Dear NADO Members and Friends,

Welcome to the 2018 National Association of Development Organizations and Development District Association of Appalachia Washington Conference! On behalf of NADO’s Board of Directors and Executive Committee, thank you for making the commitment to participate and join the discussion on federal policy issues critical to our nation’s regional development organizations, local governments, and communities.

This year’s joint conference offers multiple learning opportunities on what’s topping the federal agenda. Through plenary and concurrent sessions, you’ll hear from federal officials, key partners, and other stakeholders on what to expect this year on infrastructure, rural development, broadband, disaster recovery, as well as the stakes for the mid-term elections and the congressional agenda.

Building on the success of past conferences, attendees will venture to Capitol Hill for visits with congressional staff and members of Congress on Tuesday, March 20. We encourage you to share the impact of federal investments in your regions. We will cap off the day with a Capitol Hill reception.

Conference participants will also have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with representatives from a dozen different federal agencies at the annual Federal Agency Networking Event. This event is a wonderful opportunity to connect with federal partners and learn about opportunities for collaboration.

Thank you again for participating in this timely and important event. I look forward to a successful and informative 2018 Washington Conference.

Sincerely,

Doug Elliott
President
National Association of Development Organizations
Executive Director, East Central Iowa Council of Governments
Dear DDAA Members and Friends,

I’d like to welcome you to the 2018 Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) and National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) combined Washington, D.C. conference!

We are pleased that you have joined us in the nation’s capitol to make the Appalachian voice heard!

The annual conference provides opportunities for members to improve their national-level understanding, while focusing on building strong regional economies and communities across the Appalachian region.

The combined DDAA-NADO conference format will offer DDAA members region-specific concurrent sessions that focus on workforce and health care issues and trends in energy and manufacturing.

Our continued partnership with NADO will also provide joint plenary sessions on federal agency partnerships and what to expect in 2018!

Be sure to join in on conference Twitter conversations with #NADODDAA2018.

I also offer my gratitude to 2018 conference chair and DDAA First Vice President, Jim Baldwin, Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission, for the strategic planning efforts that went into this year’s event.

There is truly no greater time or place to generate visibility of Appalachia’s regional needs by engaging policy and decision makers at the federal level. We are glad that you have joined us in D.C.!

Sincerely,

Richard Zink, President
Development District Association of Appalachia
Executive Director, Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board

We look forward to seeing you at The Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) Annual Professional Development Conference set for April 17-19 in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Whether you want to attain skills and knowledge for personal development or career advancement, join us for real-world executive and employee development sessions, networking and more. The event is excellent for Executive Directors, Managers, Fiscal Managers, Officers, IT Managers and Staff.
## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Schedule at a Glance........................................................................................................ 5  
Full Conference Schedule.......................................................................................... 6  
Federal Agency Networking Session.......................................................................... 12  
2018 Conferences and Events.................................................................................... 13  
NADO Staff and Consultants...................................................................................... 14  
NADO Executive Committee...................................................................................... 14  
DDAA Officers............................................................................................................ 15  
NADO Board of Directors.......................................................................................... 16  
DDAA Board of Directors........................................................................................... 17  
2018 NADO Congressional Partnership Awards....................................................... 18  
2018 NADO Legislator of the Year............................................................................ 18  
DDAA Annual Awards................................................................................................. 19  
2018 Congressional Calendar..................................................................................... 20  
2018 NADO Innovation Awards Information............................................................... 21  
Save the Dates for Upcoming Conferences................................................................. 22  

## REGISTRATION SCHEDULE

**Sunday, March 18** ................................................................. 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
**Monday, March 19** ............................................................... 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 20** ............................................................... 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
**Wednesday, March 21** ........................................................ 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.
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SUNDAY, MARCH 18

10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
Registration ................................................................. Arlington Foyer

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
DDAA Executive Board Meeting ..................................... Salon 5

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
NADO Executive Committee Meeting ............................. Fairfax (Second Floor)

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
NADO Board of Directors Meeting ................................. Salon 3

All NADO members are encouraged to attend.

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
Conference Opening Reception ....................................... Salon 4

MONDAY, MARCH 19

7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Registration ................................................................. Arlington Foyer

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.  
DDAA Breakfast and Annual Business Meeting ............... Salon 4

The DDAA Annual Business Meeting will include election of the DDAA Board of Directors and Officers.

