

4 Pillars of County Support

The NCACC Strategic Member Services (SMS) team offers support for counties to address a range of technical, personnel, and governance challenges through a team of subject matter experts and recent graduates from master's-level programs in areas relevant to county administration. This department is comprised of a team working in areas of project management, grant management, subrecipient monitoring and oversight, expenditure reporting, community outreach, and communications efforts.

Education and Training

SMS brings counties together with subject matter experts, state and federal partners, and other stakeholders to discuss challenges, opportunities, and best practices. SMS in-person and virtual convenings provide a forum for education and peer learning to assist counties in making meaningful community investments.

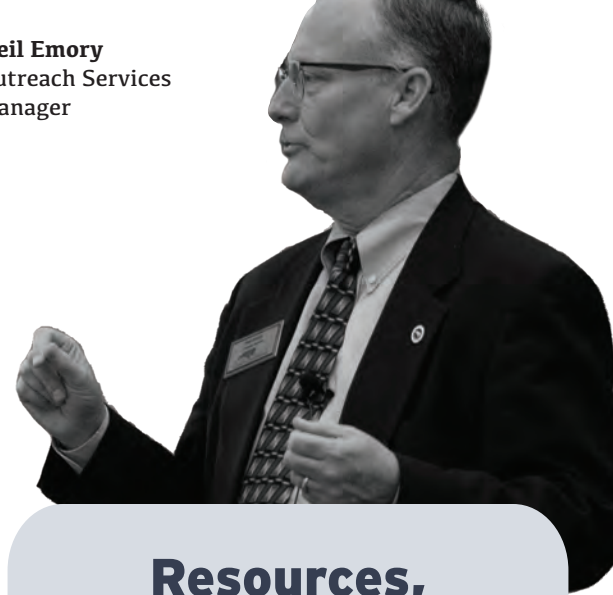


Many of the ways the SMS team is currently helping counties include administering American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund projects and helping to make public investments using national opioid settlement funds. Thanks to appropriations provided by the state's ARPA funds, NCACC is building county capacity throughout North Carolina with four pillars of support.

Technical Support

SMS offers technical guidance, responding to county-specific questions on eligible use, reporting, and compliance for ARPA and opioid settlement funds. SMS technical support is provided by subject matter experts with extensive experience in federal programs, county management, finance, law, public health, and in evidence-based strategies to prevent overdose and reduce the harms of drug use. SMS technical support teams also work closely with SMS Strategic Project Coordinators in the field.

