

Five Communities – One County



One-Goal 2009 All America County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caroline County named Finalist for 2009 All-America City Award

Caroline County is honored to have been selected as a finalist for the 2009 All-America City Award.

"The All-America City Award (AAC) is like a civic 'Oscar' for communities of all sizes," said National Civic League* President Gloria Rubio-Cortés. "It's unique because it recognizes the efforts of entire communities. AACs demonstrate inclusiveness, collaboration, civic engagement, and innovation."

Caroline citizens gathered last fall to begin the process of looking at three community projects involving grassroots civic engagement and cooperation between, public, private and nonprofit sectors that best illustrate a proven capacity for community-based problem solving. Those projects are the Dawn Rehabilitation Project, the Caroline Library and the Caroline Dental Program.

"The citizens of Caroline County have a lot to be proud and it's reflected in all of the projects the committee looked at before deciding on the three that would be in the awards application and presentation," said County AAC Committee Chairman Frank Hammon. "We now look forward to making our presentation before the judges in Tampa and bringing home this prestigious honor.

Now the county delegation looks forward to a three-day competition, June 17-19 in Tampa, Florida, to present its challenges and solutions to a jury of national experts from across the United States. Caroline County is the only city or county from Virginia competing in a field of 21 finalists from Arizona, Arkansas, California (2), Colorado, Florida, Illinois (2), Indiana (3), Iowa (2), Kansas, Maryland (3), Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, North Carolina (4), Ohio (2), Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island Tennessee and Texas.

According to the National Civic League the 2009 awards program will also feature Innovation Forums to promote peer-to-peer dialogues among the finalist communities and regional and national leaders. Topical dialogues and panel discussions on "green" solutions, immigrant integration, race relations, and economic recovery strategies will be featured.

This year is the 60th Anniversary of the All-America City Awards

**Headquartered in Denver, Colorado, the National Civic League strengthens democracy by increasing the capacity of our nation's people to fully participate in and build healthy and prosperous communities across America. Founded in 1894 by Theodore Roosevelt and other government reformers, NCL is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that accomplishes its mission through training, technical assistance, publishing, facilitating community-wide strategic planning and awards programs. It publishes research on government structures and reform and community building innovation (The National Civic Review, Civic Index, and 8th Edition of the Model City Charter). In addition to the All-America City Awards, NCL conducts the MetLife Foundation Ambassadors in Education Awards to be announced in April.*

For more information on NCL and its programs, visit www.ncl.org