Richard Zink, President, DDAA and Executive Director, Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board (NY), Presiding

Scott Hamilton, Executive Director, Appalachian Regional Commission, Remarks

9:15 – 10:30 a.m.  
Opening Plenary Session ................................................. Salons 1 – 3

Bridging the Economic Divide: Outlook on Infrastructure

A reliable and extensive national infrastructure system has supported commerce throughout our country’s history. Aging infrastructure and changing demands bring new challenges the administration and Congress hope to address in 2018. Federal officials come together for a panel discussion on policy proposals to address our nation’s infrastructure needs.

Jannine Miller, Senior Advisor for Rural Infrastructure, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Ryan A. Fisher, Principal Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Robbie Boone, Vice President for Government Affairs, Farm Credit Foundation, Moderator

Doug Elliott, President, NADO and Executive Director, East Central Iowa Council of Governments and Richard Zink, President, DDAA and Executive Director, Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board (NY), Welcome and Introductions
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Concurrent Sessions

**Rays of Opportunity: Local and Regional Solar Projects** ........................................... Rosslyn I (Lobby Level)
Solar has taken off as a viable energy source and significant factor in economic growth for communities of all sizes. Recent success lies in key partnerships and strategies to encourage solar expansion and create new market opportunities. Panelists will showcase best practices in solar development and resources to assist local and regional initiatives.

*Steve Kalland*, Executive Director, North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center  
*Adam Wells*, New Economy Program Manager, Appalachian Voices  
*Connie Altier*, Executive Director, Tri-County Career Center  
*Odette Mucha*, Technology Manager, SunShot Initiative, U.S. Department of Energy, Moderator

**Community Courage: Battling the Disease of Addiction** ................................................... Salon 5
Families, communities, and local economies are experiencing the severity of the drug epidemic. Public health programs are responding through various treatments to address behavior and social aspects of addiction. In this session, participants will learn how public response is turning the tide against widespread drug abuse. Andrea Boxill will identify and share specific activities that public institutions are enlisting to aid victims and repair communities.

*Andrea Boxill*, Deputy Director, Ohio Governor’s Cabinet Opiate Action Team (GCOAT)  
*Jason Wilson*, Director, Governor’s Office of Appalachia (Ohio), Introduction

**Interagency Response to Disaster Recovery and Resilience** ........................................ Rosslyn II (Lobby Level)
Planning and recovery are center stage for many communities around the country in the wake of the past year’s natural disasters. Federal officials will provide insight and outlook on interagency approaches for enhancing response and assistance to localities.

*Scott Koons*, First Vice President, NADO and Executive Director, North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Moderator

**Partnerships and Policies for 21st Century Community Development** ............................. Salon 6
Community development initiatives support local growth and development, promote safety, and bring people together to solve specific local issues. The federal government has played a key role by providing resources and guidance to local and regional community development efforts. In this panel session, policy advocates share how the federal role is changing and what can be expected in community development moving forward.

*Danielle Arigoni*, Director, Livable Communities, AARP  
*Vicki Watson*, Executive Director, National Community Development Association  
*Jason Jordan*, Director of Policy, American Planning Association
Kevin Byrd, Second Vice President, NADO and Executive Director, New River Valley Regional Council (VA), Moderator

12:15 – 1:30 p.m. Luncheon ...........................................................................................................Salons 1 – 3

In June 2017, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue named Anne Hazlett as Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development. She oversees the Rural Utilities Service, the Rural Business Service, and the Rural Housing Service and works to advance solutions to the challenges faced by rural communities.

Anne Hazlett, Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Doug Elliott, President, NADO and Executive Director, East Central Iowa Council of Governments, Introduction

1:45 – 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Economic Success Through Partnerships in Workforce and Research Development ................................................. Rosslyn I (Lobby Level)

Deep-rooted and complex issues prevent communities from competing in the global marketplace. Among many aspects, workforce and research development remain critical to sustaining economic activity. In this two-part session, presenters will share insight on maintaining relationships and assets for workforce training and technical assistance with an emphasis on energy and manufacturing sectors.

Chris Spence, Principal, New Growth Group, LLC

Edward Robinson, Director of Programs, Carrollton Exempted Village Schools (OH)

David Quattrochi, Superintendent, Carrollton Exempted Village Schools (OH)

Edgar Lara-Curzio, Director, Science and Technical Operations, Mechanical Properties and Mechanics Group, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

James Ferguson, Manager, State and Local Partnerships, National Energy Technology Laboratory

Chris Nichols, Senior Analyst, Engineering and Analysis Directorate, National Energy Technology Laboratory

Jen Worth, Senior Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development, American Association of Community Colleges, Moderator

The Martinsburg Initiative: A Model Solution to the Problem of Opiate Addiction and Abuse .................................................. Salon 5

The opiate epidemic has taken its toll on lives and communities in recent years. While public agencies grapple with its high cost, the opiate crisis is a widespread issue and engagement is needed on multiple fronts. Officials from the Martinsburg Initiative join the session to discuss how local efforts are unfolding to enforce, treat, and prevent heroin use.

