upon request by emailing maci.morin@narc.org. The schedule is as follows:

- *Today, November 13*
In partnership with Broadband USA, NARC held a webinar titled “**Digital Inclusion for Regional Development.**” Broadband USA provided an overview of digital inclusion, including definitions, why it is important, strategies, and what regional councils can do to promote digital inclusion. Eastgate Regional Council of Governments also joined us to talk about their regional digital inclusion efforts and the goals they are working towards to achieve the vision that “all people can take advantage of educational, economic, and social opportunities available through digital technologies.” A recording of the event will be available on NARC's YouTube page later this week.
- *Tomorrow, November 14, 3-4 PM ET*
NARC will hold a legislative briefing on the **likely impact of the mid-term elections on regions.** As part of the briefing, NARC staff will provide you with the latest election information and their insights into the following issues: who will be in charge, what Senate and House leaders are promising to do in the next Congress, the major issues that the current Congress must still resolve, and what issues will be at the forefront of the next Congress which convenes on January 3, 2019. Among the range of issues that will be discussed are transportation, infrastructure, older Americans, Medicare and Medicaid, the Farm Bill, and the National Flood Insurance Program. There will be time for questions and answers. Register for this event [here](#) and contact Neil Bomberg at neil@narc.org with any questions.
- *Thursday, November 15, 3-4 PM ET*
In partnership with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), NARC will hold a webinar on the **Opportunity Zones** program. The presentation will provide an overview of the program, how it aims to attract private investment to underserved areas, and what to expect over the next phases of Opportunity Zone implementation. Wasatch Front Regional Council will also be featured, sharing their role in designating Opportunity Zones in Utah and potential opportunities this program presents for their organization and their region. Register for this event [here](#).

MEMBER REQUESTS

Requested Membership Sample Documents from EDC Conference

NARC has had requests to collect samples of documents that were discussed during the 2018 Executive Directors Conference. Please send samples of your organization's board meeting summaries/updates and board code of conduct/board policy documents to maci.morin@narc.org.

Help Us Launch Our Newest Publication: *Regional Councils: This Month in Photos!*

Beginning this month, *Regional Councils: This Month in Photos* will be published monthly to highlight the important work that is taking place in regions. Please share your photos of a regional council meeting, a board retreat, a meeting with your state or federal elected officials, the opening of a new facility, a special program, an award you may have received, or something else you view as important that you would like to share with your colleagues. Please include a brief description and the names and titles of anyone who appears in the photo. You can send your photos and related information to Neil Bomberg at neil@narc.org.

FEATURED JOBS

View full list of jobs!

Transportation Engineer/Planner

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Philadelphia, PA

RFP: Performance Audit Services

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments, Oklahoma City, OK

Project Manager

Broward MPO, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Planner/Research Analyst

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, Philadelphia, PA

Transportation Travel Demand Modeler

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, Pittsburgh, PA

FUNDING

View full list of grants!

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grants

Applications Due: November 29, but applications are accepted on a quarterly basis

The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation works to impact the lifesaving capabilities and the lives of local heroes and their communities. This is accomplished by providing lifesaving equipment and prevention education tools to first responders and public safety organizations. The Foundation's areas of interest include lifesaving equipment, prevention education, scholarships and continued education, disaster relief, and support for members of the military. The Foundation mainly focuses its resources in areas served by Firehouse Subs restaurants, but recognizes the need of rural and volunteer departments throughout the country and will consider applications outside of the 60 mile guideline.

Save America's Treasures Grants

Applications Due: December 3

The National Park Service has announced the availability of \$13 million in Historic Preservation Fund grants for the Save America's Treasures (SAT) program. SAT grants provide preservation and/or conservation assistance to nationally-significant historic properties and collections. Grants will be awarded through a competitive process and require a dollar-for-dollar, non-Federal match, which can be cash or documented in-kind.

FY 2019 Farm to School Grant

Applications Due: December 4

The USDA Farm to School program was established to provide grants and technical assistance to implement farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. Approximately \$7.5 million will be released under this solicitation in FY 2019. Planning and training grant awards range from \$20,000 to \$50,000, and implementation grant awards range from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Organizations that have received implementation, support service, or training grants through the Farm to School Grant Program in the last two funding cycles (FY 2017 or FY 2018) are ineligible to apply for FY 2019 funding. A 25 percent cash or in-kind funding match is required.

