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## For Immediate Release

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### **Macomb County earns national achievement awards for innovative programs**

Macomb County has been recognized with 13 Achievement Awards – the most in the state - from the National Association of Counties (NACo). A total of 26 were earned statewide. The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that enhance services for residents.

“Our goal is always to run Macomb County government as efficiently as possible and receiving these awards demonstrates we are doing so effectively,” said Macomb County Executive Mark A. Hackel.

Macomb County’s Information Technology Department received four NACo awards, Macomb County Health two and Macomb County Planning and Economic Development garnered one. The remaining six NACo awards went to the Macomb County Clerk’s Office.

#### Macomb County Information Technology

- Fleet Maintenance Consolidation is a program implemented by IT in order to reduce manual processes and duplicate services (fuel systems), and to establish a standardized software for fuel processing and fleet maintenance. It brought together several departments to share and utilize common resources. By consolidating technologies, IT has reduced the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) for operating vehicle fleet maintenance through the County.
- The Jail Inmate Locator (JIL) application contains detailed information on inmates housed at the Macomb County Jail including charges, booking, release and court dates, fees and fines and visitation opportunities. This data is presented through a web-based interface accessible by desktop and mobile devices, as well as through an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system facilitated through the county’s Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone system.
- The IT Department has undergone a complete reorganization in the past two years, beginning with a staff restructuring in March 2013 that included nearly 42 employees and the creation of a new Project Management Office (PMO). With five Project Managers, a

PMO Manager, and a PMO consultant, various protocols, tools and resources were developed in-house in order to fulfill the purpose of the PMO, which is to manage the County's Technology portfolio and projects.

- In March 2015, Macomb County IT completed a public web site conversion project that included the creation of an open-source system with a customized design and content management system for all of its departments and units to use. Developed entirely in-house, the IT Department worked with the rest of the county to recreate all of the nearly 4,000 pages to this new platform.

#### Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development

- Launched a plan to help close the skilled trades gap. The department partnered with many agencies to provide an opportunity for students to meet the people who make things and see manufacturing in action. As a result, Macomb County led one of the nation's largest celebrations of Manufacturing Day.

#### Macomb County Health Department

- The department developed and delivered on-site car seat safety education programming and car seat inspections for families with low English language proficiency.
- Macomb County Health Department Medical Reserve Corps Youth Emergency Preparedness Outreach Initiative began in fall 2014. The Initiative is comprised of a 40-minute presentation to fifth grade classrooms. Its goal is to educate youth about the importance of emergency preparedness.

Nationally, awards are given in 21 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice, county administration, environmental protection, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more.

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

The awards will be presented at NACo's 2015 Annual Conference and Exposition July 10–13 in Mecklenburg County, N.C.

*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](http://www.naco.org).*

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