Mary J. C. Hendrix, Ph.D., President, Shepherd University

Maurice V. Richards, Ed.D, Chief of Police, Martinsburg Police Department (WV)
Tiffany Hendershot, Licensed Social Work and TMI Project Director, Berkley County Schools (WV)

Jim Baldwin, First Vice President, DDAA and Executive Director, Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission (VA), Moderator

**Understanding New Revisions to the EDA Revolving Loan Fund Program**

The U.S. Economic Development Administration recently issued changes to its Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program. As the new RLF Risk Analysis System becomes standard, it will be critical for Economic Development District staff to coordinate with EDA and understand the new process. Join EDA staff for a review of the new RLF metrics and scoring criteria.

Mitchell Harrison, Revolving Loan Fund Coordinator, Performance and National Programs, U.S. Economic Development Administration

Patrick Waggoner, Revolving Loan Fund Administrator, U.S. Economic Development Administration, Denver Regional Office

Lynne Keller Forbes, Immediate Past President, NADO and Executive Director, Southeastern Council of Governments (SD), Moderator

**The Broadband Gap: Response and Opportunity**

Competitiveness in the twenty-first century economy relies on modern broadband access to create and retain business and jobs. While greater connectivity is being achieved, many communities still lack adequate broadband availability. Broadband advocates will share insight on barriers to developing digital infrastructure, federal roles and responses, and opportunities for local stakeholders.

Joshua Seidemann, Vice President for Policy, NTCA The Rural Broadband Association

Erin Fitzgerald, Regulatory Counsel, Rural Wireless Association

Doug Brake, Director, Telecommunications Policy, Information Technology and Innovation Foundation

Chris Fetzer, Secretary, NADO and Executive Director, Northern Arizona Council of Governments, Moderator

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  **NADO Regional Membership Caucus Meetings**

East Region ................................................................. Salon G
Midwest Region .......................................................... Salon 2
Central Region ......................................................... Salon 1
Southeast Region ...................................................... Salon 5
Southwest Region ..................................................... Salon 6
West Region .............................................................. Salon F

Regional Membership Caucus Meetings provide an opportunity for NADO members in each region to meet to discuss membership recruitment, board representation, and emerging issues within their region.

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.  **Federal Agency Networking Session**

Salons 1 – 3
Meet with representatives from federal agencies to learn about funding opportunities and programs.

6:15 – 8:30 p.m.  DDAA Reception, Dinner Banquet, and Awards Ceremony ................................................. Salon 4

Dinner banquet will include presentation of the 2018 John D. Whisman Vision Award and the 2018 Donald R. Myers Humanitarian Award and announcement of the 2018 DDAA Congressional Award recipient.

Richard Zink, President, DDAA and Executive Director, Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board (NY), Presiding

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

7:00 – 8:30 a.m.  DDAA Breakfast and POWER Discussion ................................................................. Salon 4

Jim Baldwin, First Vice President, DDAA and Executive Director, Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission (VA), Presiding

James Hyland, States’ Washington Representative, Appalachian Regional Commission, Remarks

Scott Hamilton, Executive Director, Appalachian Regional Commission, Remarks

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  Registration .................................................................................................................. Arlington Foyer

8:45 – 9:45 a.m.  Plenary Session

Battleground 2018: Assessing the Midterm Elections ................................................................. Salons 1 – 3

The 2018 midterm elections will have widespread implications across the country as voters will cast ballots for governor in 36 states, and decide 34 Senate seats and all 435 House seats. This interactive session will engage participants on 2018 election issues, define and discuss the pulse of the electorate, and explore how Election Day will impact the balance of power in Washington and beyond.

