



April 7, 2016

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

Presentation of National County Government Month and Outreach

Purpose/Outcomes	Recognizing April 2016 as National County Government Month, as sponsored by the National Association of Counties. The 2016 theme is “Ensuring Safe and Secure Communities.” As part of this national theme, the Board is asked to honor the collaborative efforts of County staff in the February Hepatitis A incident.
Fiscal Impact	None
Funding Source	N/A
Duration	N/A
Previous Action	None
Strategic Plan Alliance	- Building public trust through good government - Ensuring safe, healthy and secure communities
Contact Person	Timothy Heider, Public Affairs Manager (503) 742-5911

BACKGROUND

Every year in April, the National Association of Counties (NACo) declares National County Government Month in an effort to promote and educate the public on the services provided by our county governments. This provides an opportunity for counties across the country to actively share the value and extent of their services with the public.

This year’s celebration theme is “Ensuring Safe and Secure Communities.” This directly correlates to one of the five strategic priorities of Clackamas County – “Ensuring Safe, Healthy and Secure Communities”– as outlined in the Performance Clackamas Strategic Plan.

America’s Counties play a central role in keeping communities safe and secure, by managing criminal justice systems, bolstering economic opportunities and responding to natural disasters and emergencies.

Similarly counties invest heavily in the health and well-being of our residents, many times serving as a safety net for low income or indigent residents. County health departments protect our communities and residents by offering a wide variety of services like administering flu shots, providing health and safety information and inspections, and preventing and responding to public health emergencies.

An example of this dedicated public service played out in February during the coordinated and collaborative response to the Hepatitis A incident at a Sandy movie theater. In that response, County staff from Public Health, Disaster Management, Facilities Management, Technology Services and Public and Government Affairs provided public information and notification and responsive actions, including the establishment of three public vaccination clinics that provided needed medication to 232 persons over a three-day span.

In addition to honoring these participants today, Public and Government Affairs is leading an education and outreach campaign throughout the month of April that will include social and new media distribution as follows:

- Week 1 (April 4-10): “Emergency Response, Public Safety and Justice” allows for the County to detail how it safeguards both our urban and rural populations through emergency management and law enforcement.
- Week 2 (April 11-17): “Health and Hospitals” will showcase the great work of our Health, Housing & Human Services staff in protecting residents and serving their needs.
- Week 3 (April 18-24): “Children and Families” allows the County to highlight its efforts combating domestic violence and youth suicide.
- Week 4 (April 25-30): “Economy and Employment” provide an opportunity to show what the County is doing to promote business and improve the local economy.

Clackamas County is proud to honor the work of all Clackamas County employees for the benefit of our public and our residents.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board recognize April 2016 as National County Government Month and honor the participants in the February Hepatitis A response as an example of how Clackamas County and counties across the U.S. serve to “Ensure Healthy and Safe Communities”.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Schmidt, Director
Public and Government Affairs