



Benefit Snapshot: Carroll County

The Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) is more than an insurance company. We are *your* organization, providing valuable resources and representing counties in Frankfort and beyond. This snapshot highlights just some of the ways your county benefits from being a member of KACo.

Advocacy

The KACo Government Affairs team works hard to represent, champion and support counties year-round, ensuring the county perspective is heard. Legislative advocacy connects county officials with the lawmakers developing policies and budgets that affect your community. In recent years, KACo helped direct more than **\$1.6 billion** in state and federal funding to our members.



\$867.8 million - American Rescue Plan Act: The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) sent COVID relief funding to states and local governments. Collaborating with our colleagues at the National Association of Counties (NACo), KACo staff worked to ensure that Kentucky counties received a direct allocation of \$867.8 million and supported efforts to remove unnecessary bureaucratic restrictions on how those funds could be spent. **This funding included \$2,064,947 to Carroll County.** KACo staff provided training and technical assistance to counties in real time, helping to ensure that counties spent those funds in compliance with Treasury guidance.



\$13.2 million - Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund: ARPA appropriated \$2 billion to Treasury across fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to eligible revenue-sharing counties, including \$13.2 million for 72 Kentucky counties. With a quick turnaround time for counties to apply for those funds, KACo staff worked to guarantee all counties met the application deadline and provided technical assistance to those applying. **\$100,000 was allocated to Carroll County.**



\$168 million - Opioid Settlement: In 2022, a settlement was finalized with pharmaceutical distributors and Johnson & Johnson for their role in the opioid epidemic. KACo advocated for counties to ensure they received their fair share of Kentucky's settlement, with counties slated to receive more than \$168 million. This included **\$581,927 awarded to Carroll County.**



\$25 million - Jail per diem increase: KACo advocated for a \$4 increase in the per diem payments made to county jails that house state inmates, worth more than \$25 million over two years for counties.



\$16 million - Reimbursement rate for court security officers: KACo successfully championed an increase in the rate paid to court security officers, provided by the Sheriff's office, from \$9 to \$15 per hour – a 66% increase – worth more than \$16 million to counties over two years.



\$250 million - Broadband funding: KACo supported legislation to set aside \$250 million in federal funds to provide broadband access to unserved and underserved areas in Kentucky and allow electric co-ops to deploy broadband services.

Stronger Counties. Stronger Kentucky.



\$350 million - Water and wastewater support: KACo backed legislation to appropriate \$350 million in federal funds sent to Kentucky for a Drinking Water and Wastewater Grant program, allocated to each county based on population.



\$3 million - Relief from audit costs: KACo supported an appropriation of \$750,000 to support the establishment of the Outlier Audit Assistance Program and an additional \$2.25 million to help reduce the cost to counties for all county clerk and sheriff audits.



\$25 million - Election equipment: KACo endorsed legislation to appropriate \$25 million for grants to county clerks to purchase election equipment.

Pause on city annexation: This legislative session, KACo fought for and secured a one-year pause on city annexation, one of the most impactful pieces of legislation for counties in decades. City annexation can negatively affect county revenue and services. A task force will meet in the interim to study the issue and make recommendations to the legislature to improve the process.

Two Memberships in One

As a member, KACo paid your membership dues to the National Association of Counties (NACo) in full this year, **a value of \$450 for Carroll County.**

Training

KACo provides training and education to county officials year-round for free or at a reduced rate. In 2022, KACo offered **90 hours of virtual and in-person training opportunities** on topics ranging from cybersecurity and tax policy to leadership and financial planning. In addition, KACo offered more than 100 hours of training to **county law enforcement and jail personnel.**

KACo Annual Conference

The premier conference for county officials, the KACo Annual Conference brings together more 1,000 county and state leaders from across the Commonwealth for learning, motivation and fellowship.

Legal Assistance

Expert legal guidance on county government issues is just a phone call away! KACo's legal team has decades of experience supporting county officials. When you have questions about regulations, current laws or other legal issues, KACo has the answers.

County Line Magazine and Weekly E-newsletter

As a member of KACo, you receive the award-winning *County Line* magazine, delivered quarterly to your mailbox. KACo also sends out an e-newsletter to members each week, packed with breaking news and information you can use. **We keep you informed** and up to date about the latest legislative activity, grant opportunities, training sessions, events, legal guidance and more.

Safety Expertise

Some of the most demanding county needs involve jails, law enforcement and emergency management. That's why KACo has **in-house staff with years of experience** in those fields ready to assist counties with training and preparedness planning. In addition, our team of safety and loss control specialists works with members to reduce employee injuries and property losses, helping keep costs down.

Financing Services

Since mid-2021, KACo has accessed over **\$80 million** and placed it in the hands of Kentucky counties and special entities for the purchase of equipment and capital projects. Over the same period, KACo has helped members adversely impacted by floods and tornadoes, providing emergency and disaster financing assistance of nearly **\$30 million**. In addition, KACo has several unique financing tools available to members to help lower the cost of borrowing.

Election Coverage

KACo is your source for county election coverage – the only place with a searchable database of both primary and general election county candidates and results for all 120 Kentucky counties.

County Salary Explorer

Every two years, KACo performs a survey of county employee salaries and wages. The information from that survey is available to all KACo members online in the interactive County Salary Explorer. The database includes wage information for more than 40 common county positions, organized by county population size, county revenue classes and area development districts.

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