Geoff Skelley, Associate Editor, Sabato’s Crystal Ball, University of Virginia Center for Politics

Misty Casto, Treasurer, NADO and Executive Director, Buckeye Hill Regional Council (OH), Introduction

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.  Registration .................................................................................................................. Arlington Foyer

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.  Breakfast ....................................................................................................................... Salons 1 – 3

Dennis Alvord serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs, directing and supervising the activities of the U.S. Economic Development Administration’s Office of Regional Affairs which includes all six EDA Regional Offices, the Performance and National Programs Division, EDA’s Loan Guarantee Program, the Integrated Economic Development team, and EDA’s Organizational Development.
Dennis Alvord, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs, U.S. Economic Development Administration

Richard Zink, President, DDAA and Executive Director, Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board (NY), Introduction

Panel Discussion - Shifting Priorities: Federal Investments and Regional Economic Development

Last year, the president’s budget request sought cuts and eliminations for federal programs that support local and regional economic development. The administration’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 budget request remains consistent with this approach; however, Congress has generally been unreceptive to these funding recommendations. This session brings together NADO partners to examine the remaining work on FY2018 appropriations, the upcoming debate on FY2019 budget and appropriations, and the importance of coalitions in federal advocacy.

Arthur Scott, Associate Legislative Director/Political Outreach Manager, National Association of Counties

Matt Mullin, Senior Director of Public Policy and Strategic Engagement, International Economic Development Council

Nathan Ohle, Executive Director, Rural Communities Assistance Partnership

Susan Howard, Director of Government Relations and Legislative Affairs, NADO, Moderator

9:45 – 11:00 a.m.  
Closing Plenary Session

Breaking News: Political Coverage with New Media

The 24-hour news cycle provides constant coverage of the latest in national issues. The way in which news reaches the public has changed in recent years with various platforms now available. Political candidates have responded to this phenomenon embracing these new mediums. Discussion will center on how public figures are using new media and messaging to reach voters across the political spectrum.

Rick Klein, Political Director, ABC News

Doug Elliott, President, NADO and Executive Director, East Central Iowa Council of Governments and Richard Zink, President, DDAA and Executive Director, Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board (NY), Introduction
(Co-sponsored with the Development District Association of Appalachia) Federal agency participants confirmed as of March 1, 2018. Please refer to the handouts as you enter the reception for the current list of federal representatives in attendance.

**MONDAY, MARCH 19**
**4:30 – 6:00 P.M. • SALONS 1-3**

**FEDERAL AGENCY NETWORKING SESSION**

Appalachian Regional Commission  
Guy Land, Chief of Staff  
Nancy Eyl, Assistant General Counsel  
Sara James, Program Analyst  
David Hughes, Analyst  
Ryan Brumfield, Senior Transportation Advisor

Delta Regional Authority  
Spencer Lucker, Director, Delta Leadership Institute  
Alex Holland, Senior Advisor

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development  
Jamie Davenport, Director, Partnerships  
Claudette Fernandez, Associate Administrator for Water and Environmental Programs  
Alex Cordova, Management Analyst

U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
Brent Elrod, National Program Leader

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency  
Kelly Novak, Program Manager, Biofuel Infrastructure Partnership

U.S. Economic Development Administration  
David R. Ives, Interim Director, Performance and National Programs Division

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Justyna Swica, International Trade Specialist

Jerome Bryant, Supervisory Emergency Management Specialist

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration  
Shari Shaftlein, Director, Office of Human Environment  
Erica Interrante, Transportation Specialist

U.S. Department of Treasury, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund  
Jason Boehlert, Program Manager, Legislative and External Affairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Rachel Congdon, National Program Coordinator
APRIL 17 – 19, 2018
DDAA Professional Development Conference
Hilton Knoxville • Knoxville, TN
865.251.2578 • Room rate: $98 single/double

MAY 19 – 21, 2018
Southeast Regional Directors Institute
Meadowview Marriott • Kingsport, TN
800.228.9290 • Room rate: $119 single/double

JUNE 2 – 4, 2018
NADO Summer Board of Directors Meeting
Grande Colonial • La Jolla, CA
888.855.5653 • Room rate: $220 single/double

JULY 25 – 27, 2018
Southwest Region Economic Development Association Conference
Hyatt Regency Tulsa • Tulsa, OK
888.591.1234 • Room rate: $91 single/double

OCTOBER 13 –16, 2018
NADO Annual Training Conference
Westin Charlotte • Charlotte, NC
866.837.4148 • Room rate: $199 single/double
NADO STAFF CONTACT LIST

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Vicki Glass
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vglass@nado.org

2017 – 2018 NADO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Doug Elliott
East Central Iowa Council of Governments (Cedar Rapids, IA)

Treasurer
Misty Casto
Buckeye Hills Regional Council (Marietta, OH)

First Vice President
Scott Koons
North Central Florida Regional Planning Council (Gainesville, FL)

