



ABSTRACT

Tarrant County 2021 Submission
Tarrant County Desktop Computer Grab and Go Program
Category: Information Technology

The Tarrant County Desktop Computer Grab and Go program provided critical enhancements to Tarrant County's remote work capabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic by enabling employees with the technology and the training to safely and securely take their desktop computers home and continue performing their critical job functions remotely. The program leveraged existing investments in Virtual Private Network (VPN) technology and Internet bandwidth to enable secure remote computing at a large scale. This technology enabled Tarrant County offices to continue providing critical services during the COVID-19 pandemic, even when offices were closed due to orders or safety protocols. A total of 275 employees took advantage of this program across 33 separate County departments (including individual courts), which enabled a wide variety of critical services to continue, even during the throes of the pandemic, without procuring additional computer hardware.



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 21, 2021

NACo CONTACT: Paul Guequierre, pguequierre@naco.org

Tarrant County earns national achievement award(s) for Desktop Computer Grab and Go program

WASHINGTON – Tarrant County Desktop Computer Grab and Go program has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

NACo recognized **Tarrant County Desktop Computer Grab and Go program, in the category of Information Technology.**

The Tarrant County Desktop Computer Grab and Go program provided critical enhancements to Tarrant County's remote work capabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic by enabling employees with the technology and the training to safely and securely take their desktop computers home and continue performing their critical job functions remotely. The program leveraged existing investments in Virtual Private Network (VPN) technology and Internet bandwidth to enable secure remote computing at a large scale. This technology enabled Tarrant County offices to continue providing critical services during the COVID-19 pandemic, even when offices were closed due to orders or safety protocols. A total of 275 employees took advantage of this program across 33 separate County departments (including individual courts), which enabled a wide variety of critical services to continue, even during the throes of the pandemic, without procuring additional computer hardware.

NACo President Gary Moore said, "Over the past year, county officials and frontline employees have demonstrated bold, inspirational leadership. This year's Achievement Award winning programs illustrate the innovative ways counties build healthy, safe and vibrant communities across America."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice and public safety, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more.

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

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) strengthens America's counties, including nearly 40,000 county elected officials and 3.6 million county employees. Founded in 1935, NACo unites county officials to advocate for county government priorities in federal policymaking; promote exemplary county policies and practices; nurture leadership skills and expand knowledge networks; optimize county and taxpayer resources and cost savings; and enrich the public's understanding of county government. www.naco.org