AmeriCorps State and National Grants FY 2019

Letter of Intent Due: December 12; Applications Due: January 30, 2019

Through AmeriCorps, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action. In the FY 2019 AmeriCorps competition, CNCS seeks to prioritize the investment of national service resources in economic opportunity, education, healthy futures, veterans and military families, rural intermediaries, safer communities, and faith-based organizations. Organizations that propose to operate in only one state must apply through the Governor-appointed State or Territory Commissions. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Notification of Intent to apply for this competition, but it is not required.

Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Competitive Grants Program

Applications Due: January 10, 2019

The Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Program provides grants to nonprofits to increase the number of military veterans gaining knowledge and skills through comprehensive, hands-on, and immersive model farm and ranch programs offered regionally that lead to successful careers in the food and agricultural sector. Projects will offer onsite, hands-on training and classroom education leading to a comprehensive understanding of successful farm and ranch operations and management practices. Projects may also offer workforce readiness and employment prospects for service-disabled veterans.

Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program

Applications Due: January 31, 2019

The Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program (FMA) provides funding to states, territories, federally-recognized tribes, and local communities for projects and planning that reduces or eliminates long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program. FMA funding is also available for management costs. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires state, tribal, and local governments to develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for Hazard Mitigation Assistance projects. Generally, local communities will sponsor applications on behalf of homeowners and then submit the applications to their state.

Base Center Program

Applications Due: April 28, 2019

The purpose of the Administration for Children and Families' Basic Center Program (BCP) is to provide temporary shelter and counseling services to youth who have left home without permission of their parents or guardians, who have been forced to leave home, or who might otherwise end up in law enforcement, child welfare, mental health, or juvenile justice systems. BCPs work to establish or strengthen community-based programs that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families. BCPs provide youth under 18 years of age with emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and referrals for health care. The award process for FY2019 BCP allows for annual awards over a three-year project period, as funds are available.

Career Pathways Secondary Data Analysis Grants

Applications Due: May 31, 2019

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) plans to fund Career Pathways Secondary Data Analysis Grants to support secondary analysis of data collected to rigorously evaluate a collection of career pathways programs. Career pathways programs provide post-secondary education and training organized as a series of manageable steps leading to successively higher credentials and employment opportunities in growing occupations. ACF's Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation oversees a robust research portfolio evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of career pathways programs, including the Pathways for Advancing Careers and Education (PACE) Evaluation and the Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG) Program. These grants would support rigorous, policy-relevant secondary analysis of the core data sets to add to the body of knowledge and gain a deeper understanding of the implementation and effectiveness of career pathways programs.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife

Applications Due: September 30, 2019

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) Program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that

provides direct technical assistance and financial assistance in the form of cooperative and grant agreements to private landowners to restore and conserve fish and wildlife habitat for the benefit of federal trust resources. Partners for Fish and Wildlife program staff coordinate with project partners, stakeholders, and other Fish and Wildlife Service programs to identify geographic focus areas and develop habitat conservation priorities within these focus areas. Project work plans are developed strategically, in coordination with partners, and with substantial involvement from Fish and Wildlife Service field staff. Applicants seeking technical or financial assistance from the PFW program are requested to consult with the Regional PFW program office before developing or applying. Private lands include, but are not limited to: tribal, Hawaiian homeland, city, municipality, non-governmental, and private fee-title properties.

EVENTS

[View full list of events!](#)

NARC Webinar! NARC-LISC Opportunity Zones Webinar

November 15, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

NARC and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) will hold a webinar on the Opportunity Zones program on November 15. The presentation will provide an overview of the program, how it aims to attract private investment to underserved areas, and what to expect over the next phases of Opportunity Zone implementation. Wasatch Front Regional Council will also be featured, sharing their role in designating Opportunity Zones in Utah and potential opportunities this program presents for their organization and their region.

Transformative Placemaking: Expanding Opportunities for People and Places

November 14, 9:30-11:30 AM ET

After decades of sprawl and suburban dominance, U.S. cities are experiencing rebounding populations, growing employment, and new public and private sector investments in places that are walkable, transit-oriented, and support diverse people and amenities. But we know that the benefits of these trends are not equally distributed, presenting an urgent opportunity for local and regional leaders to advance place-led development that produces better economic outcomes for more people in more places. To help deliver on that imperative, the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings is launching the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Center for Transformative Placemaking. The Bass Center will inspire public, private, and civic sector leaders to make transformative place investments that generate widespread social and economic benefits.