Secretary
Chris Fetzer
Northern Arizona Council of Governments (Flagstaff, AZ)

Second Vice President
Kevin Byrd
New River Valley Regional Commission (Radford, VA)

Immediate Past President
Lynne Keller Forbes
South Eastern Council of Governments (Sioux Falls, SD)
2017 – 2018 DDAA OFFICERS

President
Richard Zink
Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board
(Salamanca, NY)

First Vice President
Jim Baldwin
Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission (Lebanon, VA)

Second Vice President
Jill Foys
Northwest Commission (Oil City, PA)

Secretary
Mark Farley
Upper Cumberland Development District (Cookeville, TN)

Treasurer
Steve Pelissier
South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments (Greenville, SC)

Immediate Past President
John Hemmings
Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (Waverly, OH)
CENTRAL REGION

Ali DeMersseman, Black Hills COG (Rapid City, SD)
Chad Eggen, Boonslick RPC (Warrenton, MO)
Tom Higginbotham, Northeast Nebraska EDD (Norfolk, NE)
Randall Hrabe, Northwest Kansas PDC (Hill City, KS)
Rick Hunsaker, Region XII COG (Carroll, IA)
Laura Lewis Marchino, Region 9 EDD of Southwest Colorado (Durango, CO)
Stan Summers, Bear River Association of Governments (Logan, UT)*

MIDWEST REGION

Denise Bulat, Bi-State Regional Commission (Rock Island, IL)
Dawn Hegland, Upper Minnesota Valley RDC (Appleton, MN)
Sheldon Johnson, Northwest Commission (Spooner, WI)
Joe A. Matthews, Buckeye Hills Regional Council (Marietta, OH)*
Matt McCauley, Networks Northwest (Traverse City, MI)
Jill Saegesser, River Hills EDD & RPC (Jeffersonville, IN)

SOUTHEAST REGION

Joe Barker, Southwest Tennessee Development District (Jackson, TN)
Suzanne Burnette, Lee-Russell COG (Opelika, AL)
Lisa Cooper, Northern Kentucky ADD (Florence, KY)
Matthew Dolge, Piedmont Triad Regional Council (Kernersville, NC)
Jim Dove, Northeast Georgia Regional Commission (Athens, GA)
Patricia Hartung, Upper Savannah COG (Greenwood, SC)
Justin Hembree, Land-of-Sky Regional Council (Asheville, NC)
Wendell Lawrence, Lincoln Trail ADD (Elizabethtown, KY)
Ron Mitchum, Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester COG (North Charleston, SC)
Calvin Newsome, Southern Mississippi PDD (Columbia, MS)*

SOUTHWEST REGION

Tim Armer, North Central New Mexico EDD
Kevin Belanger, South Central Planning & Development Commission (Houma, LA)
Glenn E. Bell, Southeast Arkansas PDD (Pine Bluff, AR)
Chris Brown, Ark-Tex COG (Texarkana, TX)
Mike Brown, South Western Oklahoma Development Authority (Weatherford, OK)*
Debora Glasgow, South Western Oklahoma Development Authority (Burn Flats, OK)
Rodney Larsen, Central Arkansas PDD (Lonoke, AR)
Tom Wilkinson, Brazos Valley COG (Bryan, TX)

WEST REGION

Lisa Dawson, Northeast Oregon EDD (Enterprise, OR)
Christine Frei, Clearwater Economic Development Association (Lewiston, ID)
Amanda Hoey, Mid-Columbia EDD (The Dalles, OR)
Bob Nash, Superior California Economic Development (Redding, CA)*

Stephen Russell, North Central PDD (Winona, MS)
Pat Steed, Central Florida Regional Planning Council (Bartow, FL)
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Kevin Adam, Arizona Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (Phoenix, AZ)
Jack Couch, Kentucky Council of ADDs (Louisville, KY)
Linda Salmonson, East River Electric Power Cooperative (Madison, SD)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Terry Bobrowski, East Tennessee Development District (Alcoa, TN)
Joe Brannan, Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission (Victoria, TX)
Russell Cowley, Six County Association of Governments (Richfield, UT)
Peter G. Gregory, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (Woodstock, VT)
Vernon R. Kelly, Three Rivers PDD (Pontotoc, MS)
Jeff Kiely, Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments (Gallup, NM)
Leanne Mazer, Tri-County Council for Western Maryland (Frostburg, MD)
Tim Ware, George Washington Regional Commission (Frederickburg, VA)