Neil Emory
Outreach Services
Manager



Resources, Facilitation, and Coaching

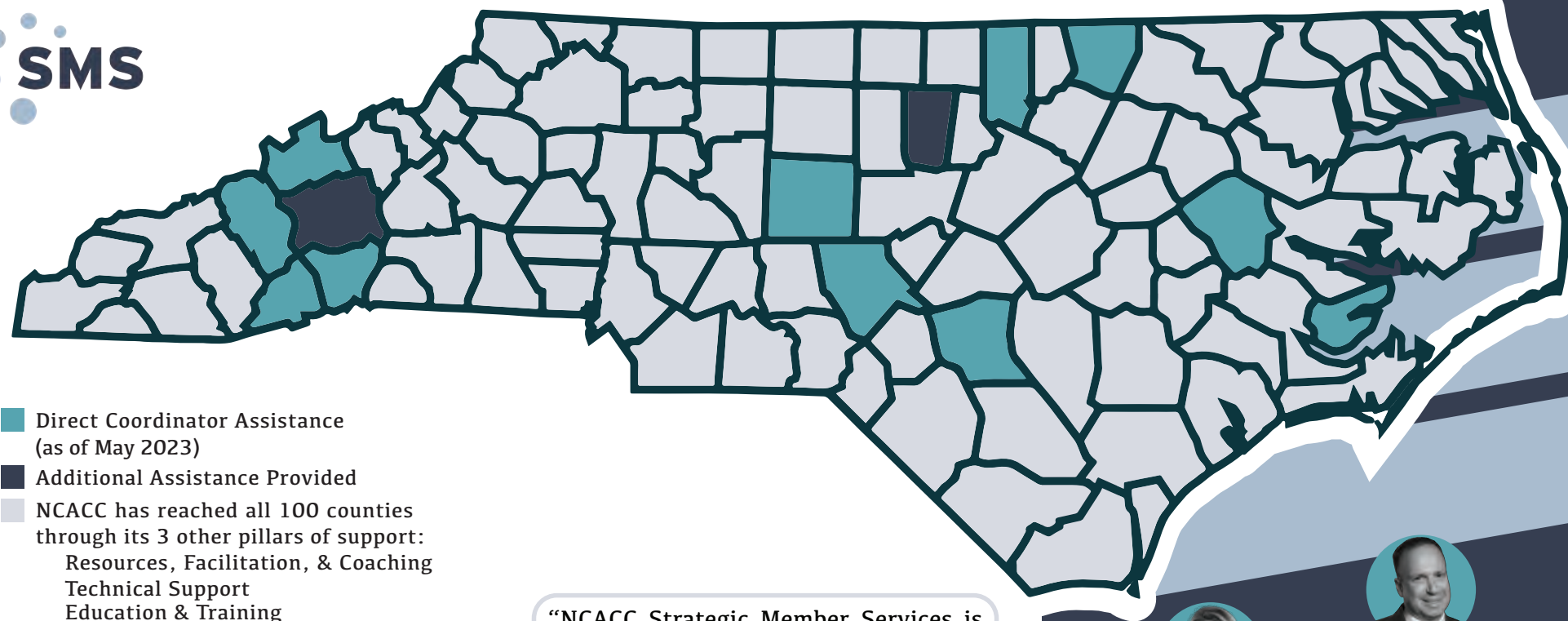
SMS provides consistent and timely informational materials, presentations, and other resources to keep counties up to date with the latest developments on federal ARPA guidance; and coach counties through planning, implementation, evaluation, and reporting on initiatives using opioid settlement funds. Additionally, a team of former county managers provides professional consultation services and can partner with counties to plan and support Board retreats, facilitate peer and professional reviews for various county operations, and connect counties with coaching and hands-on services in finance and budget operations.

Direct Capacity Assistance

SMS employs a cohort who are trained internally on ARPA guidelines, the NC Opioid Settlements Memorandum of Agreement, and general county operations. These Strategic Project Coordinators enjoy professional support and coaching from NCACC subject matter experts. The coordinators serve as a bridge to a larger pool of resources available at NCACC for counties. Members of this cohort are master's-level graduates in the fields of public administration, finance, public health, and related studies, populating the talent pipeline for future county leaders.



Hannah White
Strategic Project
Coordinator



NCACC STRATEGIC MEMBER SERVICES

County Testimonials

“Madison County is excited to be a recipient of the support provided through the SMS Coordinator program. The grants and other projects that our coordinator is assisting Madison County with are key components of a sustainable future for this rural county. This program is making huge strides in helping manage current grants totaling over \$20 million and is researching other grants potentially doubling that number.”

- Madison County

“NCACC Strategic Member Services is great! I can't say enough good things about how they have helped without judgment.”

- Caswell County

“Our county has benefited tremendously from [the NCACC Opioid Technical Assistance Team] OSTAT. We have consulted with the team many times to ensure language and implementation of opioid settlement fund distribution aligns with the NC MOA. This has been critical to make our staff and leaders feel more secure in the work as we move forward. Without OSTAT's expertise, we would not be as well positioned to launch programs in our county.”

- Randolph County



Lacy Pate
ARPA Policy
Research Director



Jason King
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Neil Emory
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Manager



Nidhi Sachdeva
Director of Strategic Health
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Ashley Qualls
SMS Cohort Manager



Christine Wilks
Education and
Training Manager

HIGHLIGHTING THE 4 PILLARS OF COUNTY SUPPORT



North Carolina
Association of
County Commissioners



If your county is looking for assistance from the NCACC Strategic Member Services Team or you want to learn more, visit www.ncacc.org/sms, email sms@ncacc.org, or contact Jason King, Director of Strategic Member Services, at (919) 715-0045.

www.ncacc.org/sms