Going Big in Small Places: Millennials Make Their Mark in America's Towns

November 14, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Millennials, the group that range in age from 22 to 37, more than any generation before them, live lives driven by technology. Technology has given them freedom to work anywhere and keeps them constantly connected to friends and family. Place, it seems, is irrelevant. It might seem counterintuitive that millennials would choose small towns, but many of them are—and in numbers defying conventional wisdom about so-called “brain drain” from rural America. Ben Winchester, who has spent his career studying trends in rural migration of all age groups, shares his data and sets the stage for an insightful discussion with three millennials who have chosen towns and small cities and are contributing to the vibrancy of the places they live in a big way.

Midterm Elections and the Future of Water

November 14, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Earlier this year, the US Water Alliance released the One Water for America Policy Framework, with policy suggestions at the national, state, and local level. No matter how you may be interested in advancing One Water policies, elections matter and water is no different despite its bipartisan support. In the 2018 election cycle, control of both chambers of Congress is in play, 36 governorships are up for election (many of which are term-limited open seats), and many state legislative and local election seats are up as well. Turnout is already expected to be well above average for a midterm year. Learn from a bipartisan pair of panelists what the results of the election are and what practical and policy impacts might result from changes in the federal government and in the states.

Broadband Connectivity is Transforming Healthcare

November 14, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Broadband connectivity is critical for many reasons, including access to quality healthcare. From remote patient monitoring to mobile health applications accessed via smartphones, tablets, or other devices, advances in telemedicine and telehealth technologies have impacted patient care and health outcomes far away from hospitals and doctors' offices. Connected-care services significantly reduce economic and administrative costs for patients and health care providers. This Broadband USA webinar will explore innovations in telehealth and telemedicine applications and programs that two leading universities have developed to improve patient health in their states, especially in rural and remote areas.

Impacts of Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs

November 14, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Established by state legislation and enabled by local governments, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing leverages private capital to upgrade existing homes and buildings to reduce energy consumption, promote renewable power, and mitigate the effects of natural disasters. The improvements are repaid over time through a special assessment on the property owner's property tax bill. Join this REMI webinar to hear the impacts PACE financing has on the built environment, natural environment, and economic vitality in communities that these programs serve.

Gaining Project Support from Your Team, Elected Officials, and the Public

November 14, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This International City/County Management Association (ICMA) webinar will cover the following topics:

1. What's key to presenting your idea or project effectively?
2. How can everyone play a role in leading and supporting productive change?
3. What can we learn from case studies about how to navigate and serve successfully?

FCI Briefing Series: Census 2020 Messaging Testing Results

November 14, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

For this Funders Census Initiative (FCI) webinar, Monica Vines, a Census Bureau researcher, will be giving an overview on the messaging research conducted by the Bureau and their findings. This research included the 50,000-person Census Barriers, Attitudes, and Motivators Survey (CBAMS) as well as many additional focus groups. Please attend with your questions – they are leaving most of the 90 minutes with the Bureau for a robust discussion.

Our Journey Together, Work Experiences in Rural Areas: Corps and Workforce Partnerships

November 19, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

Join the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Youth Services to learn how corps partnerships with the workforce system can create meaningful work experiences for youth. The Corps Network will share promising practices they've found when corps and workforce development boards collaborate to prepare youth for careers and you will also hear why corps programs can be good models for youth to gain work experience. We'll also learn what two local corps programs are doing to serve youth in rural areas with WIOA Youth program funds and the types of work experiences they offer their youth.

Partnering with Community

November 20, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

For decades, Allen County, Kansas saw the population and economic fabric of their county decline. But despite the shift, the 13,000 residents of this rural county in the southeastern region of the state have been experiencing a watershed moment. Community members and leaders have banded together to foster a sense of belonging and create a shared vision—everything from improving the collective health of the community to enhancing the livelihoods and prospects of everyone. Join County Health Rankings & Roadmaps as they talk with Lisse Regehr, Deputy Director of Outreach and Advocacy for Thrive Allen County, about how the nonprofit coalition has created opportunities for residents to embrace their power and act collectively.

Addressing Inequities in Health: Key Concepts for Counties

December 6, 2:00-3:15 PM ET

Join the National Association of Counties to learn how counties can use health equity as a framework to develop programs and policies to improve the health of their residents. Experts

from County Health Rankings & Roadmaps and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity will share strategies and tools for counties doing work to create positive shifts in health for their residents. You will also hear from Boone County, MO on the work they are doing to create more equitable health opportunities in their community.

CONTACT US

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