*Indicates local elected official

Alabama
Jeff Pruitt, North Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments (Decatur, AL)

Georgia
Lloyd Frasier, Northwest Georgia Regional Commission (Rome, GA)

Kentucky
Sherry McDavid, FIVCO Area Development District (Grayson, KY)

Maryland
Leanne Mazer, Tri-County Council for Western Maryland (Frostburg, MD)

Mississippi
Rudy Johnson, Golden Triangle Planning and Development District (Starkville, MS)

New York
Marcia Weber, Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board (Corning, NY)

North Carolina
Shane Fox, High Country Council of Governments (Boone, NC)

Ohio
Jeannette Wierzbicki, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (Cambridge, OH)

Pennsylvania
Eric Bridges, North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission (Ridgmont, PA)

South Carolina
Steve Pelissier, South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments (Greenville, SC)

Tennessee
Beth Jones, Southeast Tennessee Development District (Chattanooga, TN)

Virginia
David Hoback, West Piedmont Planning District Commission (Martinsville, VA)

West Virginia
Shane Whitehair, Region VII Planning and Development Council (Buckhannon, WV)

ARC/DDAA
Dan Neff, LDD Director, Appalachian Regional Commission (Washington, DC)
RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 NADO CONGRESSIONAL PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

HONORING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO SUPPORT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

SENATE

Roy Blunt (R-MO)
Ben Cardin (D-MD)
Thad Cochran (R-MS)
Susan Collins (R-ME)
Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
John Hoeven (R-ND)
James Inhofe (R-OK)
Tim Kaine (D-VA)
Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
Patty Murray (D-WA)
Bill Nelson (D-FL)
Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Richard Shelby (R-AL)
Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Lou Barletta (R-PA)
Matt Cartwright (D-PA)
Rick Crawford (R-AR)
John Culberson (R-TX)
Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)
Drew Ferguson (R-GA)
Hank Johnson (D-GA)
Derek Kilmer (D-WA)
Ann McLane Kuster (D-NH)
Jim McGovern (D-MA)
Tom O’Halleran (D-AZ)
John Ratcliffe (R-TX)
Martha Roby (R-AL)
Bennie Thompson (D-MS)
David Young (R-IA)

2018 NADO LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) is a dedicated advocate for economic growth, job creation, and small business development in rural communities. Throughout his years of public service, he has demonstrated support for the needs of local communities and the role of regional development organizations in fostering collaboration. As a member of the Senate Appropriations and Budget Committees, he has been a stalwart supporter of federal programs that support regional economic and community development.
2018 John D. Whisman Vision Award: 
William (Bill) Shelton 
Virginia

2018 Donald R. Myers Humanitarian Award: 
The Empty Chair Project 
Pikeville High School, Pikeville, Kentucky

2018 Congressional Award: 
Senator Mitch McConnell 
Kentucky
NADO’s Innovation Awards program recognizes our member organizations that are making a real impact in their regions through economic and community development projects and initiatives. Previous award-winning projects have showcased efforts in a variety of program areas including regional planning, infrastructure, workforce development, technology and data, health and human services, emergency planning, and much more. Explore last year’s winners in an interactive Story Map designed by Esri by visiting nado.org/innovation-awards.

The Innovation Awards program provides a platform to receive positive local and national attention for your organization’s work, an opportunity to showcase your success and network with peers at NADO’s Annual Training Conference, and a customized certificate and press release to share with local media.

The application window for the 2018 awards will open in May at nado.org. Stay tuned to NADO News and NADO’s Facebook and Twitter feeds for additional Innovation Awards announcements. Please direct any questions to Brett Schwartz at bschwartz@nado.org. We look forward to receiving your applications!
The Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) invites you to take time to improve yourself and your organization at the Annual Professional Development Conference.

Whether you want to attain skills and knowledge for personal development or career advancement, join us for real-world executive and employee development sessions, networking, and more.

The conference provides timely and relevant training for any individual who desires to improve their work skills and enhance their performance. Topics are relevant to all levels of employees within an organization from Executive Directors, Managers, and Fiscal Officers to Board Members, IT Managers, and program staff.

**Highlights of this year’s training:**

- Memory Expert, Paul Mellor, on the Powers to a Better Brain
- Diversity Awareness Training
- Harassment Liability Training

For more information visit [www.ddaa-ldd.org](http://www.ddaa-ldd.org)
An organization of 73 local development districts serving 420 counties and their municipalities in the thirteen state Appalachian region.

DDAA.LDD@GMAIL.COM • DDAA-LDD.ORG