

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 9, 2013 **CONTACT:** Jim Philipps, 202.942.4220

NACo's Large Urban County Caucus holds first county innovations symposium in New York City

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The first National Association of Counties (NACo) Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC) Innovations Symposium will be held Dec. 11-13 in New York City to engage county leaders from the nation's largest counties on policies and innovative programs important to counties. The meetings will be held at the Affina Manhattan Hotel, 371 Seventh Ave.

The three-day event brings together more than three dozen county leaders from 18 states and global and national thought leaders, policy makers, foundations and corporations for in-depth policy and best practice discussions. The meetings will focus on priority county issues including healthcare, justice system reforms, sustainable transportation/infrastructure systems and disaster preparedness and recovery strategies (resilient counties).

Each panel will feature presentations from national thought leaders followed by roundtable discussions among county leaders exploring effective and innovative local and regional best practices.

Special guest speakers will include Molly Ward, special assistant to the president and deputy director for the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs; Gillian Sealy, director, Clinton Health Matters Initiative, Clinton Foundation; Vincent Schiraldi, probation commissioner, New York City; Matt Alsdorf, director of Criminal Justice, Laura and John Arnold Foundation, and Bruce Katz, vice president, Brookings Institution and founding director of Brookings' Metropolitan Policy Program. The agenda and list of presenters is available here.

During the event, NACo will release a report highlighting a variety of innovative county programs. It will be available at www.naco.org.

"The symposium will be an informative exchange of ideas on the most important issues facing America's counties," said LUCC Chair Roy Brooks, commissioner, Tarrant County, Texas. "It offers a unique opportunity for county leaders to listen to national policy experts, private sector leaders and charitable foundations committed to finding innovative ways to meet and exceed the needs of the American people through local government."

NACo's Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC) is a bipartisan coalition of 1,000 elected county executives and officials from the nation's most populous metropolitan counties. LUCC identifies challenges, provides input in developing national solutions and implements programs that assist metropolitan communities nationwide.

The agenda and list of presenters is available <u>here</u>.

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The <u>National Association of Counties</u> (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo assists America's 3,069 counties in pursuing excellence in public service to produce healthy, vibrant, safe and resilient counties. NACo promotes sound public policies, fosters county solutions and innovation, promotes intergovernmental and public-private collaboration and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. More information at: <u>www.naco.org</u>.