



NEWS RELEASE

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Bamberg County earns national achievement award for Bamberg-Barnwell Emergency Medical Center

WASHINGTON – Bamberg County has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

NACo recognized Bamberg County with a 2019 Achievement Award in the Health Category for its program titled “A Regional Solution to a Healthcare Desert: A Freestanding Emergency Center.” This collaborative project that involved Bamberg, Barnwell, Orangeburg, and Calhoun Counties, the Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg and Calhoun, Southern Carolina Alliance, SC Department of Health and Human Services, and the local legislative delegation including Senators Hutto, Matthews, Bamberg, and Hosey.

“I am proud of this collaborative project between four counties, a municipality, a hospital, the local economic development team, and the state delegation,” stated Trent Kinard, Bamberg County Chairman. “To win this national recognition demonstrates the importance of the Bamberg-Barnwell Emergency Medical Center to our communities, and also highlights the necessity of partnerships to address rural healthcare challenges nationwide.”

NACo President Greg Cox said, “Counties implement innovative programs that enhance residents’ quality of life every day. This year’s Achievement Award-winning programs demonstrate how counties build healthy, safe and vibrant communities across America.”

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more.

NACo will recognize award-winning counties at its [2019 Annual Conference and Exposition](#) July 12-15 in Clark County, Nevada.

Started in 1970, NACo's annual Achievement Awards program is designed to recognize county government innovations. Each nominee is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received.

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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. Learn more at www.naco.org

